

Armstrong Youth Hockey
Board Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2007

Meeting Called to order at 6:37 p.m. Members present: Todd Pannek, Kristen Harnett, Mark Gauer, Tracee DeNeui, Matt Deterding, Larry Gonrowski, Sandy Pofert, Jim Siede, Kevin Roddy, Greg Symicek, Todd Krough, Todd Weisjahn, Tom Keller.

Waiver Request: Mr. Rudy Menendez requested a waiver for his son Michael into the Hopkins Youth Hockey Association. Members of the board explained that in the past AYHA had honored these requests but did not receive reciprocity from other organizations for children that wanted to waive IN to our organization. A comment was also made that John Perry, District 3 President, strongly recommends against Mite waivers. District 3 will be meeting to further discuss open enrollment issues. In the meantime, Mr. Menendez was assured that several children from district 281 who open enroll to schools in Hopkins would now be skating at AYHA and that Michael would have a great experience here. A motion was made, seconded and passed with only one member opposed denying the waiver for Michael Menendez.

Charitable Gambling: Tracee reported that Tom Hewitt, Todd Pannek, Deb Jacobsen and she attended the Maple Grove City Council Meeting on August 20th. All the questions brought forward by the council were answered by our members but the Mayor again tabled our request. The plan is to attend the September 17th meeting and get a “yes” or “no” answer as to whether we will be allowed to have Champps in Maple Grove as a Charitable Gaming sight for AYHA.

Tracee heard that it’s probable that the Metro Fire Department in Crystal will take over the gambling spot at the Fieldhouse in Crystal in January. If this is the case, we need new ideas for a third gambling site.

The annual audit should begin in the next week or two with results by the end of October or beginning of November. In addition to the audit, Tracee is working with Warren from the GCB in regard to his report regarding our current gambling sites. Tracee is working on the letter addressing the issues he brought up and has 60 days to respond in full.

Greg, the owner of Steve O’s, is interested in seeing more Armstrong parents in his bar for Bingo and in general just supporting his business.

We discussed moving our Gambling Banner ads to the front page of the website for a time.

Tracee asked for a motion, 2nd and vote on the following items:

- Approval of monthly report to the board

- Approval for expenses for October 2007 of \$27,150

- Approval of 2007 Allied Charities of Minnesota Membership Dues--\$200

- Approval for \$125 for Tracee DeNeui to attend the Gambling Convention in St. Paul in November, 2007

- Approval to pay back \$100 to the Gambling account for a counterfeit \$100 bill taken in at Rostamos in March of 2007

Motion passed.

New Business:

Training for clock running/game announcing

Jim Siede, Parent Volunteer Coordinator, recommended that we hold a class to train parents on running the time clocks and serving as announcer for games and give them volunteer time for attending the class. We often have a hard time filling that volunteer spot for games and tournaments and this way people will be more comfortable stepping up to do that job. It was advised that people only get credit for the training hour once they've actually volunteered and completed a game in a volunteer setting. Kevin Roddy offered to run the training session. Motion was made by Jim Siede to offer one hour volunteer time for attending the training class, to be credited upon completion of the first game that the volunteer runs the game clock. The motion was seconded and passed.

Travel team registration numbers and opportunities

Todd Pannek, President, presented AYHA's registration numbers for our travel levels (Squirts, PeeWees and Bantams). We have a definite need once again this season to combine our Bantam players with Cooper's. It was discussed that Bantam parents are aware of the numbers and are expecting the combined teams once again. The original plan for the other traveling levels this season was to have combined C teams; Todd presented the option of combining **all** traveling levels with Cooper and what the benefits and drawbacks might be. Todd's proposal involved all A and B1 level teams maintaining the Armstrong name, while B2 and C teams would carry the A/C name. He explained that his proposal could be accepted by level or across all levels for this season.

Discussion ensued about District 281 cuts and the future of Armstrong and Cooper as a whole. Should we wait until the school makes a final move or start absorbing or merging with Cooper now? Doesn't combining the teams give each player a better opportunity to play at his or her own appropriate level? Can Armstrong afford to take this on with only two gambling sites at this time? Will having Cooper "with us" allow us to better focus on our fundraising, sponsorships, gambling and other board activities? Will there be a backlash from parents due to the fact that we voted against this in April of 2007 and we leave little time for opinion and discussion at this late date? How will we effectively communicate this combined team proposal?

While discussion was mostly in favor of the proposal, the board decided to ask the HDC for further review and comment. A motion was made, seconded and passed to request that the Hockey Development Committee review the “shared team concept” for all Armstrong and Cooper traveling levels for the 2007-2008 season while taking into consideration the Proposal Assessment presented by Todd Pannek.

Todd Pannek then called a special meeting of the board to be conducted by conference call on Thursday, September 13th at 9:00 p.m. to review the HDC outcome and make a final decision as a board.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising: Mike Terres has resigned from the board as the Fundraising Coordinator. He has personal commitments that will make it impossible for him to complete his term. Mike sends his apologies and also thanks the rest of the board for their continuing efforts where AYHA is concerned.

Girls Coordinator: Tom Keller reported that all the girls from last year’s U10 teams are coming back. This year’s U10 level will have 25-30 girls and support an A and a B team. The U12’s have 20-24 kids and there are 14 girls playing U14 this year. They will play at the A level but at present have no goalie. Parent meetings for the U12’s and U14’s have already taken place and the U10 parent meeting is September 23rd.

Treasurer: Mark Gauer reported that we have taken in \$84,000 in registrations. His “Quickbooks” program is now up and running. We have over \$79,000 in our checking account and over \$51,000 in our money market fund. He will email financials to the board soon.

Ice Coordinator: Todd Pannek stated that we will be looking at compensation for the position of Ice Coordinator. He doesn’t have anything specific at this time but we may handle the situation by e-vote later this week.

Secretary: Minutes from August were approved.

Old Business:

Funds of \$2000 each had been requested by both the Armstrong Boys and Armstrong Girls High School Hockey Booster Clubs. Todd Weisjahn stated that the money for the Boys team would be designated for off-ice training, equipment, and instructor fees. A motion was made, seconded and passed to make these donations from our AYHA account.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

