

Orono Youth Hockey Booster Board Minutes
July 13, 2009

Members Present: Mike Schroeder, John Gabos, Chris Swanson, Brian Luedtke, Gregg Sampson, Mike Sample, Dean Suchy, Tony Cleveland, Julie Lensing, Matt , Randy LeNeave, Steve Robinson.

7:05 Call to order

Motion to approve June meeting minutes as amended by Gabos, second by Sampson, motion carried.

Presidents Report: Mike Schroeder

- Current ice scheduling looks good.
- Tryout schedule for upcoming season still needs to be firmed up
- J. Gabos still working to nail down 2 hours, 3 days/week at Holbrook park.
- Still investigating possibility of outdoor ice space on Orono Schools Campus, discussed possibility purchasing portable outdoor plastic boards.
- Grievance meeting held on June 18. Meeting was open, productive. No formal response from Oncay's yet.
- Registration scheduled to open up on July 20th.

New Business:

- Need to firm up C-Level ice allocation.
- M. Schroeder and J. Gabos developing chart with allocation of tasks, duties in attempt to push out to/involve a greater number of volunteers.
- Scholarship dollars are available, would also like to make aid more readily available. J. Lensing commented she would like to streamline aid process and take out of the registrars hand (case by case evaluation). Exploring possibility of a registration "code" with USA Hockey. Would also like to take volunteer time into account in process. The current Aid process is handled by the executive committee.
- Equipment: Need to make sure process is in place as pertains to purchased equipment. Approved invoice for Mite equipment, need to get a handle on Goalie equipment needs as well as Mite program needs going forward.
- Golf Outing: Initial read is good. Will get a full accounting at next months meeting.

High School News: Brian Luedtke

HC Aaron Johnson pleased with turnout and progress of Summer Training Program. Switch to 3 days/week vs. 4 days has been well received. Program is accommodating 20 Pee Wee level players and 30 Bantam level daily.

District 3: Tony Cleveland

No July meeting scheduled for D3. J. Gabos will attend August meeting in anticipation of lengthy discussion on new Residency Policy.

Outdoor Ice: Randy Gilbert, Mayor of Long Lake, very interested in providing ice time. Possibility of 2 hrs/night, 6-8 pm or broken up into 6-7 pm and 8-9 pm slots. (excluding Friday nights). Randy also mentioned they have a surplus of space at Holbrook, would entertain possibility of erecting a second rink at location.

Registration: Julie Lensing

- Julie will use registration email instead of personal email for contacts this year.
- Registration levels (ages) will be reintroduced this year.
- Move up levels/process need to be discussed/formalized.
 - How does parent request move up?
 - Need for link in registration process explaining move-up policy.
 - Who is go-to person? Level Rep? Coaches Board? M. Schroeder will bring to Coaches Board for discussion tomorrow night.
- New process for Birth Certificates will eliminate need for binders
- Julie will be emphasizing verification of Orono enrollment and residency.
- Follow up needs:
 - Confirmation page from USA Hockey for coaches
 - Form for coaches who are requesting reimbursement for \$30.00 coaches registration fee.
 - Explore supplying financial aid discount aid similar to one football uses. Easy to use and track.

Minnesota Hockey Residency Policy

A lengthy discussion ensued on MN Hockey Residency ruling. Bottom line is that the Board believes the policy is inferior to previous policy, and in fact will open up many more possible iterations that will negatively impact the sport in general and our community specifically.

At August D3 meeting, Orono Board will state our position relative to the negative impact and potential pitfalls of the new policy to the D3 Board.

- In the short term, people who have open enrolled will not have to waiver (approx. 35 people).
- Had only 1 (one) out of district, out of area player last year.
- J. Gabos, T. Cleveland made a request for J. Lensing to compile and supply a list with the % of players who attend private school before D3 meeting in August.

Treasurer Report: Chris Swanson

- *Request:* If submitting a reimbursement request, please be clear in request what line item/budget it should be submitted against.
- *Question:* Are we opposed to posting Association Budgets online? One potential area of concern would be regarding scholarships.
- Will update registration fees online.
- Commented that it is to our benefit to formally tell people we kept the ice fees flat this year, as well as reduced the registration fee.
- Would like to see a section on the Financial Aid form for *reason for request*.

Roles and Responsibilities: Mike Schroeder

Need to identify a new Team Manager Liaison to replace outgoing incumbent Drake Flemmer. Identified possible replacements as Dave Phelps, Tami Greiber and Scott Neurenberg.

Equipment: Mike Schroeder reporting

- Need to more closely manage allocation of 24 sets of equipment for Mite/Imite Level Reps.
- Loan equipment is split between 2 sizes in the 24 sets. Includes all gear except for stick, skates and helmet.
- Chad Sande and Tracy O'Connor to manage.
 - First come, first serve policy
 - Promote gear online as available for new registered players with need
 - Look at St' Louis park website/model for ideas on how to communicate.

Golf Tournament : Update at August meeting from Marie Suchy.

- J. Lensing requested list of Ice Fee bidders from Golf Tournament and declaration of fee level (ie Bantam, Pee Wee etc.)

Fall Face Off: Asking Linda Patterson to attend August meeting as well.

Coaches Board: Steve Robinson

- Will probably have Rich Ghirardi back as Pee Wee A Coach.
- Talking to Aaron Johnson about plans for next season, particularly as it pertains to bantams (esp. 2nd year trying out for JV/Var. slots).
- Bantam Coaches:
 - Darin and Jeff Stephenson interested in coming back.

- Jamie H. not available this year, coaching in St. Paul.
- Possibility JV coach interested .
- 8U will be listed as Travel team.
- P. Vieth requested CGP process from J. Lensing
- Question regarding Pre-Tryout Clinic Fees. Coaches Board requested no increase. Booster Board agreed and voted unanimously to maintain at \$45.00.
Approved.

Level Representatives:

Mites : Matt _____

Need to continue to build Mite, SuperMite programs. Private Groups like Minnesota Made are offering 3X the ice time for only double the cost. Big threat and concern at this level currently and potentially other levels going forward. Need to get creative around ideas to keep kids in the program at this level.

Pee Wee : B. Leudtke

In order to get enough games in, we sometimes have to look at additional Tournament play. Usually end up looking out of town. Would like to strongly encourage looking to in town or close by tournaments to fill gaps instead of travel tourneys. St. Paul and Minneapolis offer many opportunities, but often fill up early. Need to identify needs and register early.
Brian offered to work with Chris Wilson on tournament scheduling to identify and take advantage of these local opps for 5th tournament play.

Miscellaneous Items:

J. Gabos brought up the fact the Board had a couple of issues with the move up policy last year. Example: At the Pee Wee level, we ended up with a few extra skaters last year due to late move ups. Want to be prepared this year. The optimum number of skaters per team is different at each level and each gradient. (ie PeeWee A and PeeWee C). Need more flexible and softened language in our policy so Board can make recommendations and approve moves.

S. Robinson will come back with recommendation for softening language at Squirt level and above. Will also replicate language for levels below Squirt for consistency.

Discussion ensued regarding possibility of looking at a Recreation Level Program. 1x per week, lower fees, in house program at the Bantam and possibly PeeWee level. Will evaluate on level basis, look at starting November time frame if feasible.

Need further discussion regarding involvement in hosting tournaments at OIA. J. Gabos will discuss details (income, labor, volunteers, opportunity cost, etc.) with Steve Kampfe.

J. Gabos made motion to adjourn at 9:57, T. Cleveland seconded, meeting adjourned 9:57:07.