



NBAHA

Newsletter of the North Branch Area Hockey Association – March 2008

Dates to Remember

- 3/10: Arena Committee Meeting,
Location TBD,
call an arena committee member or e-mail
arena@northbranchhockey.com over the
weekend or on Monday a.m. for the location.
- 3/13: Arena Capital Committee Meeting,
7:30 pm @ Rustic Inn, Stacy
- 3/20: NBAHA Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
@ North Branch Library Community Room
- 3/27: **NBAHA Annual Membership Meeting, 7**
p.m.
@ North Branch Library Community Room

Fees are Due!!!

The 3rd installments/ice bills for all players were due on January 31. If you still owe fees for the 2007-2008 season, contact Paige Lee immediately at 651-674-6298. If fees aren't paid by the annual meeting, members can't vote because they aren't a member in good standing.

Annual Meeting March 27, 2008 @ 7pm North Branch Library Community Room

Mark your calendars and plan on attending this year's annual meeting. The items listed below are discussed at this meeting and it is important for as much of the membership to be involved as possible.

- Vote on board members
- Vote on disbursing gambling proceeds
- Receive an update from each board member on the past year
- Receive an update on the arena effort and have a chance to ask all of your questions.
- Provide information or ideas on how to make NBAHA better.

Annual Meeting – Board Member Elections

The current board has begun looking ahead to next year's board positions that will be voted on at the annual membership meeting in March. For the 2008-09 season, there will be two officer positions, President and secretary, up for election. All director positions are up for election each year. The director positions include: coaching, ice director, building and maintenance, registrar, fundraising, publicity and mite director.

The nominations committee, chaired by Jen Fairbanks, is working to find interested and dedicated association members that are willing to fill these positions and do the work necessary to keep the association moving forward. If you are interested in running for a board position or know of someone who would be a good board member candidate, please contact Lynda Chilstrom at secretary@northbranchhockey.com or call her at 651-674-4693.

President's responsibilities include chairing all meetings and setting the agenda; overseeing and keeping order at all meetings; calling special meetings at any time; representing the organization at any Minnesota Hockey, AHAUS, or District meetings (with option to appoint someone to attend in his place); and co-sign on all checks. Chairperson for the Gambling Committee.

Secretary is responsible for taking notes and maintaining all records of business transacted. This includes maintaining a file of all correspondence received from the different leagues in which we skate. She is also an authorized co-signer on all checks in the absence of the President or Vice President.

Registrar coordinates all facets of the registrar program and may appoint committees within the program as needed. She also submits an annual itemized budget and is responsible for proper registration procedures for all players and coaches.

Coaching director coordinates all facets of coaching within the association and may appoint committees within the program as needed. He also submits an annual itemized budget.

Annual Meeting – Board Member Elections Continued from Page 1

Ice director is responsible for coordinating all facets of the ice program; appointing committees within the program as needed; submitting an annual itemized budget; purchasing and distributing ice time purchased or maintained by NBAHA; attending District 10 meetings; and working closely with district to schedule all games, practices and tournaments.

Building and maintenance coordinates all facets of the maintaining our facilities, in particular, the North Branch hockey shack, and may appoint committees within the program as needed and submits an annual itemized budget.

Publicity director coordinates all internal/external communications and community outreach opportunities. This position may appoint committees within the program as needed and submits an annual itemized budget.

Fundraising director coordinates fundraising activities for our organization, and may appoint committees within the program as needed and submits an annual itemized budget.

Mite Director, among the responsibilities and expectations of the position: Support the A and B Mite and Initiation levels, Be visible to new parents for questions, direct parents to locations, events, etc, hold meetings to support items listed above, recruit coaches for these levels, liaison for new team managers, attend Board meetings, practices and games (schedule permitting) to enhance and improve communication, will be present at registration.

Annual Meeting – Charitable Giving

The North Branch Area Hockey Association annually disburses money back to the community as a result of the revenue generated from NBAHA's charitable gambling operations throughout the area. The following organizations will be considered for a disbursement at the annual meeting.

Potential recipients of gambling proceeds:

NB Senior all night party
Trinity Christian School phys ed equipment
Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau
NB Music Booster Club
John Pinsonneault scholarship fund
Lets Go Fishing
NB Library
Early Childhood Coalition
North Branch High School – Hockey program
City of Stacy
NB Area Athletic Association
NB Lions Club

Arena Update

The arena committee continues to try to move the building project forward. The committee met with a local contractor, as well as an arena consultant. Rough drawings have been developed to help with cost estimating at the Stacy site. The Arena Capital Committee needs solid budget numbers in order to apply for grants.

Plans for a site sign are being pursued and a sign will be put in place after spring thaw.

A thorough recap of the most recent activities and progress will be discussed at the March annual meeting.

Where do you work and who do you know???

The Arena Capital Committee is preparing funding requests to get our arena efforts further under way. Many of the funding sources we are pursuing come from large local corporations and institutions such as Anderson Windows, Medtronic, and 3M to name a few. You may know of funding sources within your own company. Many times organizations are more willing to contribute funds where their employees are involved or have interests. With your connections, we might gain an edge when asking for funds. If you would investigate what your employer has to offer and let us know of any connections you might have, we would appreciate it. We are finding that funding can come from the most unexpected places. Please direct all inquiries or information to the Arena Capital Committee at arena-grants@northbranchhockey.com. ALL INQUIRIES will have responses within 48 hours.

Letter's of Support from Skater's needed!

The Arena Capital Committee is pursuing grants to help cover the cost of building an arena. One of the items we have found is needed in the grant application process is letters of support from our skaters. It is very important for the grant makers to hear from the kids themselves why being in hockey is important to them and how building an arena in our area will help change their lives.

We need letters of support from skaters at all levels of play. They can be handwritten. Pictures for the younger Mites are welcome as well.

Mail letters of support to:
NBAHA
Attention: Arena Capital Committee
PO 541
North Branch, MN 55056.

Potential Co-op for 2008-2009 Season

Thanks to all members who attended the February membership meeting and gave us your input on the co-op with St. Francis.

During the February Board meeting, the board discussed this past season's co-op experience and whether a co-op is needed for the next season. It was decided that a co-op with a neighboring association is needed due to our need for ice and the number of skaters we potentially have at each level this next season.

An email was sent to the St. Francis, Cambridge/Isanti and Pine City boards expressing our interest in forming a relationship with a neighboring association for the 2008-2009 season. The associations have been asked to respond by mid-March regarding their interest in pursuing a co-op with us. The Board intends to review the results of this email at the March Board meeting and hopes to bring a recommendation to the members at the Annual meeting.

S.K.A.T.E

NBAHA is participating in the S.K.A.T.E. Program this year. S.K.A.T.E. stands for "Skaters Keep Achieving Through Education" and is a program that encourages, supports and rewards youth hockey players who commit themselves to their schoolwork while enjoying the sport of hockey.

Team managers, please gather your players GPA's from this last term and report them to Lena Shepherd at LShepherd7@hotmail.com or 65-674-0635 by March 15th.

Members, if you haven't received information from your team manager on this, please contact your team manager ASAP.

Spaghetti Dinner

NBAHA hosted a Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale on Friday, February, 15, 2008 at the American Legion in North Branch. The dinner raised \$250.00 and those proceeds will go to the Arena Fund. The Bake and Craft sale was successful as well and \$250 went into accounts for those teams that participated. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help with the Spaghetti Dinner and to everyone out to raise money for the arena fund and teams.

Chuck-a-Puck at Boys High School games

Thanks to the teams who agreed to do Chuck-a-Puck and to run the clock, book, penalty box and announce at the High School games this year.

Winter Learn to Skate

Thanks to the coaches, skaters and parents who volunteered at Learn to Skate this winter. Without your help we could not offer this program to the community.

District 10 Tournament

A huge thanks goes out to the members who worked at the District 10 Tournament.

Head Coaches Turn in Coaches Books

Any head coaches who have not turned in their coaches book yet need to contact Kristi White as soon as possible at 651-674-1854.

Equipment Turn-in

Managers and/or coaches, please contact Barb Miller at 651-462-4999 or email barb@thehitchingcompany.com once you have collected all equipment for your team. This includes bags of pucks, water bottles, etc that belong to the association. B, C and D Mites are the only teams that need to turn in jersey's this year.

Any Mites who used a starter kit and have not yet turned them in need to contact Kristi White as soon as possible at 651-674-1854.

Mite Corner

Any Mite level questions can be directed to the Mite Director, Craig Moline at 651-248-6302.

Association Contact Information				
NBAHA	PO 541, North Branch	MN 55056	651-674-4152	www.northbranchhockey.com
Gambling Manager	Kris Dennis		651-274-0870	gamblingmanager@northbranchhockey.com
NBAHA Board Members				
President	Jeff Henderson		651-674-2440	president@northbranchhockey.com
Vice President	Tim Cashill		651-408-1055	vicepresident@northbranchhockey.com
Treasurer	Paige Lee		651-674-6298	treasurer@northbranchhockey.com
Secretary	Lynda Chilstrom		651-674-4693	secretary@northbranchhockey.com
Building & Maintenance	Don Osland		651-237-0635	buildingandmaintenance@northbranchhockey.com
Coaching Director	Ben Fairbanks		651-674-5958	coaching@northbranchhockey.com
Fundraising	Jen Fairbanks		651-674-0813	fundraising@northbranchhockey.com
Ice Director	Tom Garin		651-277-0160	icedirector@northbranchhockey.com
Publicity	Lisa Isaacson		612-807-4609	publicity@northbranchhockey.com
Registrar	Kristi White		651-674-1854	registrar@northbranchhockey.com
Mite Director	Craig Moline		651-248-6302	mitedirector@northbranchhockey.com

Annual Meeting
 March 27th
 7 pm
 North Branch Library Community Room

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