

NBAHA

Membership Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2012

Meeting called to order at: 6:05 p.m.

Board Members Present: Tim Cashill, Cherie Turek, Janelle Olson, Keith Johnson, Kim LaValle, Lisa Isaacson, Tom Garin

Members Present: Bruce Anderson, Tim Hink, Tamara Hink, Don Schmitt, Stephanie Schmitt, Chris Boese, Joe Weyenberg, Nikki Saleen, Katie Maday, Chuck Saleen, Rhonda Moline, Heather Corcoran, John Corcoran, McMillian

Proposed Merger with St. Francis and North Branch

Presenters from the St. Francis Hockey association included the President, Anne Penner, and the Girl's Coordinator, Joel Boerboom. Joel stated that they currently have enough girls for one (1) U8 team and one (1) U10 team. St. Francis also has enough girls for a U12 team, but a 1/3 of these girls stay as U12, others want to play at the PeeWees level and the remaining 1/3 go to JV. St. Francis would look at sharing ice locations so that ½ the practices and games would be located at the East Bethel arena and the other ½ in North Branch.

They would like to give the girls some more resources to play at different levels. St. Francis would also like to see 2 teams at each level in the future. St. Francis association members would like to try and bring these associations together so we don't have girl's splitting up at the U10 or U12 level. They would also like to look at potentially creating a U6 team for the younger girls currently playing as DMites in their association.

St. Francis and North Branch are looking at creating a new identity for our girls such as the Angels or Stars. They would not be known as North Branch or St. Francis. Because North Branch and St. Francis already co-op at the High School level, those girls that continue through this program will eventually play together at the High School level. The North Branch Girl's Coordinator, Bruce Anderson, would like to keep the girls together and would like to see them skating with like talent.

Cambridge and Mora have combined as well to get the numbers and are called the North Country Blue Devils. If needed, St. Francis may need to fall into the Cambridge Mora co-op for a 1 year commitment for their girl hockey players if we are unable to come to an agreement with them on a co-op solution. St. Francis has a U12 meeting next week with their parents and the athletic director. They need to find out if they are going to take 7-8th graders into JV. Joel does not believe it is in the best interest to play 12 year olds with 17-18 year olds at the High School hockey level.

There has been nothing documented or decided on a preliminary agreement. However, it is standard to sign a 2-3 year commitment when agreeing to a co-op situation. Numbers of girl's coming back next year would be 7-8 U10 players at North Branch and 21-24 U10 players at St. Francis. The 2 U10 girls that skated with Forest Lake will need to move to St. Francis as Forest Lake is not an option this year for our U10 girls.

Registration

Players need to register with their home association. The St. Francis girls had 40 hours of ice last year. North Branch had 30 billable hours of ice with only 3 full sheets (with the exception of games).

The St. Francis Hockey Association board members have a preliminary budget meeting coming up where they will determine fees for next season. Last years fees are listed here:

U8 (40 hours of ice) - \$740

U10 (60 hours of ice) - \$1162

Fundraising

St. Francis offers each family the opportunity to sell pizzas as part of their personal fundraising. Each family would get a \$2.50 credit that goes toward the family to help pay for ice bills and could potentially pay for the entire ice bill depending on how many pizzas are sold. St. Francis also has Herberger coupons as part of the fundraising strategy as well.

Coaching

St. Francis has a coaching selection meeting. Candidates turn in resumes and 3-4 representatives from North Branch and St. Francis would then choose the Head Coach from this selection method. All coaches are selected through a committee agreement. There is an understanding that there needs to be representation from both associations.

Recruiting

St. Francis has done a lot with promoting Girl's hockey in their program and is looking at 19 potential new mite girls next season from U8 to D Mites. Their recruiting method is using flyers and marketing their program in the schools. They were able to pick up 4 new U10 girls in the last 2 years. They are looking to have Learn to Skate sessions for these new players and send out brochures on these LTS sessions to all Kindergarten and 1st graders at the end of school. These brochures would include open skating opportunities at rinks around the community.

Next Steps

The next discussion on this topic will take place at the next membership meeting in April. This will be added as an agenda item for the next membership meeting. St. Francis has a membership meeting coming up on April 25th and North Branch has their membership meeting following this on April 30th.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.