

CYHA Board meeting - Thursday, August 23, 2007

New Hope Ice Arena – Meeting Room #1

Present: Derek Olson, Greg Erickson, Troy Loken, Laurie Ahrens, Dan Longhenry, Lisa Rogers, Eric Marsh, John Gautsche

Absent: Joanna Rooney, Diane Eliason, and Scott Sysmanski

Meeting called to order at 7:34pm by Derek

President's report - Derek

Summer recruiting assignments for CYHA: Meadow Lake, Forest and Lakeview Elementary – need volunteers. Staff a table at kindergarten orientation nights to push Free Mite clinic. Goal to identify 35 new kids for the program. Armstrong covering the other schools in District 281.

Free Mite Clinic scheduled: Sept. 29 10:45 am to 12:15 – HS players to help.

Registration: online and ongoing. 50 players registered as of, 8/23. Registration on Saturday 8/25 8:00 am to noon. Troy (1 computer), Derek (2 computers), and Laurie plan to attend.

The communities of Crystal, Robbinsdale, and New Hope are sponsoring “Rink Rat Hockey” this winter. It is a program for 5 to 12 year-olds to play outside. Cost is only \$35 and you provide your own equipment. At a previous meeting, someone asked CYHA to donate equipment to this program. CYHA may be able to help with older kids equipment (e.g., equipment from swaps); however, need to keep the majority of gear for Mites in CYHA's program. A link will be placed to this program on the Cooper Hawks web site.

A parent meeting for Bantam families was held last week to discuss Cooper High School and Cooper Bantams programs. 14 families participated. Discussed the potential numbers and who will participate at what level next year.

LEVELS OF PLAY FOR 2007-08:

Depends on how many end up registering at the various levels. For example, only 5 bantams are registered as of 8/23/7. Conversation with coaches and decisions will be made as soon as possible. The basic plan is for one “B” team and one shared “C” team with AYHA at Bantams, Peewees and Squirts.

Laurie pointed out an interesting online article in Star Tribune South – Apple Valley: August 6, 2007, www.startribune.com “Can free hockey lure more kids to the sport?” It reinforces what we're already doing here, and it could be rewritten for the local Sun Sailer.

Treasurer's report – Derek for Scott:

Squirt B checkbook register received from last year's manager – still looking for who paid what fees to determine what to do with outstanding balance from 2006-07.

Scott also working on tournament registrations for 2007-08.

Other Accounts Receivable: you cannot register unless the accounts from the previous year are paid.

Scott approached by a Peewee parent about scholarships. Reiterated our policy that registration fees are not discounted, but help with ice fees available.

Secretary's report - Troy:

April 11, 6/21, 7/19 minutes approved electronically and posted online at web site.

Volunteer report – Laurie:

Still using last year's list of names until registration is finished. Sent announcement about registration to that group.

Fundraising signup will be done via e-mail as much as possible next year.

Registration report – Derek:

We will probably mail out the volunteer policy, wreath forms, and information for collection of deposit checks after registration is completed.

Sent out 158 letters in early August – 15% attrition expected – but only 50 registered so far. Last day to register is Wednesday, August 29, 2007. After that, a \$50 late fee will be added to the registration fee.

Concession report - Lisa:

First Tournament last weekend and it went really well. Made about \$2,000 in first two days, but results for Sunday not yet available.

A few changes for next year on the menu, prices, and hours. For example, Cooper HS decided last Friday not to have a JV girls' team so that affects the concession stand.

Next tournament is Sept. 15-16, 2007. Stand will open for regular season at the beginning of October.

The concession stand is CYHA's most substantial fundraiser. Separate corporation board operates concession stand – not tied to the CYHA or AYHA board. Lisa is President, Laurie is secretary, Diane Eliason is treasurer, plus 3 additional members. 4 managers last year. If you aware of other interested in concession manager.

Girl's report – Derek for Diane:

Cooperate program again with Armstrong and SLP. A separate board operates with two individuals from CYHA, two from AYHA and 2 from SLP. Board runs autonomously of each individual association; however, cooperate on issues like ice scheduling.

District report – Greg:

Question about whether this is a rule change year.

Tournament Report – Derek:

Not hosting a Thanksgiving tournament at New Hope this year. A lack of interest. Still having the New Hope Invitational in February – Bantam A, PeeWee A and U12A.

Open discussion and questions from the floor:

1) Bantam program:

CYHA not fielding a Bantam A team this year. A concern was expressed that kids are not playing with appropriate-age, and similar skills. If we don't have enough kids, where do they go? A number of 2nd year Bantams are considering moving to the high school program this year. Even if a coach encourages a player to complete a 2nd year of Bantams, that doesn't mean he will play Bantams. The high school program will take a Bantam-eligible player if he is good enough or if the numbers dictate. Cooper High School is looking for 5 to 6 kids to fill out a JV team. At least one player already committed to playing JV.

Bantam-eligible families met last week, but many still undecided where they are playing. Armstrong not open to taking A-level kids into their Bantam program. Expect that CYHA will have 16 to 17 total players split into two teams – B1 team and a C team. Original prediction for 50+ players at the Bantam level between the two associations. This includes all players that may end up playing at the HS level.

Concern expressed that players at the C level won't be prepared to play at the high school level. Wiley applied for secondary Bantam team coach. He would prefer a B2 team vs. a C level to help them prepare for high school hockey -- quicker pace and skill development at the B level. Tryout structure typically dictated by head coach. Also, do not intend to select a secondary coach until after tryouts. CYHA can commit to whether we will have a B2 team or C team by next week. Derek will communicate with Willey next week.

2) Question about eligibility discrepancy between USA and MN Hockey:

Follow MN Hockey guidelines. Nick Johnson got the wrong information in his registration letter, but he should be a 2nd year PeeWee.

3) Ice schedules:

Tryout Schedules are completed. Will be posted at the web site tomorrow morning, 8/24/07

4) Pee wee update:

B head coach Ryan King has one assistant at to date. Mitch King is a former hockey coach in Chicago. Fall clinics will be run cooperatively with AYHA. Then, separate tryouts for Pee wees.

5) U12 coaches:

Not known at this time.

6) Tryouts for Squirts, Pee wees and Bantams:

Rick Beckfield 4-5 sessions / camp. Another instructor, Heinrich, played at UST and will fill in on the weekends – Power Skating instructor.

7) Waivers:

Erik Hansen applying for a conditional waiver for his son Ben to play at the Pee wee A level. The traditional policy is that you have to played A the previous year. Jack Goyle and Jack Halverson are previous exceptions.

Motion to adjourn: Laurie

Second: Greg

Discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Discussion of waiver policy and two requests to date:

1) Ben Hansen: PeeWee A

2) Trent Kallas: Bantam A

Should we let someone participate on an A level when we don't have an A team? Both players were granted waivers in previous years to play at the A level. Waivers must be requested before tryouts begin.

BANTAM LEVELS

Armstrong going A and B1

Cooper is planning on going B1 and a 2nd shared team with Armstrong

– Derek will talk to Armstrong to confirm their levels

PEEWEE LEVELS:

Pee wee B1 or B2 and combined shared team with AYHA

SQUIRTS LEVELS:

Squirt B1 or B2 and combined shared team with AYHA

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Loken, CYHA Secretary