

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2015, 6:00 pm

Board Attendees: Karen Welling, Betsy McCrary, Brenda Egli, Gary Brendemuehl, Stacy Hollfelder, Nichole Jesberger, Lisa Wendler, Patsy Zielsdorf

Absent: Becky Lemke, Jason Ledford, Misi Watters, Sheri Witt

Public Attendees: Kellie Feiler, Casey Rufener, Aaron White

Meeting was called to order at 6:02PM.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

2. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a. Secretary Report (Lisa Wendler):

- Email Vote Affirmation: Sheri made a motion to cover the credits of \$65 off squirt dues for mites who moved to squirts, as well as the "credit" amount for the late registers and starting midget players for the part of the season up to varsity tryouts, which would be \$124.13 for Kaleb Steen. For Alex Bowman, it would be \$173.01, and then for Ryan Traut, \$244.90. This credit would represent only the ice/games/tournament fee not used. Karen seconded, motion passed. Karen made a motion to affirm the email vote, Stacy seconded. Motion passed.

Betsy noted that in the meeting minutes for closed session, typically the people making the motion are not indicated, just the outcomes. Brenda made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes, Nichole seconded. Motion passed.

b. Treasurer Report (Gary Brendemuehl): Gary read all account balances. These were before we recently paid ice time invoices to SP Ice. Gary noted that it is possible that the pledge loan balance may be down to zero in January, it will be a topic of the joint board meeting. Concessions profit is looking good despite having to upgrade a lot of equipment. Betsy noted that we did not review the statements in November. Patsy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Nichole seconded. Motion passed.

c. President Elect (Stacy Hollfelder): If there are home game changes please have team reps inform Stacy, the referees may need to be adjusted according to policies with DCHOA. In addition Betsy noted that teams should keep the website updated, that is what Larry uses to assign locker rooms for games.

d. Past President (Karen Welling): SP Ice Report: Joint Board meeting, Thursday January 21, 2016 at 6:30PM. Paul Sukenik is leaving the Bank of Sun Prairie at the end of December, Dan Hines will be taking his place on the SP Ice board. That is an advisory, non voting member on the board that BoSP assigns.

e. President Report (Betsy McCrary):

New Year's Eve event is coming up. We need volunteers and donations for the cake walk. DIBS has slots for the event available. SPYHA has been asked by Prairie Athletic Club to survey our members regarding off ice training programs, we will be posting this after New Year's.

Practice schedule for January 5 and beyond will be sent out as soon as Larry confirms it. Level reps will need to check the schedule, especially with the tags which families rely on for their schedules.

JV update – AD last week, depends on budget, which would be a very difficult sell, unable to get specifics on amounts needed. Title IX – offer opportunities for girls, pointed out inequity within this sport in particular due to nature of co-op (no-cut), also provided some JV tournament

opportunities according to information in pre-season packet. Mark Breyer and Greg Leatherberry are putting together a business case, probably communicate to school board directly after New Year's.

DCHOA – chastised for timing on tournament scheduling early on, resolved it. We do pay a separate scheduling fee for every game. Other issues/complaints were relating to SP Ice, including missing benches in the ref's room (had been supplied by DCHOA members), temperature in the locker room, and timely payment (some referees received September's payment in early December. I have had discussions with DCHOA president asking that any concerns also be shared with me, to try to help resolve it, rather than to have referees not want to come to SP. It is too beautiful of a facility to alienate referees. Also, just a reminder after resolving an issue between a visiting coach from the Cardinal Cup and a referee . . . DCHOA's website has a feedback form that can be utilized by coaches. Our association does not need to be in the middle of that.

Reminder about the "chain of command" – Parent and players first point of contact for issues, from playing time to referees to relationships with other parents, MUST start with the coach. Anonymous complaints will NOT be addressed. No one, including coaches, should be contacting other parents, coaches, or administration from other associations. That will be handled by the executive committee, should the need arise. Last month, a parent from another association handled things very poorly, by posting accusations and complaints on the SPYHA Facebook page and calling out a child by name. This was not acceptable to his association, and it would be a clear violation of our code of conduct as well.

Contingency games reminder - The contingency games that were on everyone's schedule are ONLY to be used for practices if they are not needed due to game cancellation. This was a Board decision over the summer, when they were scheduled. They do not become scrimmages or an opportunity to host guest players. The contingency games are NOT factored into dues, they were just covered by the general association budget. (If a game is cancelled, the association still pays for the ice, and for the referees.) It's one thing to invite another SPYHA team / players to share a practice, it's a whole different thing to bring anyone from outside the organization. The intent was to have the contingency game near the end of the season; however, a few team reps went ahead and scheduled it, and then tagged a different game as a contingency game. If not needed, it becomes just a practice, whether it is at the beginning of the season or at the end. Recommendation for next year that the association just hold the ice and give it out if needed.

Locker room, coaches keys, and more – Coaches should NOT be opening locker rooms for other teams outside of our association – they need to check out the keys from the z-team, because that allows them to lock the doors when they leave the locker room. If you open the locker room door for another SPYHA team, remember you are responsible for supervision until the coach arrives. Coaches signed an agreement when they checked out the keys, so please abide by the requirements. Locker room doors should be locked ("secured") when teams are on the ice. This is consistent with USA Hockey's locker room policy (which is SPYHA's policy). We want to be proactive, rather than reactive. Recent situation at MIA where 15 cell phones and cash stolen from Metro Lynx locker room reinforces this need.

Ice . . . remember that we are only entitled to the ice we purchase, nothing more. Occasionally early practices may not have anyone before them. PLEASE do not complain if your team does not get to go on early. The z-staff may have other responsibilities/duties, and it is not our place to weigh in on it. A few minutes of extra ice is a wonderful bonus . . . a privilege. It is NOT a right. Please do not argue with the z-team about this. Also, it is helpful if the z-team has some advanced notice on net needs.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Volunteer Committee: Nothing to report
- b. Annual Fundraising Committee: First raffle drawing was Monday, all winners are posted (first name and city) on the Fundraising page on the website.
- c. Communications Committee: Lisa will send out an email reminder on the New Year's Eve event on Dec. 26.
- d. Cardinal Cup Committee: Four tournaments in two weekends are complete and went very smoothly. Squirt C and Bantam A are in January, Bantam B/C is in February. The Bantam A tournament was originally planned for 12 teams, but since we did not get that many teams we capped it at 8 instead and will be giving ice back to SP Ice.
- e. Concessions Committee: They are hiring a few more concessions workers. They came up with a structure for pay raises for workers to encourage experienced workers to continue working for us. The hope is that we can retain good workers. They also got a microwave donated.
- f. ACE Directors: Aaron updated the board on roster adjustments. Squirt C and Bantam C are asking for players. Aaron is also following up on coaching modules completion. Aaron and Suzanne are trying to organize a coaches meeting and may be looking for a guest speaker.
- g. Region 4 Meetings/WAHA Report: Much of the Region 4 meeting was spent talking about game forfeits. They talked about rules which are posted on the Region 4 website. First, if you plan not to play a game, you should give one week notice. If you have a shorter cancel timeframe, you can work with the Region 4 president and away teams may be charged a fee if they are the cancelling party. You cannot force a team to forfeit a game. Any game where there is not a joint decision to cancel will generally go down as a forfeit. Eric Lemke is now the Squirt level ALD from SPYHA. There was another reminder for the ADM level to use blue pucks. There was a reminder to teams about posting correct scores, there has been an issue with that at the Bantam level particularly. January 3 at 11:59PM is the deadline for game reporting for the seeding meeting. There was a discussion about low referee numbers and covering playdowns. There was a reminder about Mite level programs not doing ANY full ice activities until February 26. The WAHA representative talked about their grant program. They reminded associations to claim their U6 and U8 players. Everyone who applied for Fenton Kelly scholarships got a scholarship.

4. LEVEL REP REPORTS:

- a. MiniMites (Nichole): Teams have been going well, there are usually 6 players on a team. We have 5 total teams. Next Saturday is the last Try Hockey for Free session for those who signed up for the continuing sessions. On the website, we have listed the teams as RWB according to the USA Hockey levels. Our teams have two other colors to keep track of the different teams. Second session registration will be enabled and put on the home page this week. If a player is already registered for first session only, they should NOT register again, please contact a board member for directions. New to SPYHA Hockey should register if they intend to continue and also brand new players should register. Equipment schedule will also be posted.
- b. Mites (Brenda Egli): Families have been asking about January schedules and the stick holders. SP Ice has not approved a few ideas for the stick holders, it is still being worked on. We have had lots of compliments on the new mini boards and the kids love them.
- c. Squirt (Becky Lemke): Squirt A is 7-7, took second in the Cardinal Cup. Squirt B is 6-6-2 and took third in the Cardinal Cup. Squirt C is 7-9-1. Recommendation for a Squirt C team in the future is that we either petition to be a league down or not in a league at all.
- d. PeeWee (Patsy Zielsdorf): nothing to report.
- e. Bantam (Misi Watters): via email Bantam A took third in Black River Falls, Bantam B took first in Marshfield.
- f. Midget (Sheri): via email: Midgets are 6-13-2 whether the players who did not make varsity will pay the late fee and they will. Also, there are no guaranteed roster spots. Sheri congratulated the three Midget players who made varsity via email: Trent Behnke, Quentin Gross and Josh McCrary. So the roster is down to 17 without any new additions. Coach Lee has agreed that Owen Leatherberry be added to the Midget roster, he will need to dress for 5 games before Jan. 1 to be eligible.
- g. Coaches' Rep (Jason Ledford): nothing to report

5. OLD BUSINESS

No old business still on agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Membership Changes:** Kelly Harper had inquired about getting a partial refund since her two skaters were not ready and pulled out of the program. \$105 per skater plus \$60 for the nonreturned fundraising raffle cards are nonrefundable according to our registration document.
- b) **Dues Adjustments:** Second session invoices are coming due. Adjustments are made based on projected vs. real team sizes and other situations. Ecomm talked about this at a meeting this week. Ecomm's recommendation is to keep dues as is. The expected extra that SPYHA would have to pay to not increase dues to families is approximately \$3000. With this year being the first year of a set budget process, we are well within our budget to make up this instead of raising dues. The board agreed to keep dues as projected regardless of actual vs. projected cost.
- c) **2015 – 2016 Scheduling:** Betsy will not be doing scheduling next season. The recommendation is that we hire an employee to do our ice time and referee scheduling next season. The position requires an extreme amount of hours beyond what we expect for our volunteer requirements. Jim Sullivan (Brian Sullivan's dad) is an experienced scheduler and is retired and is willing to do this as an employee. Patsy noted that someone less connected to the association has benefits to doing this for us, but also we should have some oversight into the process based on age levels, morning vs. evening practice, etc. We could put together a written guidance document for guardrails for the schedule. The board will consider approving this next month.
- d) **Additional Coach Request Bantam B:** Beau Bingham is going to be gone during the holiday week, and Nick Kanoff is unavailable. Larry Clemens has graciously agreed to help coach the team during their absence. He has completed both PeeWee and Bantam coaching modules, is a Level 4 coach and completed a background check and Safesport modules. Stacy made a motion to approve Larry as a coach for the Bantam B
- e) **Rostering:** Casey Rufener asked for a few extra players on the Squirt C roster as needed for games. The players are: Jordan Rose, Easton Davenport, Oscar Ray, Landon Wapneski. Aaron White asked for the board to approve these players pending parent approval. Stacy made a motion to approve double rostering any or all of the four players pending parent approval. Lisa seconded. Motion passed.

Bantam C team: Coach Crary has asked for additional players to the three already approved to be added to the roster, due to family schedules that sometimes conflict. The board noted that any player eligible for the State tournament must have played at least 5 games before the playdown games. WAHA rules also state that they need to play these games between Dec. 15 and playdowns. Stacy made a motion to double roster Luke Brickl and Dashle Maughan to the Bantam C team with the understanding that any double rostered skaters will be used to bring the team size for a game not to exceed 10 skaters AND that their first commitment is to the PeeWee A team. Nichole seconded. Motion passed. Lisa made a motion to add Larry Clemens as a coach to the Bantam B roster, Karen seconded. Motion passed.

- f) **Mite Equipment:** Goalie equipment is in bad shape for this level. Brenda has a quote from Suters for \$275 a set on the newest equipment (Prodigy line) with better fasteners, etc. Brenda will meet with the equipment managers to verify what equipment we do have available. The size Brenda recommended is the 24" size. Brenda recommended we do four sets. Brenda recommended the old pads be offered to membership for knee hockey/street hockey play. Any money raised could go back in the equipment account. Lisa made a motion to approve up to \$1200 to spend on four sets of 24" goalie pads for the Mites teams. Nichole seconded. Motion passed. The board wanted to emphasize that this will be taken out of the equipment fee in the Mites/MiniMites dues, which sometimes parents question. There is a lot of additional equipment at this level to be maintained.

Karen made the motion to go into closed session at 8:06PM. Stacy seconded.

The board approved a volunteer hours waiver for a family with special circumstances for the 2015 – 2016 season. The board approved a refund, for two ADM players who did not finish session one, of the balance of the refundable payment according to the policies in the registration document.

Stacy made a motion to go out of closed session and adjourn, Nichole seconded. Meeting ended at 8:25PM.