

December 5, 2022      Thunderdome   6 pm

Board members present: Chris Dietrich, Brad Eggers, Robert Steffy, Christine Ritter, Sandra Weaver, Rachelle Williams, Brad Lee, Mike Bartling, Greg Chisolm, David Bender, Doug Retzer, Trista Rybak, Dixie Matthews

Guests: House Committee members

Call to order 5:59 pm, motion to approve minutes/agenda made by Brad Lee, second by Mike Bartling, approved in vote.

Thunderdome Internet:

**Report-** There are 2 parts to the internet, a front end that covers admission, concessions/proshop etc, and a back end that covers the zam and compressors. This has improved our flow and things (squares) are running well. At this time, we are limited on options, can only do a line of sight. We hope to be able to have high speed internet options next year as growth continues around us.

**IT Committee-** Need an IT Committee to oversee things and handle reboot/ clean-out things, update passwords, etc. Facilities committee has their hands full with duties and we would like a separate committee to dedicate to IT. Jordan Drysdale & Greg Chisolm have volunteered for this committee. Motion to create an IT Committee made by David, second by Greg, approved in vote.

Presidents Report (Dietrich):

**Bantam B State Tournament-** We need to select a contact person to handle and work with the state. David recommended Tara Lipp & she has accepted, they will work to make a committee and start planning. State will have rules for the state tourney and provide a bracket and need to approve the shirt design- was stressed it needs to be neutral for all. Jenni W with the state will work with Tara. Tara & committee will need to build Dibs.

**Rush Ice Rental-** Last year we rented ice to Rush in the daytime when they cannot use the Monument (Civic Center) ice due to events, Our facilities committee has agreed to zam and we have had no issues. Chris also brought up the Rush and the mites- next Monday night at the mite practice, they will be here to present a case of pucks to RHA.

**Squirt Travel hockey-** Squirts are now in league play for the last couple seasons. Due to this, we allow 2 tourneys and then Fargo (if accepted in) and our end of season tourney. Prior to squirt league play it was strictly travel tourneys, but they are harder to find and fees have gone way up. Coaches/coordinators sign up for these preseason or early into the season so we can block weekends as needed for the state schedule. Squirt B team thought they were scheduled, but nobody signed this level up for any tourneys. Squirt A team went to Sioux Falls & are also signed up for Pierre. Squirt B also just got into Pierre tourney. Steffy received a refund check from Pierre and thought it may be for the A team as it came before the B's were paid.

Discussion on cap for funding, used to be a set amount of \$1500 since we went to league play and limited tournaments. Squirt B signed up for a tourney in CO for \$1750 and would like this reimbursed. Question on how much Squirt A received, would like to keep the balances exactly the same. Squirt A paid \$1250 for Sioux Falls and \$500 for Pierre for a total of \$1750. Would like to spend \$1750 for squirt B as well, anything over this is funded by parents. Do we need to look at the cap for next season, proof of costs? Going forward do we stick to the \$1500? Motion was made to allow \$1750 max for 2 tournaments this season. Motion made by Brad Lee, second by Mike Bartling, approved in vote.

Was mentioned that March 3-5 is the local squirt tourney. We should look at the costs and make sure we are in line with others. Following weekend is also the mite jamboree.

#### Financial Report (Robert Steffy):

**Referee pay- tournaments-** Pay rate for preseason tournaments and house/mite. House refs are paid \$25 per game. Steffy bumped to \$30 this year and paid the preseason tourney the same. John with refs had advised the lower rate in the past as preseason is usually a learning experience for new refs. Mites are cross ice & just need the puck drop. Squirts and peewee are more involved and can get rough, there can be safety concerns.

Question was the peewee early bird tourney. The refs were experienced refs and were not aware of the lower rate. It sounds like we paid the lower rate in the past & it wasn't questioned till now. If we pay the full rate of \$45 vs the \$30 we would be up \$500. Discussion on how we have built in the refs rates to the tourney registration fees, so we have this covered. State rates take effect in tournaments, we would follow the state rates. Motion made to retro pay the refs from the early bird peewee tourney for the balance owed for full ref rate-- made by Brad Eggers, second by Brad Lee, approved in vote.

House ref discussion- house is the peewee and bantam age group, jv is typically older. We currently pay \$30 for house level and for the JV house we pay \$35? There are 2 plus a shadow ref. We spent \$15,000 last year on refs, we have budgeted \$18,000 this year due to cost rising. Question on ref rates: mites are \$20-\$25 with 1 ref, squirts are \$35 with 2 refs, peewees are \$45 with 2 refs. Motion for house ref rates increased to: house level \$30/game (up from \$25), JV house \$30 linesmen/game times 2, and \$40/ game for head linesmen times 2. We will also pay \$10 for a shadow official (age 15-19) learning to ref. Motion made by Chris, second by Brad Lee, approved in vote. One big discussion point to note is that the house rates have not increased over the years and are not able to fully absorb the rising ref costs unlike the tourney fees. We may need to discuss fees in the summer again.

**Purchases (Brad E)-** Amount of purchases coming in were discussed. Would like a small amount of card holders for RHA, concessions, facilities, proshop/fundraising, tournament registration, jersey purchases....There are some vendors upset with delay of payment and we need to take care of this. Currently we have 1 card, we have volunteers paying for things out of

pocket. There was concern with info being communicated to the treasurer and book keeper. Sandra offered to get a credit card policy to the board to review for the next meeting.

Steffy went over financials, registration numbers are up. Rush foundation check, ice rentals all discussed. Konrad refuses coach payment.

#### Building Committee:

Ice is good, zam is good, parking is tight. Chris and Brad E may talk to the Zandstras for overflow parking and we would allow them to drive thru instead of on the road to help with fees. Handicap parking signs are going up.

#### Girls Program (Brad Eggers)-

Doing well Need a press person, maybe Zimiga or Olson will handle. Also need someone from the program to take on cancer night. Girls are holding theirs with Pierre, Boys with Watertown- so they will be on different weekends.

#### Fundraising Report (Ronda Simmons, Brad Eggers):

We made a couple hundred out of the 50/50 peewee night & Applebees and Raiseright (formerly ScriptSave). Wreath sales are seeing a significant increase in cost, we will get less, we should look at wreath costs.

16 helmets were purchased with Gatorade funds from Simeon Birnbaum. Varsity will recognize him. Fundraising committee would like to do an online campaign around the same time.

#### House Program (Trista Rybak, Dixie Matthews):

They have 5 new house committee members. Tree will continue to coach, Trista is stepping down as coordinator but will be around to help the committee as they shift over. Dixie is still with house JV this year and is working with people as well. They discussed rotating who comes to the board meeting each meeting and made sure we have the contact info.

Safesport and background check issues and need help. Chris sent Tree info from Jenni W at the state.

Clarify for House program: coordinators should check on who signs up for the locker room. Connie is setting requirements on Dibs. Emily may be able to get a Safesport list to the coordinators.

House is missing jerseys for JV. They state they were all there end of season and their seniors didn't have them. Also said they have at least 1 JV house player who needs to return his still from previous years. Missing 4, 5, 8, 16.

Misc:

If a player gets ejected, a parent/coach should go with them.

Motion to adjourn made by Greg, second by Brad Lee, meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm