

RHA Board Meeting, 5/17/21

Thunderdome, 6 pm

Board members present: Chris Dietrich, Robert Steffy, Christine Ritter, Brad Eggers, Greg Chisolm, Ronda Simmons, Dan Laughlin, Trista Rybak, Dixie Matthews, Brad Lee

Call meeting to order- Chris Dietrich 6:03 pm

Presidents Report (Chris Dietrich)-

Spring meeting-Needs set date & posted in advance. Meeting at 6 pm, board meeting & elections to follow. Set for Sunday, June 27th.

Paid coaches-

Both girls team coaches have agreed to come back & they were okay with the pay. They will have a varsity & a U14 team (there were only 2 teams this year- no JV).

Dick Novak gave a verbal ok he will return this season to coach the boys JV/V teams. Possible assistant coaches: Bryce Mitzel and Blake Devries.

We had \$12,000 paid out to director of hockey last year. His contract has expired and he is moving on. We will leave this open as of now. Was suggested maybe Konrad Reeder would take on some hockey development part time- possible reimbursement. He already works with various levels but does have small children.

SDAHA Spring Meeting (Dan Laughlin)-

Increase in Tournament registration cost- \$250 USA Hockey Tourney fees, used to be \$50. This does not pertain to jamborees.

Rule Changes/updates-

Spring Meeting held elections- Tony Leif is new president, previously VP

Brandon Valley is breaking ground in September.

Jenni wants Scheduler info and wants all teams/levels starting before Thanksgiving- and getting the holiday weekend off.

Want 1 Safesport officer at each organization – ours is Gordon Merchen.

Jared Albrecht is the ref in chief, Cade is stepping down.

SD Hockey Officials Association- have a demand to take over their scheduling.

Aberdeen Girls head coach Shelby has offered to help with recruitment for other associations, they have a very successful program.

Yankton will have no girls team- they have 2 skaters that will play with Sioux Center.

Helmets all need to be the same color for a team.

3 refs on ice instead of 2- they would like this to be fair.

Girls JV would follow same as varsity. JV Boys will zam at each period. Varsity will practice on dirty ice.

All levels now have a 5 min period break (when not zamming) instead of 2 mins. The coaches can both verbally agree to start sooner.

Video appeals are now only 3 days instead of 14.

Strong push for JV Boys to not have a state. Also need 5 teams to play a state tournament at any given level. RHA will host PWA state this year.

There was a vote to change from 3 to 5 penalties in a game. (USA Hockey is 5) This failed narrowly- in the executive board.

Dibs/Volunteer Checks (Ronda/Fullerton)-

Check cash date- Just got report & will need to go thru it. Try to cash by June 1st. Ronda, Bob & Gregg are going thru these.

New Concessions Director- Tracey Fine would be available to help train. Ronda also asked about 3 Square- it's her, Tracey & Tim on there. Tim no longer has a skater at the assn & Tracey is stepping down.

Building Committee (Nelson/Olson/Fullerton)-

Zam Charger backup/ Zam Charger repair status- Splash guard not up, may not be needed. Zam kickguard is repaired.

Compressor motor replacement- Compressors lifespan is 15 years. We have 2 at about 15-18 years. Recommend buying new one at \$5300 & then maybe rebuild the ones we have at \$750 x 2 (2 total). Motion for the \$6800 to purchase new & rebuild old ones made by Dan, second by Brad, motion carries.

Moving water lines in concessions- Worry on freeze up. Jason Mann will do labor, may cost a couple hundred for the project.

Board cleaning- coming tomorrow. Glass cleaners- have sponges.

Warne Chemical- Spray thistle. We need to handle this or we will hear from the county. Loren Jensen has a guy that mows ditches, etc. It would be a couple hundred & they would bill us.

Financial Report (Robert Steffy)-

Registration Fee amount- Registration was down a bit this past year, USA Hockey saw the same thing.

Fees, will not touch house & mites programs. Discussion on the others. Also adding girls U14 team:

Mite/house: \$320

Squirts: \$600

Peewee: \$700

Bantam: \$750

JV/V (both girls & boys): \$850

Liability Insurance- Increased by \$2,000. From \$7,600 to \$9,600- this was the best they could do. Bob did ask about different agent for Commercial Insurance.

Proshop budget for next year? Concessions made about \$24,000 and spent about \$13,000. Proshop made about \$14,100 and spent about \$7,200.

Bob brought up the note on the building, is concerned. In about 5-7 years it will balloon up. There is about \$800,000 on note now and will be about \$600,000 by then. We need to be thinking about this.

Girls Program-

Princess night at the Rush game? Also, Rush did an event with Girl Scouts. Maybe reach out to girl scouts & also Post 22.

Will reach out to Shelby Edwards in Aberdeen for help on recruitment.

Chris will get Brad E with the Main Street Square person.

Misc-

We are cutting the Director of Hockey position & & will keep rates as is. We will focus on recruiting efforts.

Aim for June 1st launch on registration, cutoff August 1st for discount. Ronda will get ahold of Stacey to start working on the registration online.

Early ice discussion.

May 28th is Thunder Appreciation Night at the Rush game. Players are free and family is \$10 each. Boys & Girls JV/V players will be recognized on ice.

Will need to order jerseys for JV/V again. Do you lose your # if you have it and leave and possibly return later? Discussion on this.

Angie Dietrich will coordinate this year for the boys. Was suggested we have a JV coordinator also like in the past, or someone who is familiar with kids on both teams.

Elections coming up at Spring meeting- if a board member would like to step down, please let us know so we can open the spot. Anyone up for another term or terming out, Christine has been in contact with. Anyone wanting on the board- please encourage them to attend the Spring Meeting & elections.

Brad E asked at this time if we can officially repeal mask mandate? Motion made by Brad E, second by Brad L, motion carried. This is something we will visit again in the fall based on cases and what the schools etc are doing.

Fundraising Report (Ronda Simmons)-

Net for last 3 years Jam for the Zam was about \$12,000.

Ladies & Laces made about \$7,000. Maybe another Ladies & Laces preseason next year?
Maybe need a liquor license?

Discussion on Chase the Ace. Brad L offered to help and maybe we can start a FB page to promote.

Cornhole tournaments? They have inquired on use and they do pay rental.

Future Dates-

Sunday, June 27th is Spring Meeting at 6 pm. (Clean up prior?)

Season Opener SDAHA weekend of Nov 19-21.

Rendezvous tourney Nov 11-14- Humke will run & we need another younger varsity parent to help.

Early Bird peewee tourney Nov 5-7, possible jamboree format.

Oct 25-29 tryouts – discussion on moving it up, but we have players in other sports still.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm

