

## **RHA Board Meeting, 11/12/18**

### **Thunderdome**

**Board members present:** Chris Dietrich, Hollie Hoffman, Greg Chisolm, Rachael Hepper, Gregg Fullerton, Tim Brady, Ben Nelson (building cmte), Steve Nolan, Mike Bartling, Georg Olson (building cute), Christine Ritter

Call meeting to order: Chris Dietrich 6:01 pm

Approve meeting agenda & Approve minutes

add scripts training, virtual video

Motion to approve minutes by Hollie, Gregg Seconds

Financial Aid (Russ Conti)- Scholarships - Russ brought in more applications for discussion/approval. \$5,000 is the budget, these last apps will close it out. Discussion, motion to approve by Chris, second by Hollie, applications are approved.

Presidents Report:

#### **Try Hockey free day-**

Numbers and registration- Lindsey and Mackenzie (mite coordinators) were present to discuss. They had 49 people sign up with 7 new registered players. There was great participation from all levels, coaches and players. We do send a follow up email and include a discount code from USA Hockey.

Mackenzie asked if the trial period for potential skaters will be covered under the Roosevelt rink insurance? Chris stated we need to keep them at our home rink.

Question on whether we had any skaters come out for the Spearfish Association? They were invited out, none came that we were aware of.

There will be another date in Feb, will be added to the calendar. If we participate in both try Hockey for free events, plus documentation and the USA Hockey recruitment incentive programs, which include meetings and the mite jamboree, we get incentives from USA Hockey. Usually \$250 Total Hockey credit to use towards gear for the mites. This also helps to grow our

program.

### **Riley Camp**

\$3460 made, we pay Riley and he uses the money to pay his guys, this is not a moneymaker. Riley typically gives back some on this, but it's low cost and lots of time away for Riley. Chris made a motion to give a large proportion to Riley.

Riley is also a sponsor and gave a check back to RHA for the super camp.

Chris made a motion to give back \$3000, second by Hollie, motion approved

### **New Positions-**

Treasurer- Robert Steffy

Chris discussed new treasurer, had been working with Mark Benson already. Qualifications discussed and he has experience as Treasurer for other non profit organizations.

This was approved, Mark Benson will be stepping down after 5 years, he no longer has a child skating in the program. It was acknowledged that RHA is appreciative of the time Mark has dedicated to this position and we look forward to working with our new treasurer.

It was also discussed there are 2 people working on bookkeeping. Chris stressed again that it is very important to get the numbers straight.

Looking to add a new position for PR/media relations. Will put this out on our website. Discussion on what this person would handle. Steve Nolan does write ups for the media on the varsity games & has a good relationship with the media. He did tell us that usually they are looking for the JV/Varsity level stories, not so much the younger ones for regular games.

Would like someone to run the social media & put out stories/bios on the seniors, highlight players, coaches- looking for positive stories.

### **Official Rosters-**

These have been scrutinized. We have 3 coaches that will not be cleared at beginning of the year. 2 peewee coaches: Owens & Trainer, and 1 squirt coach: Poljansek. If they do not take care of this- they will not be able to coach. It was stated Owens is not coaching this year, and the other 2 are working on certification prior to the deadline.

Jon has the rosters & we will need to get labels for scoresheets.

Discussion on a squirt team pulling an A team player for a tournament. They were down 2 players which is why they likely took a player- this was not open invite so there was some upset over this and how it was handled. The roster and adding a player was discussed, taking a player from another team and another level can create issues—discussion on if they had that player on the roster. You cannot play an unrostered player, especially when you hit league play.

There was a similar situation last year- same team. Chris will reach out to the coach & handle this so they are aware.

Silverstick & Fargo tournaments are offered to everyone and the roster is set also- these would be a different situation than regular tournaments.

### **Senior Night-**

Jan 5<sup>th</sup> is the only night that the girls and boys are together. Karen had asked about Feb 8<sup>th</sup>— there was a change in the girls schedule & they will be playing at 11 am in Aberdeen the next day- that Feb date will not work for them. Looked at Feb 12<sup>th</sup>- but this is games at the civic center- no. Concern that early Jan is too soon- usually we celebrate seniors at the end of the season. Question came up about doing separate evenings- girls group wants them together & were very upset last year at the split, they want to be included. Steve said they will make something work to include all. It was brought up to do something maybe off ice? Date tabled for now, will continue to work on this.

\*skipped ahead to discuss mites, so they can get to practice, parents in the meeting. **Mite travel-** 2 years ago we had a friendly with Pierre & also with Gillette. Since then, they have started to travel & have not checked with board on this. Question on who decides this & how they pick teams.

Last year coaches took teams to Sioux Falls & Billings, and then everyone had the chance to go to Gillette. The Sioux Falls trip was an invite only & not everyone got the chance to go, Billings was open to all and same with Gillette. Discussion on who should travel and do we want mites travelling? We do have teams come to our jamboree, would be nice to return the gesture, but we don't want the young kids travelling too soon. It's cost and time, and this young development level is intended to be in house.

Discussion on growing our program and retention. Generally about bantam level is where you see some skaters drop off. There is concern mite travel may chase away skaters early on and burn them out. Many associations regulate and even restrict some squirt travel and don't travel the mites. (We as an association did opt of the squirt league play- was noted that teams were set by age, not skill. Have heard that there are people unhappy with the league play at that level, it's been mixed reviews so far. We will see how the first year goes for them.)

Coach Scott was at the board meeting, did take a group of mites to Billings last year & they had a positive experience. He did open it to all. Asking to do this again. It was decided that we would only allow L2/L3's and they would only be able to pick 1 tournament. This cannot interfere with our mite jamboree. Friendly games were brought up- any question on these need to go to the board- it's not a tournament, but still travel involved, whether it's them coming here or us going there.

Pictures for mites--- date set as 11/19, wanted to change to the 28th. McKenzie mentioned that the current date is over the holiday break & many people will be out of town, including coordinators. Will check into this.

Motion to approve mites travel to 1 tournament as stated above: made by Rachael; second by: Hollie; vote approved the motion carries

### **Girls State JV tourney-**

Viola & Krista have a binder from the Bantam A tourney last year. This is information that has been passed down to them from the JV tourney coordinators as well. Will need a tournament director.

### **2018-19 Registration Numbers-**

66 mites, 63 house, we also may need to add in 7 to the mites from Try Hockey for Free day event- new skaters joined.

### **Dibs-**

House requested to not use Dibs. Not everyone is comfortable using it, they had questions on it. Was discussed, can ask for help in using this, but we need to track the hours. This is the most efficient way to do so & all other levels are using this. It was noted that there are 25 hours required at house level. Last year there were over 40 checks of varying amounts cashed at this level. There is not a house representative to discuss this with- request denied & they will be advised of this.

### **Concessions (Tracy Fine)-**

Open for the mites during the week? Will check into this, make sure they can fill this- this level practices early enough & they make enough to keep it open.

Discussion on what to do if there is a gap between games. Soft closing was done- things are cleaned up- but food left in crock pots and warmed- ready for next group or house. Nobody was coming in for house & they were upset/concerned with this. Tracy was on her way out anyway to discuss & see if they want to keep Concessions open. It was decided it's better to clean up completely & close down anytime there is a gap. The next group will just need to set up if they are wanting to be open. Tracy will need to see what house wants to do if they plan to open and run concessions on the weekends and work with them on this.

### **Building Committee report (Brady/Olson/Nelson/Fullerton)-**

Zam training- training 2 from house, will need to follow up with Tree and see about getting a couple more. Also need a couple mite zam drivers.

Dryland Room- Need to fix some damage in the room. There are nets and pucks in the room- was noted that they were present during the U16 team SD hockey game weekend- but these were also present during jersey handout. Talked about getting this more secure- remove the nets- no shooting in the dryland area, maybe get a sign. Also is being used more- look at getting a tab on the schedule for teams to reserve. Should look at building up those shooting lanes upstairs. We are not covered if something happens when kids are goofing off- getting hit with a puck, a puck flying over and hitting someone below, etc. Chris is going to work on getting some rules set & get these to us to review.

No sticks/pucks in the dryland room. Will need to get time requests to Lynnsey.

We also have problems with kids running loose upstairs. Need to come up with a plan on how to handle this as well.

### **Fundraising Report (Ronda Simmons)-**

Rachael presented—50/50 opportunities, also squirt B applied & has been approved to sell cookie dough.

Rachael has been looking into sponsorships from Rushmore Crossing restaurants & Chilis.

ScriptSave- 700 vendors available. We do have a couple people who are savvy on this program. It's a matter of setting up an account & applying the credits. There's an 80/20 split. Angie Dietrich has been using this with STM and they are making thousands for their PTA. Jean also used this quite a bit & had success. Looking at doing a powerpoint presentation in a couple different sessions to train people. Also looking at maybe adding a tab with info accessible for this. This is considered an underutilized fundraising option.

Another fundraising option- "Virtual Fan Video." Chris presented on this. Similar to Live Barn, etc. This is app based- we would just need someone to film with ipad, and it would go to the app. People can pay to view games broadcast. This is designed by a former SDSM&T student and is new. Live Barn requires lots of overhead cost to get the cameras and equipment, this would not.

The app company does receive \$20 for each person, and we could possibly charge \$50- so we would get the rest for RHA. All games are recorded and archived, can be viewed at a later time also. Look at doing a trial run on a weekend, it's low risk, low cost. We would need a process to figure out how to charge for this service. Would need someone to film the games.

### **House-**

Still no representative

### **Pro Shop (Ronda Simmons)-**

Scheels order placed, Real Deal order placed, Squad Locker order still open

### **Misc-**

Discussion on jerseys. New jerseys for the JV/V are all in. It was noted that they are very heavy & hot. The players will wear them, but wanted board to be aware of this for future jersey purchases. Discussion on buying jerseys annually or every 2 years. The jv/varsity jerseys are the heavier material, not sublimated- the sublimated don't hold up as well as the twill for the physical contact. Specific league rules on the size of #'s on the sleeve, etc.

Also discussion on buying jerseys instead of having RHA handle them. We typically provide at least thru the bantam level. Can set up a task force after the season.

Future meeting date: Monday, 12/10/18 at 6 pm

Motion to adjourn: Gregg Fullerton

Second: Hollie

Adjourned 7:47 pm

\* meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm