



Minutes CYHA Annual Election & Meeting April 11, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m.

Attendance: Derek Olson, John Gautsche, Lisa Rogers, Greg Erickson, Erik Marsh, Diane Eliason, Mike Morgen and John Christy. Absent: Joanna Rooney & Gene Ferrel. Guests: Willie Monteiro & John Froom.

D3 – Grievance discussed and led by Derek Olson

As most of you know we had some incidents that took place on the A/C Bantam B1 team last year that forced the coaches and association leadership to institute separate discipline policies. *This was a result of behavior of kids from both Armstrong and Cooper. (samples of behavior were read)*

A Coaches 1 Verbal Warning Policy was implemented in December (agreed to by Todd Pannek, Derek Olson, and Coach Jon Vogt). Because of more behavioral issues and activities by improper kids on this team – a no warning zero tolerance policy was implemented on 1/24/06. All kids and parents were notified that if any activity reported by the coaches or in the presence of an association official were to occur, players would be removed from the team for the balance of the year, no questions asked. On 2/10/06 – 4 players were removed from the team for violation of the zero tolerance policy. This was an action that was in full support of the coaches.

As of 3/28/07 the families of the 4 players filed a grievance with District 3 and that grievance was denied because of the timing of the filing. That being said, a meeting with the association leadership and district personnel has occurred to discuss the situation. For both combined teams with Armstrong and our own internal team's workings it is imperative we create a documented policy that outlines disciplinary actions. Derek has promised to take it as a summer project to have this added to our guidelines. We will also include verbiage that the coaches and or a parent must be on the locker room.

President Report – 2 years of hard work

1. Raise funds and help build a new shooting cage – cooperative effort youth and high school and donations
2. Raise funds and updated equipment/training room – cooperative effort youth and high school and donations. Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped including NHL player Jordan Leopold.
3. Concession operations – finished second full year and have a long term very profitable agreement with the city of New Hope – cooperative effort of a new BOD with Armstrong volunteers
4. Financial overhaul and extensive – 2 year budgeting process – All Diane FYI
5. Shared Ice Scheduling capabilities for NHIA – with AYHA
6. Co - Hosted the Bantam A State Championship – with AYHA
7. Built a 2nd locker room under the stairs with private donations from AY and CY families.

Our focus of successful programs concentrating on Skill Appropriate Development

8. Introduction of skills camps for Squirts, PW's, and Bantams (includes the hiring of a skills instructor who focuses energy and efforts on ALL kids in the program on basic hockey skills.
 - a. Two year program at Squirts
 - b. First year at PWs and Bantams for next
 - c. Plan is to have it at all levels including girls next year.
9. Mite Hockey Curriculum – coaches curriculum (2nd year – focus on FUN and skills in an organized fashion). Does it work? Ask the families who participated and read the comments and reviews of the program – focus on the basics, fundamental, and fun, kids will come back.
10. Shared girls program (Arm, Coop, SLP) – three years ago our girls program was in complete disarray. We have taken leaps and bounds forward by forging ahead with a partnership with Armstrong and St Louis Park with our number one goal of Skill Appropriate Development. We embraced our fears and it has given every girl who registers to play hockey in our area an opportunity to play hockey. No doubt have we have had bumps in the road, but growing on our third year, with Diane's leadership I am confident is going to be better.
11. Shared bantam program (bumps this year) – but I am convinced the kids who participated as they left are better prepared for the next step in the hockey careers.

Derek then thanked the following board members for all their hard work:

Gene Ferrell: It will hardly be a board without Gene. He will be remembered for all of his hard work as VP, with the District 3, and most importantly with the tournaments. Gene has and will always be the voice of calmness and was a mentor for me when I joined the board 4 years ago. He will be missed at Cooper but will be welcomed at the District.

Mike Morgen: He has served on this board for 7 years in several capacities and done a fantastic job. We will miss his classic line "Ice is still cold" but won't leave us completely. He has agreed to stay on board and assist us with the Tryouts next year and for that we are VERY THANKFUL!!!

John Christy: Great work on raising \$7000 in sponsorships this year – that is a 39% increase from last year. His efforts are commendable. We look forward to \$10K next year.

Diane Eliason: The work she has done on the financials for our association is close to priceless. As a number cruncher and an analyzer – her hard work has helped us lead our decision making and our budgeting process. Without her hard work and commitment – none of the projects above would have worked as successfully as they have. We lose her as a Treasurer – but keep her as Girls Director and Treasurer of the Concession board.

Joanna Rooney: have one the dirtiest job and does it with a smile and a few nasty emails to me. First off she has to deal with me a lot during registration and that isn't easy. She makes my job easy, does it with a smile, and represents us well within District 3. It has been great getting to know her more this year and I thank you for your continued service.

Eric Marsh: Thank god we both have Sprint as our cellular network – we rack up at least 100 minutes a week talking hockey. Eric has been a champion, sponsor, and co-developer of the Mite program. While we are constantly faced with decreasing numbers and retention issues – he has moved forward with a passion that is in my opinion one that I have never seen. Eric led the Mite II level and spent at least 75% of his other time "volunteering" at the mite I and mite III level. That's right – at times he was spending 3 hrs on both Saturday and Sunday.

Greg Erickson: Talk about busy – he is the epitome of that. Coach, Board Member, District 3 representative and VENDOR to CYHA. Thanks for all the hard work and dedication at the Squirt camp. 2 years ago I remember a little doubt and 2 years later – I see the validation with the on ice product.

Laurie Ahrens: The quiet leader. Took the impossible and thankless job of Volunteer Coordinator and amazingly has worked miracles. Both a leader and visionary as it relate to boards, she has helped all f us think differently in specific situations, mainly our strategic planning. Thanks for your work here at CYHA and the concession operations.

John Gautsche: The not so quiet leader. John will tell you exactly how he feels and I respect that. John is passionate about his involvement and always has high energy. His work as Equipment Manger is appreciated and with increasing equipment needs for next year – he is going to be very busy.

Lisa Rogers: Last but not least. This was Lisa's 8th year on the board. My job looks easy when Lisa is around and helping me. She is the heart and soul of Cooper Hockey. Truth is I know and understand that without her I would not have been able to do my job and honestly that is true for the whole Board as well. The list is long on the things she does and under my encouragement, she is giving some of those responsibilities up. She will not run as Secretary, but will continue with her ice scheduling duties, which in itself a full time job. Thanks.

Elections:

Derek Olson (President) – incumbent

Eric Marsh (Mite Director) –incumbent

Joanna Rooney (Registrar) - incumbent

Scott Syzmanski (Treasurer) – has a financial background

John Froom (Fundraising) – has experience raising funds for Crystal Little League

Troy Loken (Secretary) – is an organizational genius

Dan Longhenry (Tournaments) – Mite parent and has coached for three years

Secret ballot was taken. All candidates ran unopposed and were voted into office.

Treasurer: Ice reimbursements for girls program is pending. Still have some outstanding debt. Have received \$5000 from concession.

Volunteer: 2,838 hours were scheduled this season. Seven traveling families work zero hours. Two families worked ten or less. Twenty-five Mite I families worked zero hours. A couple others worked 2 or 3 hours. The Jamboree hours were an issue. It was noted that Palonys worked 25 hours here and at SLP. Six or so families were told their hours were waived. Laurie doesn't know why. Laurie would like to revisit having the Mite I families be required to work again. We can't add other fundraisers if we have nobody to work the hours.

Girls: Next GHC meeting will be 4/14.

Traveling: No report

Tournaments: No report

Registrar: No report

A.C.E.: No report

Mites: Most of the rental equipment is back. A drop-off date will be scheduled. All equipment will be gone through and repaired over the summer. There are 38 Mites registered for summer camp – thirteen are from Maple Grove.

Equipment: No report

Ice: We will be completing the final spreadsheet for all teams. We used every hour we could, and know that we can't take as much ice next season, especially since AY teams take two to three more tournaments than CY teams.

District 3: No report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Adhoc Fundraising Committee: At the first meeting they discussed the following – donations; cooper wear; Hawk-a-thon; pull tabs; events (breakfast, spaghetti dinner; steak dinner); getting more Mite families involved. They will be picking one of these topics to discuss at each meeting. Committee members are: John Christy, John Gautsche, John Froom, Laurie Ahrens, Joanna Rooney and Greg Erickson.

CY/AY Committee: Derek presented a proposal to our Board (see attached). AY Board discussed, at their meeting this week, the whole process – merge, combine, etc. All the things we have been discussing for the past several meetings. Discussion: Camp cost would be less for us. AY should pay 2/3. Camps should consist of conditioning, skating and learning. John Gautsche stated that it appears their proposal is in favor of AY coaches. Mike Morgen motioned to except proposal as is with the exception of adding that CY and AY will both accept conditional waivers from the other. Lisa seconded. Discussion: John Christy wants to be sure we communicate this to the membership. Derek said we will this summer, same as AY. Greg was concerned that splitting during the camp may put high and low ability players in same group. Discussed that having a bigger group of same ability makes it easier and better for players. John Gautsche said that our intent should be to make the best effort to have kids play at the appropriate level. Derek made a friendly amendment: Any CY or AY player wanting to play at a level not offered at their home Association. Motion carried. Greg & John Froom abstained.

Laurie motioned to review our waiver policy this summer. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Lisa Rogers
No longer Secretary ☺