

Armstrong Youth Hockey Association  
Monthly Board Meeting 11/13/06

Called to Order: 6:35 p.m.

Attendance: Tom Keller, Ann Breitenfeldt, Delia Anderson, Kevin Roddy, Sandy Pofertl, Mike Terres, Larry Gonrowski, Ed Kirchoff, Paul Wood, Tracee DeNeui, Ramon Aguirre and Paul Antonenko.

**New Business:** Jere Bartz, the auditor for AYHA's Charitable Gaming Operations attended the meeting and presented his findings from the audit that covered the period June 1, 2005 through May 1, 2006. Jere prepares monthly gambling reports for four organizations and prepares annual audits for various nonprofit organizations. Jere reported that this the second year he has completed AYHA's audit and it was much more pleasant to do this year. The new gaming sites have helped AYHA. Jere's report is not comparative due to the addition of the new gaming sites. He indicated there were no missing games and no abnormalities in this audit. He also noted that salaries tend to be higher in the metropolitan area than the rural areas. This is the only expense that is higher than other associations that he works with. Jere indicated "Hats off to the people that cleaned up the negative expense calculation." Closing more games has helped increase profit. Twenty to eighty percent of each game is profit. When sellers are good at knowing when to close games that helps increase profits. Jere's words of advice were to watch the negative expense calculation, indicating that once that goes the wrong way, it can really get out of control. We should be able to forecast after one full year of running all of our current sites. Jere suggested that we dial it back to 75% of normal when we do start forecasting. The Board asked Jere if he knew if other hockey organizations spent most of their money on ice. He was not sure, but did indicate that other hockey organizations have an application that needs to be completed if funds are requested. The Board thanked Jere for his work on the audit.

Robert Ingalls requested to waive his 6-year-old son out of AYHA to the Hopkins program. A motion was made and the vote passed approving this waive out.

Brett Hartmann requested to waive his son out of AYHA to play Jr. Gold. A motion was made and carried approving this waive out.

A Peewee parent, Jayne Ellegard, requested that the Board take into consideration a no skate policy over Christmas and New Year's. Since it is a six month long program, during which you would be hard pressed to find two days off in a row, taking two weekends off in a row seems reasonable to request, given the commitment we all make to the program. The Board will include this and the Policy and Guidelines as an agenda item for next month's meeting. Ed suggested we consider something to the effect that if you have a tournament over Thanksgiving, you should not be scheduled for a New Year's tournament.

**Charitable Gaming:** Tracee reported that bingo results have been slow. The bar owners really want bingo, but we may have to consider stopping it at some point in the future,

possibly over the summer months. The Gambling Committee is considering making a donation in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range in December to AYHA. The City of Crystal tax of approximately \$6,500 will be due in January. A motion was made and carried approving the Gambling Committee's November monthly report to the Board. A motion was made and carried approving estimated gambling expenses in the amount of \$26,430 for December 2006.

**Girls:** Tom reported that the Girls Committee met last Saturday morning. All coaching positions are filled. The tryouts went well. The U14s didn't have a tryout due to the numbers. Overall the parents were happy with the process and the Girls teams are off to a good start. Game schedules are out. The biggest challenge is figuring out the team fees with 3 different organizations involved. 4 teams had goalies and goalie training is being provided.

**Secretary:** A motion was made and a vote carried approving the October Board Minutes.

**Treasurer:** Delia circulated updated financials through October 31, 2006. Now that the gambling audit is done, the accountant will start on the tax returns.

The team managers meeting will be Sunday night, November 19. A financial binder will be distributed at that time. Next year there will be 2 managers meetings since the Squirt team is formed so much later than the other traveling teams and the Bantams and Peewees need their materials earlier.

Delia reported she has received nothing from concessions and that tournament credits should be discussed to determine if tournament credit would be given to each team.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** A motion was made and the vote carried approving 10 hours of credit for Parent Volunteer hours to members that sit on AYHA committees, including the Tournament Committee, the Jamboree Committee, the Gambling Committee, the Hockey Development Committee, SKATE, District 281 Concessions and the Girls Hockey Committee.

**Ace Coordinator:** Larry is working on coaches' certifications and background checks. He plans to change the process to speed things up next year. Two coaches will receive early payment, half before the end of the year and half at the end of the season.

**Traveling:** No report.

**Registration:** Squirts and U10 roster verification is Thursday. There still is not enough time allowed to get parents and kids to sign the roster after teams are formed. This applies to all of the teams, including PeeWees and Bantams. It was suggested that the camps take place after the tryouts to allow enough time to complete the roster verification. Also, if the team manager's meeting were scheduled earlier the roster would usually be handed out at that meeting.

**Tournaments:** The Thanksgiving Tournament had 8 Squirt B, 4 Squirt C and 4 U10A teams participate. The February Tournament has 8 Bantam A, 8 Peewee A, 3 U14 A, and 7 U12A teams registered.

**District 3:** No report.

**Concessions:** No report.

**Equipment:** No report.

**Fundraising:** There are seven committed sponsors. Mike received a board ad. for Sit Investments.

**Ice:** No report.

**Marketing/Mites:** Ed reported there are 170 Mites including fourteen Mite 2 girls, and four Mite 3 girls. Mite 1 and 2 girls are doing great progressing through the program just like the boys. Paul brought up the idea of pond hockey (3 on 3) all girls Mite teams and suggested inviting other district teams. It was also reported that we would have a Mini-Mite program for next year if the numbers continue as they are currently.

**HDC:** Paul reported that there is not enough separation between the hockey skills and the administration. Looking at the Wayzata site, they call it the Player Development Committee, not the Hockey Development committee. We need to be cognizant of other tryout times across the district as it relates to the need to fill spots where we are short players. The HDC has done a lot of good things, however, the parent communication is still lacking. There needs to be a lot more meetings and he found that it is hard to get people engaged after the teams are formed. Paul reported there is a lot of work to do and he will take away the learning from this year for next year.

Todd Pannek joined the meeting at this time after having just attended the Peewee B2 parent meeting with eleven very disappointed families. AYHA knew there was a goalie issue all along. There are seven C goalies at Edina right now and we won't be competitive if we don't have a goalie for this team. So if a goalie is not found within forty-eight hours, this team will have to play at a C level. We need to look at this seriously and think about merging with Cooper. Cooper will give us much stronger B and C programs in our traveling program.

Todd also indicated that changes would have to be made on the HDC so that responsibilities are filled.

It was also recommended that we evaluate giving goalies more of a financial credit going forward.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.