



Armstrong Youth Hockey Association
Monthly Board Meeting 03/12/07

Called to Order: 6:40 p.m.

Attendance: Todd Pannek, Ann Breitenfeldt, Delia Anderson, Kathy Hewitt, Greg Symicek, Mike Terres, Sandy Pofert, Todd Krough, Larry Gonrowski, Tom Keller, Ed Kirchoff, Paul Antonenko, Tom Hewitt, Todd Weisjahn.

Charitable Gaming: A motion was made and carried approving the Gambling Committee's March monthly report to the Board. A motion was made and carried approving estimated gambling expenses in the amount of \$39,380 for April 2007. Tom reported they would be getting the unused pull-tab money back this month. Bingo will be starting at the Sunshine Factory. Charitable Gaming needs to make a donation in April or May in the thirty to forty thousand dollar range. They are still looking at Axel's Bonfire in Plymouth as a fourth pull-tab location for AYHA. Deb Jacobson is going to set up a meeting with the management of Axel's Bonfire to discuss pull-tabs in this location.

A motion was made and carried approving the payment of \$22,000 by AYHA's Charitable Gaming directly to the New Hope Ice Arena to cover February and March ice fees.

New Business

SKATE: Sandie Sullivan, AYHA's SKATE representative, reported that they have chosen to eliminate the grab bags and replace them with gift cards to Hockey Giant, All-Star and Lettermans. This year the SKATE rally will be held in the Robbinsdale Middle School auditorium. There is no fee for this location. Sandie requested \$3,000 for SKATE so that there would not be a zero balance left in the SKATE account after this year's rally. A motion was made and carried approving a \$3,000 donation from AYHA's Charitable Gaming to SKATE. A special thank you was extended to Sandie Sullivan and Karen Ott for all of their hard work relating to SKATE. Also, an idea was suggested that we include SKATE in our association corporate sponsorship program to see if we could find corporate sponsors for SKATE each year.

Old Business

Cooper Armstrong Committee Update: The Cooper Armstrong Committee met again. They believe a 3-year plan will be presented to both boards at their April board meetings. Assuming the elements of the plan work and it makes sense to move the plan forward it is likely all teams would be combined by the end of the third year. A discussion took place regarding using AYHA's website to communicate to the membership prior to the Board meeting. The question is how to facilitate the discussion and obtain feedback. It was

suggested that a tab be created for AYHA's website labeled something like Armstrong/Cooper Plans.

Girls: Tom Keller reported that the next meeting will likely be held April 9. St. Louis Park has committed to a combined program at U12 and U14. This means approximately 26-29 skaters for U12 and 14-17 skaters at the U14 level. St Louis Park also agreed to give their 2nd year U10's the option of either skating in our combined program next year, or skating with a new U10 program that will start up at St Louis Park with Southwest. We believe the U10 8-9 skaters that were 1st year U10's this year will elect to skate with us for their 2nd year of U10. If this happens, we will have approx 24-26 at the U10 level next year. There are 2 goalies at the U10 and U12 levels and one at the U14 level. For the most part, parents were happy with the coaches, the coordination and the togetherness of the teams. The Girls Committee is working on a lot of things for next year including marketing, structure and fees. The girls' numbers are very strong at the Mite level. We project for next year that we will have 50 girls in Armstrong and Cooper Mite 2 & 3 programs. The key is to sustain these numbers.

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

Treasurer: Delia handed out the financials as of February 28, 2007.

Volunteer Coordinator: Kathy has been talking to Jim Corbett about the painting projects at the rink, including painting the locker rooms. This will make more volunteer hours available for those who need hours. There will likely be 15 to 20 cashed volunteer checks for this season.

Ace Coordinator: A motion was made and carried approving the payment of a total of \$1,525 in gift certificates to the parent coaches on the boys traveling teams.

HDC: The HDC has held a couple of short meetings and the next meeting will be Monday night. At that time the HDC plans to divide into two sub-committees: the Team Development Committee and the Player Development Committee. The Team Development Committee will consist of the Ace Coordinator, Level Coordinators, Paul Antonenko and the Travel Coordinator and the Player Development Committee will consist of the high school coaches, the traveling coaches the Ace Coordinator and the Travel Coordinator. The HDC plans to discuss the following at its meeting:

- Changing the voting membership on the HDC to exclude the A coaches.
- Developing goaltenders, goalie credits, etc.
- Mid-season reviews for coaches.
- Year-end coaches reviews and the ability to do this via the web anonymously.
- Developing a formal process for removing coaches.
- Creating standardized team rules for traveling teams and clear guidelines as to what ramifications will occur if rules are not followed.
- Creating teams based upon enrollment, goalies, and guidelines on team minimums, etc.

-Standardizing the team selection so that the teams are skill appropriate and take into account the skater's experience, skills, etc.

Traveling: There will be two level coordinators at each traveling level next season. For example, at Peewee level the experienced coordinator would be Paul Wood and then Jeff Hemenway would move from Squirts up to Peewee level coordinator with Paul. Mark Greenberg would stay on at the Bantam level and a second person would step in as the other Bantam coordinator. There will be 2 Squirt coordinators. This provides for a transfer of knowledge and will be beneficial in the fall when things are so busy for the coordinators.

A discussion took place regarding the three Bantam B1 players from Armstrong that were dismissed from the team in violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy and their ability to participate in SKATE this year. A motion was made and the vote carried approving letters be sent to each of the Armstrong players dismissed from the Bantam B1 team and include their patch and SKATE certificate acknowledging they have met the academic requirements of SKATE but will be excluded from participating in any additional SKATE activities and the SKATE rally relating to the 2006-2007 hockey season.

Registration: Sandy reported that we are still looking for a registrar. It is very likely this position will be compensated next season.

Tournaments: No report.

District 3: No report.

Concessions: No report.

Equipment: No report.

Fundraising: No report.

Ice: No report.

Mites: A special thank you to the Mite Jamboree Committee consisting of Matt Deterding, Ann Winter, Jim Siede, Fred Poferl, Kathy Hewitt and Kim McDuna, for a very successful Mite Jamboree this past weekend.

Marketing/Membership: Ed gave a marketing synopsis to the board via PowerPoint that included numbers in our program and how well marketing and membership have been going. He thanked Matt Deterding as an integral part with the increase in numbers at the Mite level over the past few years. There were 70 new skaters in the program this year. Ed will plan to add a slide containing year-to-year retention numbers. It was agreed that we should continue having booths at the Wings soccer jamboree, Duk Duk Daze and the Golden Valley girls' softball event, as these have been beneficial in

recruiting skaters to the program. It was suggested we should survey parents of girls in the program to get feedback regarding the need for all girls' teams at the Mite level and to see what is needed to get more girls on the ice.

A motion was made and carried adjourning the meeting at 8:45 p.m.