

Everest Youth Hockey
Board Meeting
January 14th 2009 7:00 PM

Members Present: Ryan Berdal, Lonny Techel, Tom Jasurda, Bernie Begley, Todd Ress, Mike Wasmundt, Pete Jaglinski, Jim Kachel, Bob Schmitt, Lisa True & Kent Lodholz

Members Absent: Jac Du Vair, Jeff Dennis, & Barb Schubring

Secretary report: Jim Kachel motioned and Mike Wasmundt seconded the motion to approve the December meeting minutes, motion was approved.

All EYH teams have completed the Value Program. We received very positive feedback on the program and Pete shared three items:

- Mite A team provided wrapped gifts to the hospital to use at Christmas and received a letter of thanks and praise
- The Everest Herald wrote a nice story, Helping Out Off the Ice.
- One of the Squirt teams that came from Madison to the Climb the Mt tournament, help EYH by going to Kennedy and singing songs and delivering cookies. No one from that program has any relationship to anyone at Kennedy but wanted to help as an out of town team.

Treasurers Report: Tom Jasurda presented the Treasurers report. Jeff Dennis motioned to approve, seconded by Lisa True motioned carried.

Tom reported at the last meeting that special payment plans had been set up with some families in the program at this time two families remain with outstanding debit. Three options were discussed. Work off the money owed at upcoming tournaments, extend an installment plan with half due now, or require full payment. Motion made by Jeff Dennis and seconded by Lisa True to enforce the letter that was sent requiring the families to pay what they owe now. Lonny will call the families to enforce the letter.

The Squirt tournament provided EYH with a net profit of \$2,360 per Eric B. The one items that stood out was the concession stand. This required the most work and generated only \$44 of profit. Future tournaments EYH will not work the concession stand.

Registrar report: At the last board meeting, it was decided that the Mite B team would not be allowed by EYH to play in the state tournament in River Falls WI as this team was set up as a limited travel team. However when the WAHA schedule for the state tournament was posted EYH was included. Jeff said he talked to the people at WAHA and they admitted that this was a mistake on their part. They did provide EYH with the option of playing and paying or we could decline as the error was on their part. The

board discussed this and the decision that was made at the last meeting stands and the Mite team will not play in the state tournament. Jeff will contact WAHA.

Web Master: Lisa reported that there were 10 goalies at the last clinic and that the JV Goalie from the High school team attended as the guest goalie. Lisa is working on a goalie camp for Stevens Point or Greenheck for this summer. She has some good leads and lot of interest.

Lisa suggested that for the 2009/10 season that registration only be offered on-line. This issue was tabled until the summer planning takes place. On-line registration will help with the software that we will be using to track hours worked for 09/10.

Lisa presented educational information on a neck guard program for 2009. Information presented on reasons why kids should wear neck guards. USA hockey has taken a position that neck protection is not a mandate but they do support its usage. "USA Hockey is very concerned about neck lacerations and the potential catastrophic involvement of arteries, veins and nerves. To date, there is sparse data to describe the prevalence of such an occurrence, the severity, or whether or not a neck laceration protector (neck guard) reduces risk or severity. Based on a survey of USA Hockey players, neck lacerations from a skate blade are rarely serious, but the potential for severe consequences due to nerve, artery or vein involvement remain a concern. In addition, current neck laceration protector designs *do not eliminate the risk* of a neck laceration. USA Hockey recommends that players wear a neck laceration protector, choosing a design that cover as much of the neck area as possible. Further research & improved standards testing will determine the effectiveness of these devices."

Lisa presented information on cost. There are a number of systems you can buy ranging from \$15 to \$60 and comes in the form of stand along neck guards to under armor with a neck guard built right into the shirt. Lisa reminded the Board that it is our job to make it as safe as it can be on the ice.

Funding of the program was discussed and it was agreed that we would only fund neck guard for the mini-mite program. Discussions also took place on the benefits for injuries that are not lacerations such as kicks, elbows, fists, and boards. Comments were made from parents and managers of some of the team levels and all felt that this was a great issue for the board to tackle and all supported using them.

Lisa made two motions:

- Make neck protection mandatory effective October 2009 for goalies. A goalie bib style neck guard or extension of upper body pads as well as the goalie helmet and extra hanging plastic neck protection is required.
- Make neck protection mandatory effective October 2009 for skaters. The choice of the protection is up to the parents, but must be a hockey neck guard.

Both were seconded by Bob S. Further discussion took place as to why EYH would mandate this and not leave this as a recommendation and the final call up to parents. Appleton is the only other local association that requires this. Goalie protection was discussed and Jim reported that EYH provides the flapper type of protection for younger teams that do not have a set goalie. Vote was taken and motion passed. Items that need to be addressed include:

Posting of educational information on the website
Article written for newsletter
Updating the handbook
Covering the change in the parent meeting next fall

The next newsletter is being planned, articles are due by 1-23, and Lisa hopes to mail by 1-30-09.

Referee Report: Ryan reported that he has had to outsource a few games as we run into times were the High School teams are out of town. Ryan was able to get a couple kids from Wausau to help fill in the gaps. Ryan did say that some day it might be possible that we would have to cancel games if we cannot get officials to take them.

Scheduler Report: Bernie asked how well the Rink Rat ice was attended. A number of time slots were set up over the recent holidays for various levels. It was reported back that at the Squirt level and down the sessions were well attended, however the sessions for the older kids did not get good attendance. It was recommended that next year Rink Rat time be set for younger kids and if the older kids want the time they will need to request it.

Bernie asked if there was any reason why team records were not posted? Val and others confirmed that it was left up to the individual teams decided if they wanted to post win/lost results. Bernie restated his question confirming that he was not looking for individual player stats rather records as other schedulers are looking at this when they are looking for games. It was agreed that it would remain up to the team to post records on the website for others to view if they chose to do so.

A question was asked, if school is closed does that mean that EYH will cancel practice. The answerer is no, we have the ice and will be billed for the ice, so practices will not be called for the same reasons that schools are.

Ace Coordinator/Committee: Mike Wasmundt discussed the BLAZE program for the summer of 2009. He asked EYH to purchase the ice and then move the ice to the Blaze. This will not cost EYH anything and save the Blaze program. This is a win-win for parents, and EYH. Mike is looking at doing some 3 vers 3 programs for the squirt level and higher as well. The program went very well last year and will continue this year.

A safety issue was discussed with the goals. When the ice is resurfaced, the goals are leaned against the way. The coaches need to put these goals down ASAP after they hit the ice. Recently a goal was not put down and player lost an edge and slid under the net. The player was not hurt but it was a good lesson learned. Mike W. will pass this on to the coaches.

Manager of Managers Report: Val reported that she would send an e-mail to all the managers with an update of where each family is regarding hours worked YTD. Val asked that when anyone sends an e-mail to all the managers that she is copied in on the e-mail.

Mite Coordinator Report: In January, the mini-mite team skated between periods of the High School game and it was a big hit.

Equipment Manager Report: Jim has secured 15 first aid kits for EYH at no cost from Bone and Joint. Each team will be given a kit to use as needed. Jim has purchased a bungee cord to help with skating and this has now been received. A few of the team have started using this.

Sponsorship: The Greenheck center has approved the placement of the fourth blue line board. Bob S will talk to Fastline about a price and present it at the next meeting.

General discussion regarding sponsor plaques as these have been handled differently each of the past few years. It was agreed that the sponsorship committee should select a plaque that is of high quality and move ahead with what they select.

Fundraising committee: The date for the main event is February 28th. Todd has lined up a Nashville band and singer. He reported he is working with the final details for the night to include, puck sales, food, team baskets and posters.

Todd is looking at other associations in terms of how they are tracking hours worked and will use what he gathers to help for 2009.

Merchandising report: Bob reported that the first merchandise order was delivered and that he has moved the order date for the second order out to the 21st as a number of new items were added.

Tournament Committee report: Eric reported that things went very well at the Squirt tournament. Very positive feedback from the teams that attended and from the EYH players and parents.

Badger State is still being planned and Pete Jaglinski will be the tournament director. We have seven teams for the Bantam tournament and we anticipate getting one more. One issue that was made clear is that EYH agreed to do tournaments and **all** of EYH needs to help not just the age/group that is playing in the tournament. Manpower is the biggest issue and the board needs to address how we enforce the hours worked.

Trophy Case: EYH has not received any feedback from the party that first built the case. Open discussion on what to do with the case as the new case will be delivered in early January. Antigo has expressed interest in the case. The board agreed that we would explore working with Antigo.

Other: A request was made for EYH to pay \$20 for the placement of numbers on the jerseys for the girls-in house team. Two parents have already given \$60. The board agreed to cover this cost.

This summer the ice is being removed from the Greenheck center for repair work on the cooling system. This provides EYH with an opportunity to get our logo placed under the ice. Greenheck has been approached about the idea and agreed to allow us to place our logo under new ice. Bob S agreed to contact Hayes to get a cost of creating the artwork.

Cell Phones in the locker rooms were discussed. The board agreed that we would take these actions:

All coaches will be contacted and will be asked to talk to teams about the fact that there will be no cell phone usage in the Locker rooms as enforced by the coaches.

This issue was tabled until this summer at that time the issue will be addressed by EYH and the handbook will be updated if needed.

Dawn made a request that EYH assign a board member to the Storm team for representation from EYH. Lonny asked for volunteer from the board and Mike volunteer to be on this committee.

Next meeting March 11th at 6:30 in room 209.