

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 21, 2012

Audience: Joe Brickl, Alison Veldkamp, Mike Culbertson, Sue Culbertson, LisaSchneider, Lisa Wendler, Troy Giesege, Chris Finkler, Kellie Feiler, Joe Brickl, and Kimberly Trent

President Dave Batterman called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. Jeff noted that Chris Herwig had notified him that he would be late. Bill Gilbertson was absent.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Secretary – Betsy McCrary

September meeting minutes have been approved and posted to the website. Ecomm meeting minutes were distributed to Board members.

Try Hockey for Free update. Joe Brickl attended many of the elementary school open houses to promote the event, with equipment in tow. Dan Carpaiux represented SPYHA at Eastside, Misi Watters covered Royal Oaks, and Betsy McCrary went to Eastside, with Joe covering the other elementary schools. Some schools had other groups at their open houses, like Girl Scouts, and others had few or none. Betsy reminded the Board that their presence would be needed at Try Hockey for Free on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Karen had already indicated that she could only make one session. Betsy thought it would work to have about half the Board at each session, so if members know they can only make one (10:15 am or 2 pm), please let her know, and she'll send out what she has. Last year this event lead to our huge ADM numbers.

b. Treasurer – Paula Walker

The year-end and profit and loss reports were sent out last week, along with September's profit and loss reports. The new bookkeepers have things set up to send the reports to the Board.

Paula reviewed the account balances. Jeff asked if the totals included movement of \$15/player scholarship and \$50/player capital campaign contributions. Paula indicated that they hadn't yet, and that will be moved from checking. Currently she is locked out of the scholarship at BMO due to the conversion from M&I to BMO systems.

She noted that when ADM registration slows down a bit she'll request that the bookkeepers start sending invoices.

Dave verified that everyone received the monthly statement.

c. President Elect – Kirk Wessel

Kirk finished paperwork for the Bank of Sun Prairie so he can sign checks. He extended thanks to Jeff, Dave, and Jen for their efforts. It was a huge week for us.

Kirk requested that side conversations be kept to a minimum to help keep the meeting moving.

d. Past President – Jeff Thornton

The latest jersey update indicates that we will likely not receive them until the week of Nov. 5 to 8, so we'll have about two weeks in the old home jerseys. James Trent has been working on jerseys this year – he will assign sizes and jersey numbers. It's a horrible job, and Jeff extended thanks to James for taking care of it.

e. President – Dave Batterman

We have had the business plan reviewed by financial institutions and the city, and are on schedule for RFP's to go out Nov. 1. Banners and dashers have been a question throughout the process. Currently we see about \$5k/year with not much work, but our business plan has them at about a \$96k propositions. Lisa Wendler sat down with Dave to develop a plan to bring this to reality. Bill Blumer has been working on banners and dashers over the last few years, and has added a few new businesses. They will be writing a position description and then conducting interviews for someone to work 10 to 15 hours a week. It could potentially count for volunteer credits, but ultimately would be someone working for the owner-board entity. It's a huge task. There are a lot of untapped resources. Candidates would not need to be association members, and there would be an application process. Dave and Jeff thought about this being commission-based. Other rinks see about \$25k in advertising. Ave has talked to Bill and he's fine with the change. It would likely be suitable for someone who doesn't have a full time job.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Volunteer Committee

No one present to report. New Year's Eve still needs a chair. Angie has been covering it with US Bank and the PAC. She thinks it should be fairly easy, and she'll be there to help, but the chair is needed to get the committee going. Jason Ledford did it last year, but he's planning to coach this year. He's willing to talk to this year's potential chairs. Angie also is looking for ideas for the studio 2 activities. They've done reptiles and birds. It needs to be something that can happen continuously, rather than only at certain times. Jen mentioned it was important to have volunteers later at the end to help with putting away the baseball batting cages and pitching machine. Jeff explained that this isn't a huge fundraiser, but it's a great community activity. It's also a way members can fulfill a lot of hours quickly. Dave thanked Angie for her help with this.

b. Annual Fundraising Committee

Skipped

c. Communications Committee

Steve doesn't have anything new, but he's still looking for someone to take over chairing the committee. The new rink Facebook site has taken off and getting likes. Chris Gehrmann asked if there could be a more direct link to donate. Angie said she could help with this. Dave reiterated that were still looking for someone to take over as chair of the Communications Committee.

d. Region 4 Report

Chris Gehrmann attended the most recent meeting. There is a level 1 officiating clinic on Nov. 3 and a level 2 on Nov. 3. Scholarship application deadline is Nov. 15 for Fenton Kelsey scholarships, with O'Brien later.

Rockford sent representatives to the meeting. They felt ambushed because they were dropped from the league at a meeting they didn't attend. Chris G. reported that they were bewildered that it happened, but very "gentlemanly." It was also noted that they are still doing full ice mites.

Chris said they also confirmed that HS2 state is the third weekend in March. Rosters are due Nov. 15, but they understand that HS2 and possibly bantams may be late due to varsity tryouts. It was also noted that the concussion state law applies to any age, not just checking players. Officials can also remove a player if they suspect he/she has a concussion. Out-of-state teams may be unfamiliar with this requirement, so if it happens we should be prepared to explain it. Background check forms are due Nov. 1, and there are repercussions for not completing the forms. WAHA is also accepting nominations for the WAHA Hockey Hall of Fame. All the ice needed for play downs has been obtained. Codes for team managers have been sent to the association presidents. Dave hasn't gotten his. It was reiterated that WAHA has nothing to do with Region 4 leagues, so please don't contact WAHA to complain about leagues.

Jen picked up with information from the executive committee. The Region 4 ALD's were upset that people were showing up two hours early to schedule. They are thinking about not releasing the leagues until the meeting next year. All team reps must have their games posted on Region 4 by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. The ALD's hope to post the schedule for play downs by Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>. Leagues aren't up on Region 4 yet. There is a new webmaster and this is taking time.

Kirk asked Betsy about the status of background checks. One Board member still needs to submit one, and she's working with the ACE Directors on the coaches.

Dave noted that he got a call from Beloit wondering where Sun Prairie was for a game. Paula had called o cancel. Jen suggested that email correspondence be used when confirming/cancelling games so there is a trail.

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e. Tournaments: 3 x 3 update – Mike Sanders

Mike provided information via email. Dave provided the highlights. Dave explained that this was Mike's last year as 3x3 tournament director. Mike is willing to work with someone else, but he doesn't have the time to run it again.

20 teams at 3 divisions. 7 goalies

Gross Income: \$3480.00

Expenses:	printing	\$54
	trophies	\$120
	medals	\$220
	ads	\$100

Net Income: \$3006.00

#### Cardinal Cup Tournaments

PeeWee A: Dec 7-9: Committed - Sun Prairie, Eau Claire, MIDDLETON, POLAR CAPS  
Interested - FOX VALLEY, WINTER CLUB, Chicago jets

Squirt A: Committed - Sun Prairie, Southwest Eagles, Cedar Rapids, IA, ARROWHEAD  
Interested - Illinois Sabres, Marinette, Crystal Lake, IL

Bantam B: Committed - Sun Prairie  
Interested: DUBUQUE

Squirt B/C: Committed - Sun Prairie B, Waterloo, IA, OZAUKEE  
Interested - Madison Patriots, FOX VALLEY

Dave was excited to see three states represented. Jen reiterated the importance of sharing the concussion law with outside teams. This will be shared with Mike. (Action: Betsy)

#### 4. LEVEL REP REPORTS

##### a. ADM – Marcie Rauls and Karen Welling

Marcie reported feeling pretty confident about using the jerseys here. Karen explained that practices will stay grouped by ability in red, white, and blue. They have a game system determined where they will play every team once on Saturday morning. They have SPYHA jerseys for U8's for practices. Chris Herwig was looking into game jerseys. They noted there were a few jerseys without numbers, and they would like to have them all numbered, since some parents have difficulty identifying kids on the ice. This was added to new business.

There will be an end of year tournament with score being kept only for the U8 level. Karen is also looking into having U8 reds go to a Badger Game.

##### b. DC Diamonds – Angie Hadley

U12 tryouts were held for their two teams. For the B level, some players quit and went back to their associations. They are undergoing intense recruitment efforts. Some could double roster (e.g., a squirt age girl could roster as a U12). Dave asked if we have some SPYHA girls who would be eligible. Without 1-2 more players, the team could be in trouble. Jeff explained that WAHA has been trying to work with them. Jeff asked Jen who his contact could be at Region 4. Jen suggested Tom Hansen. If the Diamonds continue to have number problems, this could be the start of the end of their program.

##### c. Squirt – Absent (Bill Gilbertson)

Paula noted that there have been no team meetings yet. The A's are on Oct. 22, B's and Limited Travel meetings are Oct. 24. The A team rep is Staci Mariani, with help from Paula, and right now Paula is working with the B's and Limited Travel until they have their meetings.

##### d. PeeWee – Steve Traut

Steve thought going to the scheduling meeting was a blast. Chuck told them they had to be there an hour early, but at least five other associations were there earlier. He learned that Region 4 is terrified of our PeeWee A team. Team reps are Jim Tuttle (A), Sandy Brendemuehl (B), and Kelly Churchill (C). All have had their first meetings, some have had their second. Nate Reid transferred to Waunakee. There is a requirement to request two consecutive years before it becomes permanent. Sun Prairie had four goalies, and it was discussed at the pre-evaluation parent meeting that there were two associations nearby without goalies. Middleton's C team still may be without a goalie.

##### e. Bantam – Jen Kurtz

Sun Prairie hosted two games with Middleton and Southwest as part of evaluations. It seemed to work out well. Jim Ternus (A) and Karen Welling (B) are team reps. The teams are trying to decide on a fourth tournament.

##### f. High School – Chris Gehrmann

Chris has been approached with concerns about safety of one of members of the team, who hasn't played hockey for several years, and never played checking hockey before. Chris Herwig would probably be the appropriate person to approach the coach. Betsy noted the requirements of parent, association, and physician recommendations to have a player play at a lower level. Marcie was curious about the physician recommendation.

Dave asked that Chris Herwig touch base with the coach and work with Chris Finkler and Troy. Chris G. also said there is grumbling about the price with 27 skaters. The number of games and practices will factor in, but until varsity is picked it's hard to make adjustments.

Betsy noted that she just learned that Marinette has dropped out of the WCHSHL.

- g. Coaches rep. – Chris Herwig  
Nothing to report

Jeff thanked the ACE Directors and evaluators. Evaluations are some of the most contentious events for the associations – a lightning rod for the association.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

### a. New Rink / Building Committee

Jeff and Dave toured LaBahn Ice Arena (Badgers practice facility and women's home ice). The rink looks a lot like ours, except for the \$34 million price tag. Thanks to Jim Ternus for setting that up. Angie noted that they didn't paint the ways, and she thought there was a lot of dust at the game on Friday.

Electors passed the budget with \$300k for SPYHA, and there is an agreement in principal with the district. The amount would be available upon completion of construction. The district will also be "loaning" skates to SPYHA for 20 years. They will get \$5k/year off varsity hockey dues, inflated to utility expenses. Four skating events of two hours each will be available to district. For example, if the Spanish club wants to raise money, they could use one of those allocations. It would be like the school skates, but they'd help staff it. We would also keep six school skates: two per year per level. Each March activities for the upcoming school year like the phy.ed skates would be scheduled, with 50% off the normal ice fees. Again, the money is not a donation; the cost must be beneficial to the district over the next 20 years. Other components of the agreement include waiving the facility fee when boys or girls varsity takes over the rink, which is over \$120k in value. In the end, there was a calculated dollar for dollar value of \$330k, with additional soft savings from avoided transportation, two locker rooms, and inflation over 20 years that amounted to a total of over \$1 million for the \$300k in cost, which is a fantastic deal. There is also an agreement in principal not to operate a restaurant during school hours.

Dave has met with some businesses, and the district would work with a restaurant within their health and wellness policy. Jeff had special thanks to Dave and Jen for their work on this.

Dave, Jeff, and Jen, along with Alice Hensen and Paul Swalve also met with the City Committee of the Whole, who is pursuing deeding the land to us. Because the proposed "rink board" (S.P. Ice) has not yet been formed, the intent would be for SPYHA to receive the deed as agent and then transfer it to the new entity. It must go through circuit court. The land would need to be split between the undeveloped area and the land where the tennis courts are. They don't foresee issues and would retain the right of first refusal if the rink would be sold. While this amount could count toward the down payment, there is still a need to turn up the heat on our campaign. We have great momentum and support from the community. We're running ragged, though, on committees. Five to 10 people have been meeting a lot and putting in a tremendous amount of time.

### b. Capital Fundraising – Jen Kurtz

Most recent news is the sale of the center ice logo to the Bank of Sun Prairie for \$30,000. They also purchased a banner to be hung in each rink. There is a small group meeting Tuesday night to go through campaign pledge information. Chris Herwig will provide in kind information. Jen thanked Troy Giesege for his work on the enter ice logo. Luanne Kostelic has volunteered to do thank yous, so those will start going out. Information on banners and dashers was already covered. Jen apologized to the committee as there has not been a regular every-other-week meeting because of all the other meetings, but they will meet next week.

### c. Family discounts – Karen Welling and Misi Watters

Tabled for next meeting.

### d. Baseline concussion screening

Dave would like to see SPYHA on the front line for screening programs. Hopefully he will have more information to share next time.

## 6. New Business

### a. Coaching Recommendations

Chris Finkler handed out coaching recommendations, but noted a few areas may be in flux. Dave asked about three coaches versus four. Chris F. agreed to discuss each situation. Jeff noted that USA Hockey only wants three on the bench. There was a question about volunteer credits in cases of four coaches, but Chris F. didn't think this was a concern in these cases. Marcie thought there was an additional coach approved last year for on team. Dave suggested that the head coach be responsible for reporting hours to the Board. Jeff noted that if they made every practice they would certainly have the necessary hours. Chris H. noted that coaching is not just being on the ice for practice, it's preparing, too, and preparing a practice plan should count. He also noted that coach:player ratios should make a difference, too. Younger players with bigger teams would benefit from a smaller ratio (more coaches). Karen noted that last year her husband occasionally watched games from the stands, which provided helpful perspective. In the

case of the Bantam A team, Tom Lee would be a part time coach, because his son will be playing for Edgewood, limiting his availability, and Pat Telford's wife had twins recently, so his availability is up in the air. Neither of them would get volunteer credits, so that is not a concern. There are two other coaches who have expressed additional interest, possibly at HS2 and Bantam B levels, but it is still up in the air.

Jeff thought that due to the number of Board members involved, we'd need to vote by team.

Team	Coach/Position	Motion	Second	Vote
Squirt A	Bill Gilbertson - Head Chris Herwig – Assistant Dan Rauls – Assistant Dan Carpiaux – PT Assistant	Paula	Jen	PASS 9-0-3 Chris H. & Marcie abstain, Bill Gilbertson absent
Squirt B	Jason Ledford – Head Dough Maughn – Assistant Todd Draws - Assistant	Paula	Chris G.	PASS 11-0-1 Bill Gilbertson absent
Squirt Limited Travel	Mark Breyer- Head Erick Leckel – Assistant Andy Ayers - Assistant	Paula	Steve	PASS 11-0-1 Bill Gilbertson absent
PeeWee A	Shad Kernan – Head Scott Halbleib – Assistant Jason Harkins - Assistant	Jen	Angie	PASS 11-0-1 Bill Gilbertson absent
PeeWee B	Steve Traut – Head Ryan Burke – Assistant Bill Welling - Assistant	Jen	Paula	PASS 9-0-3 Karen & Steve abstain, Bill Gilbertson absent
PeeWee C	Jeff Witt – Head Rick Smythe – Assistant Sean Watters – Assistant Brendon Bailod – PT Assistant	Paula	Karen	PASS 11-0-1 Bill Gilbertson absent
Bantam A	Troy Giesegh – Head Tom Lee – PT Assistant Pat Telford – PT Assistant Steven McCrary - Assistant	Jen	Paula	PASS 10-0-2 Betsy abstain, Bill Gilbertson absent
Bantam B	Brian Sullivan – Head Mark Sanderfoot - Assistant	Paula	Marcie	PASS 10-0-2 Steve abstain, Bill Gilbertson absent
HS 2	Mike Keegan – Head Craig Makela - Assistant	Paula	Steve	PASS 11-0-1 Bill Gilbertson absent

All approvals are contingent on a successful background check.

Sue Culbertson asked about certification needed to coach. Chris Finkler explained typically that each of the first three years coaches take one class, plus an on-line module for each level they coach. Each on-line course takes about 9 hours and requires passing tests. Coaches have until Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> to complete the training. Sue asked if this meant coaches would be uncertified for half the season. She was asking out of concern because two of her son's coaches aren't certified, and was worried that someone without any experience could cause the kids to fall behind.

Chris explained that early on there was some flux in coaching availability at various levels, as some coaches had other commitments and there wasn't much time when players were chosen. The question was asked if anyone could come out for travel hockey who was age eligible, or if some could be recommended for ADM. There were ADM recommendations last year, but the decision was left to the parent. Lisa Wendler explained there was concern that the Squirt B team kids would have time to get better.

Troy thought there may be another round or two of coaches needing approval. An email will be sent if necessary. If there are concerns we could meet.

b. SPYHA Insurance Policies

Dave noted our policies are up for renewal. Ecomm will compare quotes and make a decision. Proposals should be available in the next few weeks.

c. Grade checks (confidentiality)

Betsy noted that this was requested from last month's meeting. Recollection was that the scholarship section of the (old) handbook made mention of grade requirements for scholarship players. Since letter grades are no longer given until eighth grade, that isn't really relevant. Those coaches with grade check policies explain the process for handling these confidential documents in their team rules. No additional action needed.

d. Minutes posting

At a recent school board meeting account balance information was recited based on posted minutes. The information didn't provide context on other assets or pledges. Betsy thought we used to be able to protect/restrict certain parts of the website to certain users. Paula asked if we can lock down minutes information. Marcie thought our ADM families already find our website tough to navigate, and requiring login might be more challenging. Kirk would prefer no login needed. Dave has had comments about how much we make available and what critical information should be communicated. As notes from the meeting are available, additional information could be discussed upon request. It would be his recommendation to provide more general comments, particularly related to disciplinary measures, although they are usually within closed session. It's important to have team rep contact information easily assessable.

Steve noted that an "all membership" tool exists, so if someone wasn't logged in, they wouldn't see certain pages. There are ways to mirror team contact information to other pages. Jeff asked Steve to do some additional research. Paula suggested maybe a tab that says "team rep" – Steve has something similar on the contacts tab. Jen said it is nice to see other teams' schedules when she's going out to confirm or look for games.

Topic will be tabled and discussed under Old Business at next month's meeting.

e. Other business

ADM Jersey Numbering – Paula made a motion to allow up to \$250 to number sixteen jerseys for ADM. Angie seconded. All approved. The bill should be sent to Paula's attention.

School Skate report – Karen Welling

6-7 skate = 106 kids, approximately \$570 in admission, 20 paid skate rentals, about 94 canned goods and \$370 in concessions

4-5 skate = 182 kids, approximately \$936 in admissions, 13 paid skate rentals, and 178 canned goods, with concessions similar to the 6-7 skate at \$390. There were kids everywhere – shoes too. We didn't let them use locker rooms, but it may have been helpful with those numbers.

Dave noted we've been asking for a lot lately, maybe we should share what we've been giving back. Angie will work to get us some press on this.

Kimberly Trent had a question on behalf of Dale and the z-team- Why didn't they open the locker rooms, too. Karen explained that they didn't anticipate the numbers. The open locker room worked great for 6/7. Perhaps there is a "magic" number to open additional rooms. Karen looked to Kelli Feiler, who was an off-ice chaperone, for any additional suggestions. Kellie thought it would be helpful to schedule more than you needed. Betsy pointed out, though, that finding volunteers has been difficult, particularly on-ice.

Karen noted that some kids bring extra canned goods, even if they have skates. We did run out of certain sizes of skates, so the agreement with the schools will be helpful.

There was subsequent discussion on possible skate and stick drives. Steve would put something in an email blast if someone would write it. It could be tax-deductible, but someone would need to receive it and provide a receipt. Dave will look into it.

Paula made a motion to adjourn. Karen seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.