

Northfield Hockey Association

Minutes

October 15, 2012

6:30 PM

Northfield VFW

1. Call to Order 6:40

2. Roll Call/Quorum

Present: Chris Sorenson; Dean Kruger; Jeremy Klotz; Jenifer Kluzak; Jessica Van Zuilen; Kari Scheurer; Mike Puppe; Christina Sinkler-Miller; Kevin Olson; Chris Fink; Dawn DeBus; Chad Olson

Absent: None

3. Approval of August Minutes -- approved on vote seconded

4. Guests – Mr. Morrow, Keith Kluzak, Trevor Hubbard; Rob Olson; Dave Grundhoffer

Keith Kluzak comments on A and B squad placements for squirt level, believes there were fair evaluations, with plenty of kids on the bubble. However, there are 7 returning squirt B team members, 11 total on the team, illustrates a concern about lack of player development at the squirt level. Squirt B has same coaches for the last couple of years, and there is concern about coaching levels between the A and B teams, and whether it impacts long term player development at all levels.

Chris Fink responded with coaching committee in progress to work on getting all groups together, with A and B teams practicing together more often and to help keep coaching uniform. Initiatives in place are also working towards coaching the coaches moving forward.

5. Reports of Officers/Committees

President: Dean Kruger

Gambling License - Dean and Ross Dack attended seminar, Ross is approved now as a gambling manager. \$9,128.93 was a negative expense calculation, to clear it up – we need to put this amount into a pull tab/gambling account, and expenses for our gambling program needs to be put in that account, to be used for expenses relating to the program. This stems from using, in the past, too large of a portion of gambling profits on operating expenses. Funds need to cover cost of pull tabs, Mike Puppe reports that accountant could not recall any detrimental revenue situations.

Motion to proceed with NHA acquiring gambling license and to implement pull tab program with Carbones, with Ross Dack acting as NHA

gambling manager, including designation of necessary funds to gambling account as required by regulations. *Approved on vote Seconded.*

NHA Dasher Board - contract up this year – yearly price is not certain, will table for next board meeting.

Wall space at arena (old pop machine location) – Space is for the NHA, if we want it. No mention of the costs, board assuming there is no charge. Board discussed potentially having another trophy case, or possibly a board recognizing NHA sponsors.

Arena Concerns (Rocks in front, Snow Pit, un-supervised kids, city flooding) – Board discusses and will be sending email out to all NHA members regarding concerns. Discussion under way on City flooding outdoor rink and working out a schedule that works with the NHA. Proposal made to get a bid to clear the ice.

NHA Membership – need to get more people involved and continue with outreach to all members and access to the Board members. All board members are available, and we want to hear from our members.

Treasurer: Mike Puppe - reports on balance sheet and profit and loss statement year to date. Net income on par with prior years, revenue coming in from registration and so expenses and revenues are balancing out pretty well. Detailed report provided to board members, and more detailed dashboard report on cash flow will be provided next meeting.

Fundraising: Jennifer Kluzak/Jessica VanZuilen –

Largest fund raiser is on hold, due to NHL strike. NHA has 85 tickets, with one hour of ice. Nov. 17 is the scheduled date for the game.

Skate with the raiders program planning under way, high school teams on board, and we're exploring options.

City implementing program to sponsor late night DJ skates for one weekend night, and inquire of whether NHA sponsors one?

Jim Craig event went very well. Attendance was not as much as we were hoping, everyone seemed very happy with the event, at least those who went. After all expenses, net profit was discussed. Huge success, all things considered. Good press came out of the program.

Some ideas in the works for Winter Walk ideas, and potential for an outdoor rink of some sort, or a puck shooting game, possibly.

Registrar: Christina Sinkler-Miller

At 204 registered skaters at present. Most forms are set, and rosters are under way, need to get some coach information.

Still need to collect some Consent to Treat, Code of Conduct, Waiver forms from skaters, and some remaining concession checks outstanding

Some questions raised on goalie discounts for various teams

Vice President: Jeremy Klotz

Squirt jerseys not being ordered this year, as numbers are low and we can get by with old jerseys; will work towards getting jerseys lined up for next year.

Concessions: Chad Olson

Chad provides summary of concessions status. In the negative at the moment (due to purchasing of inventory), about ½ of dibs hours claimed, with one no show so far. With all the hours in, we have about 68 families accounted for. Looking pretty strong on dibs status so far. All families encouraged to claim dibs hours as soon as possible, and not to wait till the end of the season.

Coach Coordinator: Chris Fink

Coaches are all set for now, with some tweaking.

“Coaching the coaches” program in the works. Some changes in evaluations during try outs being considered. Some concern expressed about lack of communication as to why decisions were made, and for the coaches to discuss basis for decisions, etc.

This year, all three levels of try-outs had more kids where decisions were very hard to make, which is a good indication of the lower levels are building more and more.

Tryouts will be closed next year.

Squirts tryouts will probably be pushed out a few weeks next year.

Secretary: Chris Sorenson – no report

Program Coordinator: Dawn DeBus

Hockey opps meeting occurred recently. Discussion focused on moving forward on association-wide basis, and to work into an emphasis on puck handling, stick handling, etc. Several community members got together for the meeting. Plan is to utilize in practices progressive practices and stations. Coach coordinator committee is being established as well, to define group to help with establishing criteria for each of the sessions in the practice, to build on Burgraff skating as well as uniformity of skills for teaching. Good reports back on most levels with kids enjoying practices more, and with the stations-based strategy.

U8 Program discussion. Parent meeting on Wednesday night will be important on what we're going to do. As it sits now, 4 or 5 true U8s, with 3-4 move ups, who may not be of the skill level needed. Three routes to go: 1) as is; 2) have move ups go back into mini-mites, and move U8s into senior mites; 3) have U8 practice with U8, but with games; 4) possibility for Faribault mixing with Northfield?

Public Relations & Publications: Kari Scheurer –

First place won for non-profit organization for the Jesse James day parade!

Pictures scheduled for Nov. 10, 9-2 at the middle school.

Ice Chair: Kevin Olson – scheduling is being worked out, and there are some wrinkles, November schedule is subject to change with game schedule; and all is well.

Issue raised on scheduling in general. We need to take some strong positions with St. Olaf and the High School teams over ice time that is not as late at night.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

8. Adjourn 9:12 p.m.