

Essex Youth Hockey Association

Board Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2007

Meeting began at 7:05 pm.

Board Member Attendees: Will Gonyeau, Bruce Garrapy, Jerry Heath, Dean Bartlett, Pat Burke, Kib Horsford, Craig Benson, Craig Butkus, Maurice Rosales, Al Foice, Lisa McGinnis

Member Attendees: Jay Kagan, Tyler Main, Jill Vespa, Mike Haskins, Kris Haskins, Lori Hallowell, Taylor Hallowell

Review of May minutes was deferred.

Summary Update on Old Business:

➤ Cross Ice Task Force Update.

State level meetings regarding Cross Ice Mite level play were held on June 21st. They were attended by Jerry Heath, Pat Burke and Tyler Main. Pat Burke provided a summary of the meeting.

Basically the goals that VSAHA is hoping to meet by implementing the cross ice change are improved player development, increased participation in mite hockey by making it less expensive for families as well as having less travel and the hopes that the numbers would increase due to having a looser, more fun format. Pat relayed that he felt that the organizations

were overwhelmingly in favor of the change and that the goal was for reps to go back to their associations to talk about the changes and get feedback and then it will be revisited at the next VSAHA meeting in July. Concerns were brought forward by Kris and Mike Haskins regarding children who were mites who had already played travel. They wondered about the creation of independent select mite tournament teams and what VSAHA's stand was on this. Considering most local associations seemed in favor of the proposal, Al stressed the importance that if EYHA implemented a cross-ice program that it was very important for this to be viewed as a positive change with the children and that it needed to be made fun and interesting for them otherwise it would be destined to fail. Other concerns were that we needed to have a definitive answer from VSAHA about whether this was going to be implemented because of budgetary implications i.e. Purchase of ice and boards etc. Jerry will relay this to VSAHA.

➤ VSAHA Glades proposal

Each board member received a copy of the proposal prior to the meeting and Al asked everyone to review the proposal and be ready to discuss it at the meeting. The board was in favor of the proposal with more explicit language being used regarding several points including a section regarding the ability of an A level team being afforded the opportunity to challenge the Glades team to be

allowed to represent Vermont in the Tier I regional tournament. If this challenge were made the team would have to forgo participating in the State tournament. Also language should be added that Glades players could not be doubled rostered on a Glades team (major or minor) as well as a local organization. AI is going to draft our suggestions for these changes and they will be forwarded to VSAHA prior to the July 7th meeting where they are going to vote on this.

New Business:

New Jerseys: Discussion was held about new jerseys. There will be a need to replace the home jerseys at some point. Some have suggested that EYHA implement a purchase to own program similar to CSB. A “New Jersey Committee” was formed including Dean Bartlett, Craig Benson and Lisa McGinnis. They will be exploring concepts for a new jersey design using the current bee logo. Concerns were expressed about keeping the same basic colors so that sponsor tags would not have to be purchased again as well as turning people off because of the financial implications. Different sponsor options might be explored if a jersey purchase plan is implemented.

- Treasurer’s Report: Maurice Rosales provided a draft copy of the 2007/2008 budget and reviewed it with those present. . He needed

some input from some of the board members in order to complete it. Transaction reports since the last meeting including cash balances were provided for those present. Financial reports can be obtained separately from the Treasurer.

- **Head Coach Report:** Pat Burke advised that he is putting together a committee of coaches to help him in this endeavor. Many of these coaches will come from outside of the organization and are to include Bill O'Neill (Essex High School head coach), Bruce Garrapy (Mount Mansfield Union High School head coach) and he is hoping to recruit the South Burlington High School coach as well. The main project Pat is working on at this point is player clinics. He is hoping to hold them across each level at one time (i.e. mites, squirts, peewees etc.) in place of a practice. His goal is to meet the specific needs of the players at each level. He will get together with Craig Benson to "plug-in" times for these clinics. Also it is desired that EYHA will hold some preseason clinics.
- **House Coordinator Report:** Will Gonyeau reported that he will need funds for an additional storage area as the old storage was eliminated and destroyed as part of the rink renovation.
- **Ice Coordinator/Scheduler Report:** Craig Benson reported that we have oral guarantees at this point that we will get at least as much ice as we had last year with all rinks. He has purchased some ice at this point at Waterbury and Cairns. The plan at this

point is to hold preseason clinics the week of September 24th and hold tryouts from September 29 – October 7th at Waterbury and Cairns. Logistics including a room to hold post tryout conferences with evaluators will be worked out.

- Head Referee Report: Bruce Garrapy requested that we put a note on the website that if anyone is interested in refereeing summer hockey that they should contact Chris Peckham.
- Women's Director Report: Craig Butkus gave a very enthusiastic report about recruitment plans for the girl's program. A recruitment committee has been formed. They are contacting EYHA players to ask them what got them interested in hockey. He obtained a printer who would print some color flyers for no charge to be handed out at the Essex United soccer tournament. Lori and Taylor Hallowell were present and relayed that there would be a booth at the tournament and that these flyers would be handed out. Craig had a copy of the flyer to be approved for release. Craig Benson made a motion to proceed with the release of the flyers for distribution at the tournament also that the same concept could be used in poster form. Maurice Rosales seconded it. The motion passed unanimously. Craig also advised that the recruitment committee would need funds to continue producing these flyers to be handed out throughout the summer. Jill Vespa offered to speak to the printer who printed the yearbooks and get some information about

costs.

- Equipment Manager Report: Dean Bartlett reported that Peter Morse from Essex Mini Storage was going to donate a storage unit to use for storage of the EYHA equipment. Dean is also going to determine how many home jerseys need replacement for budgetary purposes.
- Registrar's Report: Kib Horsford reported that he is waiting for USA Hockey to do an update to the registration software. This was expected to be completed in mid-July. Jill Vespa and Kib are going to work on being able to hold registration at the Inn at Essex again this year. Al asked Kib to determine the registration dates.
- Golf tournament update: Al reported on behalf of Jeff Cabanaw that the EYHA golf tournament will be held September 9th at the Links at Lang Farm. The fee will be \$95.00 a player. Jeff using old email addresses will coordinate to send out a mass e-mail to EYHA members for playing in the tournament as well as volunteers to help out.

The meeting was adjourned and the board went into executive session.