



Thursday, July 19, 2007

New Hope Ice Arena

Present: Derek Olson, Greg Erickson, Diane Eliason, Scott Sysmanski, Troy Loken, Laurie Ahrens, Joanna Rooney, Dan Longhenry, John Gautsche

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Derek

Review Minutes from last few months and Approve - Troy and Lisa - tabled

Squirt Checkbook issues and Treasurer update – Scott

Question about outstanding balance in Squirt B1 account. Scott will request check register from Nancy Froom and report back at next meeting. Discussed a Squirt B1 player's unpaid registration fee and \$500 donation to the team.

Diane suggested leaving U14 team sponsorship money that arrived at the end of the season in the account for next year's U14 team.

Dan will check with rules pertaining to dedicated gifts and retaining the association's non-profit status with a cousin who is a CPA. Can a team raise funds that are dedicated, or can you raise funds for your team as an individual appeal? Last year, the association allowed individuals to allocate Schwan's fundraising funds to ice fees. One of the rationales for this is that the program was optional; however, team sponsorships are supposed to support the entire association not just one individual or one team.

Discussion regarding the procedure for offering scholarships. Decision last year to not offer scholarship for registration fees. Intend to maintain that policy this year.

MMC: (John G.) Past dues must be paid in full before registering for the current season.

Second: Dan.

Discussion.

Budget update - Derek (see excel file)

Derek summarized the 2006-07 team budget.

- Using more ice in tryouts, but sharing with Armstrong so overall cost is reduced
- Bantams use 90-minute ice sessions already.
- Registration stays the same at \$385 for 2007-08.
- New Hope Ice rates went up to \$170 (\$165 last year)
- Registration fees cover the District tournament (covers ice at tournament) plus two tournaments registrations / team among other things
- Other funds for nets, pucks, water bottles, etc. and new jerseys for every team this year
- Additional ice sharing initiatives at Mite level to avoid running a negative balance at that level.

MMC (John G.) Accept preliminary team budget framework.

Second: Laurie.

Discussion: budget based on projections and actual numbers from last year

Ice Update and Tournament Registration Form (see form)- Lisa/Derek

Attempt to avoid scheduling issues from last year, especially want to avoid getting stuck with unused ice. Every team will fill this form out by 9/15. Typically, need to register for tournaments in the summer even before teams are formed.

District game scheduling is done at the end of September.

Ice has been purchased for the fall, 9/9/07 camps begin for most teams. 3 or 4 times a week but longer sessions 75 - 90 minutes. Less nights / week but longer sessions.

Last year, CYHA and AYHA purchased 21 hours/day on weekend average. Reduced that to 16 hours/day for 2007-08. More shared ice (e.g., two teams on the ice). Discussed that five years ago the associations averaged 21 hours / weekend day, but there were significantly more teams. Arena is okay with reduced usage by the associations because they have adult hockey associations looking for more ice. Also, more ice is available because Armstrong Boys are on a two-year rotation with PIC and New Hope – they swap with the girls – and more ice is being purchased at PIC this year.

Girls Update - Diane

Still waiting for SLP to pay \$6891 from last year's combined girls' program.

Armstrong will implement autopay for all teams next year so discussed how the combined girls' team will collect money. Derek will talk to Todd.

Last year U14 hosted by Cooper, SLP hosted U12, and Armstrong hosted two U10 teams. Expect that will be the same in 2007-08. Tryouts start 10/15.

Recruiting Update – Derek

Duk, Duk Duk Dayz this weekend – Armstrong coordinating booth
Wings Soccer event next weekend – Armstrong coordinating booth
St. Raphael's festival in early August (ask Lisa about a booth).

Mite Update - Derek

Clinic on Thursdays in the summer is going well. 54 kids registered but 15-16 are from Maple Grove. This is for new Mite 1s and Mite 2s. Some CYHA Mite 3s are playing with Armstrong's clinic.

New fundraising opportunities (ad hoc committee reporting)

John, Laurie, and Greg working on this committee. Group suggested doing two events. Product type event and another event. Schwan's fundraiser was successful last year and plan to do again. Wreath raised \$7,500 to \$8,000 last year. Do it again this year.

Other fundraising ideas discussed:

- A Mite pancake breakfast in January. Armstrong raised \$1,500 in first year, and \$2,300 last year. Seek sponsorship from Applebee's
- Purchase a mug with a photo of player or team on it. National Sports Photography an option.
- Have events scheduled so it will be presented at the team meeting. Need to have that finalized by Oct.

Corporate fundraising:

- Derek was tasked to provide a list of sponsors, and then we try to secure a commitment from all sponsors again this year.
- Committee will divide up the list and make necessary contacts

Waivers

How should CYHA handle conditional waivers for "A" level teams? Should we look and review our policy? Existing CYHA Waiver criteria provided in the registration packet.

- Applicable to 2nd year squirt and older.
- Conditional waiver given to player who wants to play the same level the next year (i.e., tryout for A team).
- Precedent to allow person to try out for a higher level at another association if no team exists at his/her level.
- What happens if they don't make that team? Where do they go back and play? No detail in by-laws or guidelines on what level to which they return.

Skill and age-appropriate level play is a priority of the board and the association. Do we allow A-level waivers? If families inquire, the Board will review on a case-by-case basis.

Tabled discussion for the August meeting.

Levels of play for the Squirt and Pee wee teams - Derek

What should we play and why? Discussion with board and additional input from coaches expected. Will need to be addressed at District 3 meeting in August (district will have to approve and verify in September). Two associations in District 3 have 10+ teams so you want to be competitive if an association only has one A team and one or two B1 teams. CYHA has 1 ½ teams at each level. Also, no Tri-city and no SLP in District 3 this year.

Need to address the needs of the majority of players. If bulk of team is B1 then play B1, if bulk is B2 then play B2. In reviewing the individuals for next year, board feels comfortable with B1 for Bantams, Pee wees and Squirts.

Board is concerned if some B1 players end up elsewhere, then the competitiveness of a B1 team is severely impacted. Final decision to be made at the August meeting (after registration).

Registration

About 60% of people used online registration last year. Online works well despite some initial set-up last year. Communication to back-office is very effective with Joanna's database. Manual registration packets are expensive for returning players and present additional problems collecting registration fees. Information must also be manually entered anyway.

MMC (Diane). Only allow online registration only for returning players. Provide an internet kiosk at new player orientation for those without internet access or without a credit card.

Second: Scott.

Discussion: Need to work out dates for registration, parent meetings, and team meetings and how to appropriately disseminate information and collect checks. Registration usually begins the 2nd week of August. Information mailed to families as well as an e-mail communication.

Goalie Registration Credits - Derek

Goalie registration last year was confusing. Consider reducing or eliminating the goalie credit. Suggest an application available for goalie credits at registration, and then reimburse at the end of the season. Rationale for goalie credits and additional expenses discussed. CYHA and AYHA now offer goalie training at no additional cost. Also, association provides gear for most Mite and Squirt goalies. Armstrong does \$275 discount.

MMC (Scott): No goalie discount at registration. Goalie application refund will be available later in the year.

Second: Dan.

Discussion: Need to check agreement with section 13.5 of CYHA bylaws. "Discount equivalent to registration fees" is technical wording. May need to update bylaws.

MMAC John: Change section 13.5 of CYHA bylaws to read "Discount pending committee approval."

Greg second.

Discussion.

Amended: John: Wording changed to "May receive a credit".

Second: Troy

Volunteer Report and Changes to volunteer policy – Laurie

Handout review of total assigned hours of 2,900 last year, but only 2,600 hours available if every family completed their volunteer commitment. In other words, we are over 300 man-hours short at this point. Laurie suggested adding a 10-hour commitment for Mite 1 families. This will also help prepare these families for the jump to 25 hours the following year.

MMC (John) Accept the new policy as written.

Second: Greg.
Discussion.

Communication plan for the season

How can we improve our communication with families? John volunteered to spearhead efforts to keep web site updated and possibly offer an e-newsletter. All board members can have access to the web site for their area of responsibility.

Pre-season communication will come via e-mail and written information mailed to each family. Level meetings in September when camps begin. Team meetings once team is formed.

Laurie will send an e-mail to announce registration dates. Also need to add to web site. Online registration open August 11 to August 25. New player registration typically held the Wednesday and Saturday before Labor Day. This year would be August 25 and 29: 8 am - 12 pm on Saturday, 8/25, and 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, 8/29.

Next meeting changed to Thursday, August 23.

MMC (Greg). To adjourn.
Second: Dan
Adjourned at 10:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Troy Loken
CYHA Secretary.