

2013-2014 Cottage Grove Hockey Association
General Membership Meeting
 August 5, 2013

Board Members Present

President: Eric Folsom	X	A/B Director: Jeff Fye	X
Vice President: Chad Brown	X	C Director: Jim Anderson	X
Budget Director: Nicki Donlon	X	Girls Director: Dan Severson	X
Registrar/Secretary: Kathy McLaughlin	X	Mite Director: Chris Rudh	X

Meeting Called to Order @ 7:01 PM by Eric Folsom

Motion to Approve April 2013 Minutes: by Eric Folsom; seconded by Chris Rudh

Call for new business:

- Introduce efforts to Increase New Players (Mite/8U program) – Jeff Corkish
 - Jeff has partnered with Chris Rudh, and other mite parents to build up mite/8U program
 - Suggest Steve Morse/Jay Moser + high school players visit the elementary schools - visit classrooms, etc.; need to call the schools for permission (C Rudh will follow up with P Kuemmel)
 - Additional “free skate” prior to the national “Skate for Free” day; free night of trying out, provide skates/helmets/
 - \$700 in donations to date; Equipment donation day at rink; go pick up from homes
 - Any ‘return’ on donations? Need to research if can be deemed a tax deduction; even monetary returns from using Play it Again are minimal, so would be challenge for assoc to dictate fair value on items; cannot look at ice credits at the moment.
 - Friday - Sept 27th for ice, preferred; 1 hour for boys/1 for girls
 - Recruitment night – sign up right there;
 - Do a follow up call to those that came in
 - Motion for \$ for treats, copies for distribution, advertisement in Bulletin? Nicki Donlin responded that cost estimates should be provided to Board for review

- M Devaan inquired about T Cahill
 - In early July, Teige Cahill resigned as a CGHA board member

Call for old business: None

Committee Reports:

- Fundraising Manager – E.Beth Fritz
 - Raffle Update
 - 3,230 raffle tickets in circulation to be sold; 2,700 need to be sold to break even
 - Pick up by August 14th – will provide a couple different nights
 - Families asked to take a minimum one pack;
 - Raffle to be facilitated on 8/17 @ Frankie’s
 - Similar to how Hockey Fest is facilitated & contributes to the association, would like everyone selling tickets

 - Member feedback re: fundraising
 - J Corkish suggested to do something with a big ticket item, provided examples
 - T Porter inquired whether tournaments are another opportunity to make/increase fundraising? Yes; additionally, for home tournaments, increasing vendors for additional revenue opportunities
 - Chad will coordinate a meeting with members interested in sharing & coordinating ideas for additional fundraising opportunities

- Tournament Director – E.Beth Fritz
 - Turkey tournament update
 - 3 registered, Edina/Rosemount/ 3B & 3C's
 - In soliciting previous participants, learned that S. St Paul will not have C Squirt level this year
 - Increase tournaments – looking at building up tournaments/more money making opportunities
- Equipment Manager – Andy Roeser / Eric Folsom
 - Working with Straus on a bid to buy multiple pieces of equipment (leg pads, blocker and catchers). Will review once it arrives. Will need to weigh cost verse our current budget crunch. Goalies may have to make do with what is already in stock.
 - Member in attendance suggested contacting the manufacturer; may get some hand offs that were used for demos, etc., at reduced pricing (Reebok, etc.)
- District 8 Rep – Nicole Rowell
 - Not present/No report
- Ice Manager – Chad Brown
 - Ice schedule for clinics nearly finalized – Bantams will begin 9/17, followed by Pee Wee, Girls, Squirts
- Green Line Editor (open position)
 - No report
- Hockey Director (open position)
 - No report

Board Member Reports:

- Registrar/Secretary – Kathy McLaughlin
 - Registration kicked off in June; soft close scheduled for August 16th
 - Currently 36% below projected numbers, however, in reviewing previous years' results, typically 10% register in final week before close, and additional 15-20% register after cut off through and end of September
- Vice-President – Chad Brown
 - Initiated fundraising efforts with raffle; association needs to revitalize fundraising association wide to help offset player fee increases
 - When looking at player fees at other associations to look at how we compare, there is not an apples/apples, program offerings can vary greatly
 - T Porter suggested outlining what people are getting for their money; can board provide outline on the website? Chad responded that that we could do that.
 - Ramey - Can we look at doing skills/drills for 4 teams, similar to another outside program
 - Not good option for Bantams
 - Pee Wee possibly; more opportunity at Squirts/Mites for shared
- Budget Director – Nicki Donlon
 - Need to revisit the budget based on lower than projected raffle fundraising
 - End of September, look at hosting a budget review with a consolidated group of members, if interest is there
- A/B Director – Jeff Fye
 - In process of tournament selection for A/B levels
 - Tryouts are coming up; looking for evaluators
 - Member Lisa Ramey inquired
 - What are evaluator requirements?
J Fye/D Severson: A coach and/or referee background; demonstrated knowledge of hockey.
 - Would qualified candidates from other areas be considered?
J Fye: Yes, but need to understand time commitment
 - 4-5 evaluators needed for each level needed/preferred
 - Would be needed 3-6 Hrs, 2 days in a row.
 - Have outside evaluators been considered?

J Fye: Have tried this route previously, only to experience no-shows. With the tight timeline to facilitate tryouts, cannot afford to be in a position with players on the ice, and risk no-shows

- Tryouts – equipment room needs, will have DIBs shifts
- Discussion with A coaches
 - Trying to create a very structured process
 - Believe we are going to evaluate the right skills to get them into the right group/playing level
 - Remember that tryouts are a snapshot in time – every kids gets the score that they've earned;
- Goalie evaluations
 - Mike Moline to facilitate drills; will have coaches in attendance to give a fair shake
- 3v3 being facilitated next 3 Wednesdays for HS level kids; email Jeff Fye if you're interested.
- Significant achievement last season for CG, and will get to raise 2 banners this year; Pee Wee A & 14UA – state tournament
- C Director – Jim Anderson
 - Registration for C tournaments underway
- Girls Director – Dan Severson
 - 14U informational meeting will be facilitated in next 10 days
- Mite Director – Chris Rudh
 - In next week, clarification of the “2-day” & “3-day” program structure will be published to members
- President – Eric Folsom
 - It's been a long summer learning the ins and outs of the association. I had a good mentor in Adam from last year and was able to experience many different avenues of the business side as well as the administrative side during my first year as VP. This year, as President, I look forward to building on what is already in place, changing what may be needed based on membership feedback, and helping further were needed.
 - My main goal is to continue to look for ways to get hockey more affordable in this association. I have some ideas and am always open to suggestions.
 - One of my proudest accomplishments thus far during my year and a half on this Board is the growth of the PDC and starting the Summer Hockey Academy. I look forward to growing this Summer Hockey Academy next year and out years with possible dates set for May, June, July and August 2014, 2015 and 2016.
To further this, the PDC will begin a series of meetings this fall to start vetting those scenarios out and ensuring that we continue to look for ways to offer local camps to all of our members and at an affordable price. Please keep in mind that all of these camps are being proposed that they be ran by our volunteer coaches. There may come a time where this is not feasible.
 - I want to thank Chad Brown and E.Beth Fritz for getting the summer raffle off and running. It's been a learning experience for them, I am sure...
 - I want to thank Kathy McLaughlin for getting registration up and running. Due to your determination, you made this look easy...but I am sure it was not.
 - I want to thank Nicki Donlon for helping getting the Budget laid out and approved. She is a wizard with spreadsheets and can spot my mistakes a mile away.
 - Finally, I want to thank the rest of the Board for a good off season start. Sometimes contentious but mostly productive. We met each month during the off season to ensure that we were ready to go come Clinic time. Each level director before you (Dan Severson, Jeff Fye, Jim Anderson and Chris Rudh) has been at this before and rest assured your player is in good hands.

General Membership Concerns / Discussion:

- Lisa Strenke - Could it be considered to facilitate Gen Membership meetings at the rink?
Board reviewed this suggestion, and decided to remain at VFW Red Barn. Members at the arena on a Monday evening is limited, so would require other members to drive somewhere; as well, the VFW and neighboring businesses appreciate and count on the continued support of the local.

- Nate Bibus – what is the number of teams that are projected for this season? Eric Folsom responded that it is hard to gauge exactly at this point in the registration process, registrations still actively coming in daily.
- Bob Ramey – coach selection, how are coaches selected?
Feedback was provided by multiple board members; the general process includes review of previous season's survey results, success in previous coaching positions along with an interview process

Motion to adjourn made by Eric Folsom at 8:40 PM: seconded by Chris Rudh

Attendees: The August 1, 2013 meeting was attended by 19 members.