

RHA Board Meeting, March 20, 2023

Thunderdome, 6:00 pm

Board members present: Chris Dietrich, Brad Eggers, Robert Steffy, Christine Ritter, Ben Nelson, Ronda Simmons, David Bender, Sandra Weaver, Rachelle Williams, Brad Lee, Konrad Reeder, David Bender, Becky Man

Guests: House committee members

Call meeting to order- Chris Dietrich 6:00 pm

Approve meeting minutes/agenda-per David Bender- there was a question on a name- correct & then post. Noted & will be updated & sent to post- motion made by David, second by Ben, motion approved in vote.

President's Report (Chris Dietrich):

State Meeting- April 14th, no items yet. Will see more voting etc in the meeting late summer. David & Brad E will attend on behalf of RHA.

Hall of Fame Banquet- is this weekend as well in Sioux Falls. Chris made a motion to sponsor a table (\$500, we have leftover funding from coaches' fund), second by Konrad, motion approved in vote. Our meeting reps plan to attend.

Parent Code of Conduct- Other High School sports use these. This also allows us to bring someone to the discipline committee if needed. Discussion on form- there is one on our website that some teams use: parent, player and coach sign. Currently most teams are not using this form. The new form would be for all levels and would include social media and team messaging apps. Will continue to tweak and bring to next board meeting. Quick discussion on if we need 3 forms, or one for player/coaches in addition to the parent code?

Ice Installation- Oct 23rd - Oct 26th for tryouts. Klotz & Riley would also like 2 sessions a week pre season for conditioning- maybe M/W.

Supercamp will be held at Roosevelt. There will be three (1) hour sessions. Week of Oct 16th - 20th pre tryout camp, maybe \$50 for the week. Helps get kids back on ice before tryouts.

Ice in by Sept 4th, Labor Day, Sept 4th? Discussion on cost to run ice 2 months early as in the past- cost about \$18,000 with a loss of about \$9,000. Just to run an empty building costs about \$700/month. Building committee recommended building ice mid September & pushing Riley's camp to Roosevelt. Ice by Oct 2nd. Motion to start ice mid Sept, ready by Oct 2nd made by Ben, second by David, motion approved in vote.

Squirt Hockey- Budget- It's been agreed upon that RHA pays for 2 tourneys, Fargo is parent funded, cap has been set at \$1,500 in the past, went over to this year & we matched both teams to the same amount spent of \$1,750. They pick up the bulk of games in league play. Discussion on requirements. All RHA teams are required to host a tourney in order to have theirs paid. This is a policy on our site. We had a team not host or work a tourney and have their tourneys paid for. Discussion on changes that need to be made and how to make this successful in the future, communication breakdown. No reps or coaches were present for this group.

Structure- Went over league play etc. Main issue was coordinators. We cannot have a team with no coordinator or changing coordinators all season. Policy for coordinators? Would like each team to assign or pick their coordinator at the team meeting pre season and this will be reported to the board by a week after their meeting. No teams will be allowed to continue ice until this contact person is selected and identified and of course all paperwork etc is completed.

House Program (committee members):

Kent reported they have raised over \$2,000 from their fundraiser.

Haven't heard who is on the JV House Committee yet, they have not been named but have been working with Dixie & Dixie is not present. There had been discussion on removing checking from the JV House level next year. House committee has received feedback that this is holding players back from moving up, signing up? Brief discussion on this. House committee would like the board to send an email on the removal. Chris advised the committee could send this out so people are aware in the fall.

Early ice time for returning players and weekday times? Wanting to get out there sooner to get teams set, they start after end of Oct. Would like to get zam training done during this time too. Discussion on why they start later- this is after travel tryouts are done as they need the ice house league and mites start right after travel tryouts are done. House league pays considerably less and have less volunteer hours. We try to balance ice time and as things come up, we make sure to get ice time to them.

Corral Dr doesn't have a policy on banners, would like to try and put some up to recruit new players. Also, a table at Rush games- this we have done in the past. It does little to benefit

RHA. Maybe we offer mites an incentive for their first year, or waive the fee and they just pay the USA Hockey registration, or incentives to bring a buddy? Try Hockey for Free gives a ½ off code already.

Financial Report (Robert Steffy):

Credit Card Status- Working on it, he has the names for the cards.

Commercial Insurance- Loss of Commercial Insurance on May 14th, this is due to the power dig in/surge last year. Working to get 3 bids, possibly a 4th. The issue he is running in to is trying to get a private facility insured (in the future may need to join with the city). Our rate went from \$7,500 to \$12,500 in the last 4 years.

Went over financials- received \$4,950 from the Rush Foundation received as a onetime donation. BHE is paying \$4,000 to rent space on our lot.

Mite Sponsorships for their tourney- will need to check with Joelle Nuetzling (mite coordinator).

Building Committee (Ben Nelson):

Boards/gate repair & Summer Projects- Zam doors (to go off & on ice) are shot. Concrete is needed. Want to order dividers now and we need to figure out where to store them. Also order a new board for the bench (home & maybe also visitor). We would need to get another \$5,000 to pay for the balance of the dividers- Sean already brought in a donation to go towards these.

BHE is looking for a community project, maybe they could paint?

Dryland room discussion. There was damage by kids coming in unsupervised. Committee would like to rip up the plastic on the floor & replace with more rubber. Dryland room would get a keycode door to curb more issues or people just getting in- coaches should have access. Also discussion on the upstairs shooting lanes- they have been trashed and are they used? Older players do use these. Need to find a way to clean this up & keep it supervised.

Cleanup date- Brad E would like to hold a last minute clean up day to give anyone missing hours a chance to finish them. No date set yet, TBD.

Girls Program (Brad Eggers):

Girls Program will drop a few players next season. Younger girl dads working to get summer ice & work on development, maybe friendly games.

Hockey Development Committee:

Upcoming coaches meeting for hockey development.

Summer ice rentals- look at more drills and no screwing around- structured.

Fundraising (Ronda Simmons/Brad Eggers):

Pizza Ranch Program Status- Just under \$1,000 sold (\$250 player/\$250 RHA). Pizza sales are not going so well, working on getting a warmer. Next year we will have more teams coming in too.

Ladies & Laces- (\$7,830 - \$1,200 = \$6630) LL Expenses about \$1200-\$1500, Park Bench may be lower. This is estimated.

Chase the Ace status- Need a committee. Sandra is working to set up the venmo account- need a separate bank account for this. Brad Lee has cards etc, Robert is working to get bank acct and we can proceed. Sandra made a motion to open a bank account at a separate bank for Chase the Ace, second by Ronda, motion approved in vote.

Go Fund Me- at \$455, slow start but end of season.

Future Dates:

Ice Installation- Oct 2nd

Fall 3v3- No early ice

BH Academy Fall Conditioning Camp- No early ice

Miscellaneous:

Booster Club Ideas- Table at Rush events (we do this at some events). Handouts to schools- they no longer allow paper fliers since covid- discussion on PeachJar again- this is the eFlier- and the cost. Kids night out- similar to what the city hosts (ages 6-10)- would need to check into gear & insurance if not registered with USA Hockey & would need Safesport certified workers.

Booster Club Popcorn night—they would have bags, or a stamp & they would cover the cost of popcorn.

Booster Club night- We can look at doing something at the games- but anything on ice needs approval by the state.

Chris also mentioned he would like to see the Booster Club start a Hall of Fame and also handle Alumni Relations. Maybe they would take on the alumni game?

Rates & Registration- Would like to raise a little bit each year as needed instead of a large amount. Discussion on rates and mite rate incentive to help grow the younger levels.

Motion to charge \$100 for first year mites made by Brad, second by Konrad, motion approved in vote.

Motion to raise rates by 5% across the board is made by Ben, second by Becky, motion approved in vote.

Next board meeting is Monday, April 10th ahead of the state spring meeting.

Meeting is adjourned by 8 pm