

Rome Youth Hockey Association

Board meeting minutes from April 17th, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:38pm by Vice President Gary Millington.

Board members present: see sign in sheet in binder.

Confidentiality notice: Gary Millington reviewed our confidentiality policy.

Public forum: Peter Sestito met privately with the executive members and incoming President and Secretary.

Treasurer's report: None.

Approval of previous meeting minutes: The minutes from March 9th, 2016 were distributed by Secretary Marcus Smith and reviewed by the board members. Motion to accept by Dean Millington and second by Kurt Parry. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Coach's coordinator update: None.

Snowbelt rep update: Chris Narolis has asked Snowbelt if we have a full time girls' team can they also play on a Snowbelt team. The Snowbelt league will review this request and let us know. Past practice was that the girls had to participate in at least 75% of the Snowbelt games. 8/18/16 is the next meeting.

IP program update:

- **Equipment return status** – Kurt Parry discussed that we need to go after the equipment that is not returned. We need to put a stricter policy in place to ensure we get the equipment back. We will work this summer to organize equipment and label and track the equipment.

Old business:

- **Spring meeting recap and year end survey** – Nate reviewed the year end survey and the key issues (communication, fewer kids on the ice, visibility of the board, and individual team ice time) the board members discussed posting the board members pictures at the rink so people know who we are. We also discussed our plans to ask the city for more ice time. We are looking for two skills slots on Fridays and we could potentially use a 6am slot if there was a team willing to use it. (Squirt level team). MV Raiders will be using two 6:00am slots this coming season.
- **Central Section meeting update** – Bob Gulla reported on the key issues discussed at the Central section meeting. Key issues included 1) Verification of birth certificates at the LTS and Mite levels. 2) Safe sport for travel teams due by August 1st, 2016 and house teams by November 1st, 2016. 3) Locker room policy must be posted at the arena, 4) Utica Jr. Comets have been granted tier 1 status and Valley has moved from tier 3 to tier 2. 5) Sectional format is being looked at again and may include the top two teams automatically going to states with a sectional tournament for teams from 3 and down.
- **Summer hockey plans** – Nate VanWie discussed that he will have ice time from 6:00-8:00pm in Whitestown for mites and squirts. This will be run by Rome coaches starting the 3rd Sunday in July through August 28th, 2016. We will also be participating in the RFA camp this summer.

- **Try-outs update** – Bantam try-outs have been completed. 13 kids were selected so far and Mark Gualtieri may add more players in the fall pending the board decision on the number of kids for each level Bantam team.

Committee updates:

- **Ad panels** – No update this month as Bill Fleet was not present. Bob Gulla's wife would like to fill Bill Fleet's request for a new chairperson to run this fundraiser. Kristin reported that there are only two outstanding invoices.
- **Fundraising** – The board members discussed that we need to have a fundraiser for next season as we did not do one this year. Kurt Parry volunteered to put together a golf outing this summer and Jen offered to help. The board all felt this was a good idea but there are so many golf outings around it may be difficult. Kurt will work on this further.
- **Tournaments** – John Hussey will be the tournament committee chairperson and we will have a tournament director for each tournament reporting to John Hussey. Silver Stick tournament will be December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. In 2016/2017 season we will have all the house tournaments on 1 weekend.
- **Other** – We need to get the word out to the association that we are looking for volunteers for these various committees. We want to have 1 chairperson for each committee and have others on the committee report to the chairperson.

New business:

- **Website** – Rob Kopek discussed our current website vs. other organizations and that ours is lacking some of the features and benefits of other websites. Rob specifically talked about Sportsngin and the features and benefits of this web service. This new web service could help with communication which was a concern from the year-end survey. Additional features include online registration, mobile app, parent texting and game updates. The cost is about \$600.00 for the year. Each coach would have the ability to post information for his/her team on the individual team page. For the coaches coordinator role it can be used for background checks and keeping track of coaches' requirements. Bryan Haag currently runs our website and does a great job with it. We will look into this further in the coming weeks/months.

Other – Bob Gulla thanked all the outgoing board members for their time and dedication to RYHA.

Next meeting date will be May 11th, 2016 at 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn at 8:43pm by Bob Gulla and second by Marcus Smith. Motion carried.