



LDC Youth Hockey Inc  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
January 05, 2025  
6:00-8:00 PM  
Litchfield Civic Arena

Members present: Jason, Luke, Bill, Patrick, Siri, Mandy, Rita, Maria, Leah, Sarah, Kari, Micki, Tammie

Online: Steve Haataja, Abby

Missing: Matt Hogg, Brett Damerow, Brian Moe

Meeting called to order @ 6 by Jason motion to approve minutes from December 8th meeting by Micki, 2nd by Bill.

**Monthly Reports**

- Treasurer \$128,066.97 in general fund, \$1,958.37 equipment fund, last draws will come out tomorrow (1-6-2025) for any on payment plans

- District 5- no meeting since last month, will be this coming week and will have more to report at our next meeting., The squirts year end tournament is still on the schedule except for one game will be held at a different rink as we can't fit it into our schedule.. Luke will clarify that we are still hosting as there is some confusion as to whether or not they took it away from us since we can't fit 1 game into the schedule. We will assume its still a go until told otherwise and the schedulers will double check the spreadsheet that was sent over as there is a possibility that a team would play more than twice in a day. Luke will bring up at the D5 meeting this week and report back on the status. Gamesheets rosters were having issues so D5 locked all rosters and they had to unlock them to add a few more players who were not in the system, we should be good now. All coaches should be looking at gamesheets to ensure all kids are listed, we have had a few issues with kids not being rostered, also If a suspended kid is not listed as suspended in gamesheets and its not caught by the coach that kid may have to sit out the next game as well so its extremely important to review gamesheets. When coaches sign at the end of the game it's important to know what they are signing. We should be encouraging the refs to double check gamesheets prior to signing so nothing is missed.

- Secretary/Tournament Coordinator- No updates.

- Registrar- All teams are now official as they are due 12-31 each season.

• Scheduling- Mite scheduling is almost complete, they would like 7-10 full ice games for M4 team, they have 7 games scheduled and are working on a few more so they can fill the schedule. There are 3 weeks left of scheduling practices for all teams and they are working on the end of the season, Litchfield rink can be used for practice until ice out, there will not be working restrooms but will have porta-potties on site so is it a problem to have teams practice in Litchfield? No keep scheduling ice at both. Ice out dates are still pending at both arenas, Bill will work on getting the DC ice out date.

• Fundraising- Raffle winners were announced, 4Wheeler raffle resulted in \$13,580 tickets sold, after all expense \$4,853 is our profit, not a great response to incentive sales, the board pushed lots of tickets so maybe we look at a different approach next year. We should look at all options for next year to increase sales as this is the main fundraiser for the association,, maybe increase tickets sold to families or something for next year, or we could extend the raffle a month to allow more time to sell tickets. More to come on this in the off-season.

• Advertising, Recruitment & Retention- The Wild game was well received, sold 180 tickets within the association, next year maybe we look at taking a bus down for this event Another fundraising idea is to look at auctioning off parking spots next season at Litchfield arena, many teams around us do this, we would have to get the approval from the City of Litchfield first. Will address in the off-season..

• Equipment- No updates on equipment, a parent volunteered to wash all jerseys at the year end for their dibs hours, we have done this in the past when we did not have enough dibs hours filled, but this season we want people to fulfill their dibs hours and with the 2 hosted tournaments there is more than enough opportunity to fulfill all dibs hours.

• Concessions- Food License is done and hanging up in concessions. DC school donated some carts for us to use as a lockable concession stand and if we have 2 or more games in a row scheduled we will open up dibs hours at the DC rink for concessions. We will track sales at both rinks separately for accounting purposes. Bill will have the DC Rink schedule lined up this week so we can open dibs hours up there as needed. Next season we may need more than 1 person to run concessions with the new concessionsl at Litchfield and the DC rink. We are waiting for the City of Litchfield to get back to us with what they are wanting to do with the new concession stand in Litchfield. Jason will try connect with Dave Czoik to get more info.

- Safe Sport- No updates.

- Dibs- Tammie updated dibs hours there are 615 hours left for families to complete, some have done an hour, some have done none, an email did go out to notify people of the process, she is having an issue with schedules changing and she does not get updated so nobody shows up to open the concession stand. She will run a report of any 2nd year bantams and 12U who have not completed dibs and they will be notified of the check cashing policy in the handbook for unfulfilled dibs..

- Mites-no update

- Hockey Advisory Committee- No update

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

10U home tournament update- 2 teams have dropped out so we are down to 4 teams and need 2 more asap. At this point we will maybe offer a discount to new teams. Wayzata, River Lakes, LDC and Woodbury are signed up, if we can't get 2 more we will hold it regardless. With 6 teams at \$900 we break even on the expense, (not including our team). Our deadline for the tournament is 1-10-2025 for deciding if its a 4 or 6 team tournament. Bill will reach out this week again and let teams know the tournament schedule is flexible and it's a good test run for us to get our feet wet in hosting tournaments for the future.

Crossbar discussion- Rita has demoed crossbar for Lacrosse and likes what they offer, the interface looks cleaner and easier, the ACH payments are built in, it has lots of flexibility with billing, registration appears to be cleaner and easier and seems to be much better than SportsEngine. Crossbar does take a % of any ACH payment and it charges a fee for each transaction. Schedulers have reached out to other associations who use Crossbar and they appear to like it a bit better and it wasn't an issue to switch to that platform. It appears to track dibs hours better than our current system. The main selling point is there is a person we can contact at Crossbar if we have an issue, Crossbar is cheaper for us than Sportsengine, if we switch now its \$849 instead of current \$899 price and they will help us transfer all information over. Luke makes a motion to switch to Crossbar, Tammie 2nd, Bill will reach out to our rep to start the process.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

End of season/offseason camps- we have the last 2 weeks of February for spring camps, Varsity is practicing 2-17 and 2-18 and could have a playoff game on the 19th, so it depends on their schedule if they can help on the ice or not. They will help as they are able to, but the association should have enough coaches to run it if they are not available. We will put a schedule together for this and get it over to Steve Haataja for review. They will hold a HAC meeting to get the camps ironed out, Bill and Luke will work on this.

Dibs hours for Eric Gabrielson- Eric did all his dibs at Steffes for the paper towel drive, can we wash the dibs for both families. Bill made a motion to waive all dibs hours for both Gabrielson's, 2nd by Luke. Jason will reach out to the families and let them know the dibs hours are satisfied.

Concession Stand end of season discussion- Concession stand, equipment room, and jersey room will need to be cleared out no later than the first week of February

- We can store our stuff in the upstairs viewing area. Chad will make sure that is locked up. Larger items like the freezers and coolers in the concession stand that can not be moved up stairs will need to be stored offsite. We will need to find a place for these to go.
- The contractors only need access to the HVAC in those rooms so no changes will be made to them when construction is done.
- Water will not be turned off to the arena. The bathrooms in the locker rooms will still be functional so they can be used during practices
- Chad is going to set up a meeting with Jason and Dave Czoik to discuss new concession stand operations and logistics.

Equipment room cleanout will be the last week of January, everything has to be cleaned out and moved, we can use that as time to get rid of things, we will open up dibs hours for that. Jason and Abby will work this out. Beno may want some of the old equipment so Jason will let them know to come check out what we have. The association needs some locking cabinets to put all the extra gear in for storage. We should put some stuff in the DC rink for next season, gloves, helmets skates etc.

Mite Updates- Mites are now rostered, it has been very chaotic without a mite coordinator but we should be good for the season. They should all be set as per their grade with just a few exceptions and parents are notified. Jon Barrick has been very good at coordinating mites during the week. The girl mites have their own travel team as most towns have a girls mite program. For the last day of Mites we will have all parents together and let them know at that time we need a mite coordinator for next season. Ideally we want one for DC and one for Litchfield if possible, we have to come up with a solution. The Mite year end game or stanley cup will be held at DC on Sunday March 2nd, mini mites will be an hour, M3 and M4 will be 90 minutes, will be cross ice games, Patrick will get teams put together and Luke will help on the ice if available, and we will reach out to Jon as well for planning this.

Coaching requirements and expectations- This season we had a lot of new coaches and we need to do a better job at reaching out to them to let them know Who can be on ice, what are the requirements of each coach, locker room presence, ect. Non parent coaches were not aware of all requirements so we need to do a better job at letting everyone know what is expected of coaches prior to the season. A 12U coach resigned mid-season and that family will be asked to fulfill dibs hours, the mother of the skater asked for us to waive the dibs as she will be the one to pay for them and its a surprise to her that this happened. In order to waive dibs for a coach they must stick out the entire season. The board decided that as a courtesy to this mom/parent who just found out they are now supposed to complete all dibs Luke made a motion

to waive 5 hours from the required 20, 2nd by Leah. This is a one time courtesy to this family and not a precedent set.

The handbook needs to get updated to close any loopholes, the executive board will take this on to update prior to the annual meeting so it can be implemented next year.

We have an issue with Players that are not coachable, and make it a strain on the teams, how do we address this type of situation? The coaches need to address this with the players parents first and explain exactly what is happening, give specific examples, (two coaches must be present with the meeting) if that does not resolve the situation then the coaches should bring it to the board and they can address it with the players parents. We need a paper trail for these types of situations and the board typically back the youth coaches decisions if deemed reasonable.

Should Parents on all teams need to get certified to be locker room monitors, can we mandate all parents to do the safesport so they can be locker room monitors? The association currently reimburses everyone for this and we can't afford to do this for all parents and we would get pushback if this was a mandate for everyone. We should make a recommendation that we get as many parents as possible to do the safesport so they can be locker room monitors as coaches have alot on their plate already. Could we offer dibs hours for this in the future? Or add more dibs for those who can't or don't do the safesport. Discussion tabled until a future meeting. Jason will reach out to other associations to see how they are handling this and report back. We are open to any and all ideas on how to address this.

Motion to adjourn @ 7:37 by Rita, 2nd by Leah.

Next meeting 1-19-2025 @ 6:00