

## **RHA Board Meeting, 4/30/19**

### **Thunderdome**

**Board members present:** Chris Dietrich, Gregg Fullerton, Robert Steffy, Ben Nelson, Gordon Merchen, Greg Chisolm, Ronda Simmons, Rachael Hepper, Angie Bohling, Vern Burrese, Christine Ritter

Call meeting to order: Chris Dietrich 6:55 pm

Approve meeting agenda/ March minutes: Agenda approved. Minutes went out, were not discussed at meeting- will need to wait for approval

Presidents Report:

**USA Hockey 2 & 2 Challenge-** RHA is at the gold level, will have a banner. We also get funds from this program.

**SDAHA Report-** See spring meeting notes. The only thing that will really affect us is with the JV/V level and the numbers. We don't really know yet on the numbers we will have. Depending on this, we may need to cut. Looking to have 50 or less. Vern: we had 36 plus 4 goalies. Of the cut, 3 were academically ineligible & 1 was not available at the time to play. We had 33, offered 3 the option of house, ended with a roster of 30 total. Of those offered house, none went, possibly went to a mens league? Would like about 18 plus 2 goalies per team next fall.

**Virtual Fan Video vs Live Barn-** Had Vf last season, is filmed by volunteers. Discussion on quality & reliability of this. We do receive 80/20 split, can take it on the road. It's more of a convenience than a money maker. Most of the state is leaning towards Live Barn. When you subscribe, you do get all games on LB. Live Barn we only get 30%, but we do not have to run it, very little maintenance.

### **Hockey Development-**

Meeting with Danny Battachio, Dick Novak and HDC

Also discussed first weekend in Jan, maybe block off with the state for a midseason skills camp in conjunction with this position.

Full description was made by Dick Novak & Dr. Petereit. Was discussed we have about \$5,000 to start up & slow roll this out. Possibly more funded by camp incomes. Talk with Battachio & possibly Hodge on this position.

**Coach Contracts-** Would like to set expectations, pay, and time frame for payments. This would ensure all parties are taken care of.

**Laura Stamm Power Skating Camp (Reserved already for Oct 7-12)-** Payment platform, adding a paypal link to site, will help with out of town players as well, for ease.

List of HDC members: Woody Ellingson (head of HDC), Konrad Reeder, Danny Battachio, Dick Novak, Jeff Bonner, Myron Sorenstad, and Kip Harrington

**Elections-** open positions: VP; no other executive positions came up for vote

Nominations- Rachael Hepper by Christine Ritter; Gregg Fullerton by Vern Burrese

Vote- by ballot at 7:11 pm, will tally at end of meeting

### **Future Dates-**

Spring Cleanup- need to scrape the floor. Discussion on dates & options, was brought up that Brad Booth had arranged minimum security workers before. They did a good job, possibility? This would be a Community Service project. Tim L may have a contact, will table for now-- if we do not have anyone come in, we will look to set date for Tuesday, May 14th from 6-8 pm.

Jam for the Zam- Sept 14th. Need to book Brandon Jones, last year he charged \$600, he did give back 1/2 of all merchandise sales as a donation. Vote carried for 9/14 date

Hockey Expo- 9/15. Will be the gear swap, will have Scheels, any gear from the Rush for sale, other vendors, proshop sale, and maybe more personalized orders. Will need to get with Stacey to get this on the calendar & on our website.

Laura Stamm Camp- 7-13th. Jeb set dates & reserved. We will need the ice ready that first full week in Oct to prepare. Will need to turn on earlier to get ready, possibly Sept 16th get compressors on.

Fall pre-Tryout Camp- Riley has Oct 14-18

Tryouts- Oct 21-24

Peewee early bird tournament- Nov 8-10 \*will want to get pictures scheduled before this

JV/V- tryouts Oct 28-31, will look at camps/ ice time for the boys prior to this also

Varsity tournament- Nov 15-17 (weekend before Thanksgiving). Will need someone to jump in & take over- this was Paul's last year of doing if this year. Will need to talk with Paul & get someone on board & working on it.

**Tournaments-** No state tournament 2019-2020 season

2018-2019 Budget (Steffy)- Needs to look at players numbers/fees from last year & also what new fees will be.

Ice contracts- questions on this.

Fees for disciplinary hearings- we are charged per conference call: \$150 per hearing with additional charges for appeals. We have \$250 at this time being billed to us, does this get paid by RHA or player/family? Chris made motion to pass these charge on to the offender. Ben second, motion carries. Will also want to add this to the player form they sign each year.

If you are hosting a tournament, please talk with Robert Steffy about the budget.

Need to look at squirt travel. Also, state league for squirts, will need to know by July. This is not a USA hockey roster, so we can be flexible. Discussion on this, may participate- could be a good option for limited travel.

**If you have a budget request-** please email them to Steffy. This will create a paper trail & easy to track & file.

2019-2020 Registration-

**Dates? Aug 1st deadline for \$200 discount-** Discussion & moved up deadline to sign up for travel teams by Aug 1st to get the \$200 discounted rate (or avoid the \$200 late penalty). They would need to be signed up by then- not fully paid. There are payment options on the website.

This is to help get ice time set, set #'s for teams, etc. This does NOT affect house or mites. We will want to set reminders, emails etc to alert everyone of the date.

**Free Skate Sharpening will be included with all registrations-** Is hard to enforce & track-- this will be considered a benefit of being member of RHA. Will be easier to handle also in emergency situations, for example during a game.

Looked at current rates:

house/mites: \$320

squirts: \$600

peewee: \$700

bantam: \$750

jv/varsity: \$850

Registration- no fundraising requirement at this time. The raffle is a way to earn back some of the registration fees paid in. The Script option is another way to get money back towards your registration.

Girls- 1/2 off first year; voted to keep this to help grow our girls program.

Suggestion was made on \$100 fundraising fee (fee increase). In the past, Spizzirri Press used to print the tickets free of charge- the raffle now has more costs incurred. Discussion on whether we would want to have mandatory fundraising or not.

Discussion on jerseys. Do we want to continue placing funds into this & checking them out, or looking at people purchasing? Was brought up that #'s would have to be watched as you moved thru levels. Suggestion of jersey kits every 2 years, as you moved up would need new one? This would help with #'s and sizes and styles. Question on if we had any needing replaced yet? There will be some needing replaced soon. Some players do want to take them when they leave & buy their jersey as they age out.

Is Rush Foundation buying mite jerseys this year? In the past, they have and each players gets to keep them. It was noted that we receive between \$9,000 to \$13,000 after the RHA jersey auction, another about \$2,500 more for mites jerseys, and 50/50 will vary. We get about \$11,000-\$20,000 a year from them, in exchange though, we haven't been as good about attendance. We need to work on supporting the Rush as they support us.

There were about 100 tickets sold last season with RHA discount- not everyone used the discount, so it is hard to track, some have season tickets also. Would like to see more RHA families out to support the Rush & go to games. If we are hoping for them to continue, we need to make an effort. Discussed getting banners with games, posting info out to our membership, working to create relationships with the players to encourage people to come out. Vern is meeting with Rush next week to discuss having them out at our rink. We will also need to work on getting out the word of the RHA discount.

Fees- the cost that gets us is the coaching, ice time, development, and rink maintenance. This is why there was the \$100 mandatory fundraising suggestion- to help offset these. Further discussion on raffle- the city of RC has gone after Harney and Canyon Lake LL in regards to raffles. We need fair statement- this is not gambling- being proactive on this.

Proposed fees stay the same with the addition of the fundraising raffle fee to earn back some of you registration fees. Looking at: 2 (\$25) and 5 (\$10) tickets, or maybe just \$10 tickets? Will cut down on printing costs. Suggested prize: \$3,000; \$1,500; and \$750.

We would collect fees at time of registration, would need to have extra tickets ready as well. Gordon suggested \$50 for mites/house & \$100 for travel. Scholarship families would be the same as the levels (many didn't complete this last season). Drawing at mite jamboree, or senior night, or last varsity games of the season? Will need to look at schedule early Aug & pick.

Fullteron made motion on fundraising fee, Ben second, motion carries  
Further discussion on skate sharpening for free- we will want to get dates & times set & posted to make this accessible.

**Current team count-** varsity: 1; JV: 1; GV: 1; GJV: 1; Bantam A: 1; Bantam B: 1 (possible 3 bantam teams- but need to check #'s and goalies); peewee A: 1; peewee B: 2 (even split- no PWC this year); squirt A & B travel: 3; need to register for Fargo in July so we need to know if 2 or 3 teams, will 1 go league & less travel? With league play- would still do tryouts, maybe rotate B's?

#### DIBS-

**Volunteer hour Reports-** Have the list solid from House - varsity. Mite list is unclear, definite holes in it, working this still, need more time. Hollie is working with Eric on this, we will take their recommendations on checks. Robert will get with them on getting checks cashed as needed. Motion made by Gordon to approve checks being cashed for outstanding amounts; second by Vern, motion carries

Concessions (Tracey Fine)- Not present, \$100 in inventory sold to BMX, Coke bought back about \$1,500 + 20% back on cases sold, \$2,300 refund, \$65 back from FSA

Building Committee (Brady/Olson/Nelson/Fullteron)- Cooling Tower Project, working with Troy of Climate Control. It was recommended to be replaced.

Dump pit to dump ice- going outside has caused some damage to zam- needs a side fixed. Will look at getting a pit inside to protect zam.

Olympia was sold to Brandon Valley for \$20,000, check coming.

Upstairs- shooting cage, will look at getting a padlock with a code for coaches, etc. Within the first week, someone already bent the latch/chain lock to get in. Would like it chained up, but accessible.

Dryland room- need to protect the walls. Would like to get a code on there also. Look at getting a coach/key code. This could be changed weekly & out of town teams may be able to access the area as well.

Chris spoke with Dan Jensen about offseason dryland like he's doing with Central & Stevens. He worked with JV/V this season.

Will pull dumpster over the summer after clean up- too many people stop & dump at random. Trying to discourage this.

Fundraising report (Ronda Simmons)- Jam for the Zam date is set. Working on Elks summer program- maybe not the commercial- they sold out of video slots, will look at getting still images for 15 seconds instead. This runs \$150/month for the summer, 3 days/ 2 movies, for 17 weeks.

June 1st is Kids Fair at Main Street Square

Sponsorship pricing increase? Proposing 10% increase, not on in ice. 2 years ago, set up a fundraising committee, have had 2 or 3 new banners out of this. Chris is asking board members to please come up with a suggestion. Mary Drumm & Sean O gave lists to Ronda from the past sponsorships. For dasher boards, would like to go behind the plexiglass to maintain better. Have few restaurants, some local bars- would like to add more places you can take the kids.

In the restrooms suggestion for "Off the Wall" type ads- like in Scheels ice plex.

Ronda- do we raise or keep as is? If we raise, would like to give them more passes, stickers, etc. Discussion asked Ronda for her recommendation- was decided to keep as is on fees for now.

Proshop (Ronda Simmons)- Sell off inventory at Expo. Would like to add plush blankets, could also pre-order hockey mom/dad/grandparent shirts, maybe order more for expo? Will look at next meeting.

Girls Program (Kim J)- Discussed maybe hosting a girls tournament this year. They had opted not to this season. Chris stated last time he visited with Brady, it was a no, please check again with him. They also may look at bringing in a speaker or doing skills type event.

House- No one present- Jon will look at getting with house on registration.

Misc-

Varsity 3rd jerseys to replace the ones given to seniors to keep. Bylaws allow varsity teams a 3rd jersey, this jersey has already been approved- they would need to replace at their expense. Karen Bender requested approval to replace just the ones given out, Approved.

Hollie will be taking over the financial aid/scholarships from Conti

Jody Kirk & Bill Holec will be taking over scheduling from Lyndsey Pierce

Tracey Fine will continue to run concessions

Eric will continue with Dibs- Jody helps on this

New VP is Gregg Fullerton

Next meeting tentative Tuesday, 5/14 @ 5:30 pm prior to rink cleanup

Motion to adjourn made by Vern, Second by Fullerton, meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm