

North Branch Mite Committee

Monthly Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Committee Members Present: Ray Croal, Tim Hink, Cherie Turek, Rick Huth, Tom Garin, Jesse Meyer, Lisa Isaacson, Dawn Sachs

Members Present: None

Mite Leagues for Next Year

We will look at doing a 2 day skate instead of tryouts and evaluations for next year mite tryouts. Everyone will have the option to select an in-house league sign up if there are parents that want to keep the prices down.

Parade Participation

Cherie will send an email out to all Mite Committee members to look at getting as much participation as possible. We are going to give volunteer credits for parent and player participation. If we have 1 adult for 10 kids we should be covered. We will have candy left over from the Carnival that we can use to hand out during this parade. There was also a mention of handing out freezes that we can pick up from Menards and then attach something to these or hand out cards as an advertisement for the Association. An email to the Mite committee will be used as a starting point to begin discussions on participation.

Ground Breaking Ceremony

There is still a need for many more volunteers for the Ground Breaking Ceremony that takes place on Saturday, May 22nd. The Mite committee needs to start contacting parents and previous team managers to ask for more volunteers.

We are going to look at adding more signs at the site to announce the upcoming ground breaking ceremony listing out the date and time. Lisa will contact the city and see what we can post at this site. Barb Boelke is working on press releases to go out today or tomorrow. She has posting going out to TV, Radio, Newspapers, Post Review, etc... Formal invitations are also going out to senators, representatives, USA Hockey, District10, etc...

Kerry Harvey is working to get the High School Pep Band to come out for this event. She is also working on getting a DJ to come out for this event at \$50/hour. She is looking to use Peter Hanson the Music Man. Jesse Meyer has another DJ in mind that may be willing to do this for Free and he will look into this and follow up with Lisa and Kerry.

Lisa has a couple of A-Frame Signs that we can put up around town. Jesse Meyer has agreed to help create signs and get them placed around town. They will need to say something like “Ground Breaking Ceremony – Family FUNdraising Day” with the date and times.

Ray will be contacting some potential hockey players on the Owls team to attend the ceremony and see if they want to work a booth or even sign autographs.

This event will be where we start raffle ticket sales. T-Shirt sales may also be setup. Games will be \$0.50 a ticket. We have currently received about \$700 from sponsors and are breaking even on our prizes. Most of the booths are 1 hour shifts for 1 person.

We will have brochures available for possible new players that are interested in joining next year. We do not have our fees set so we will not have our flyers available at this ceremony.

Ceremony will start at 3pm and will go for about ½ hour and the carnival will start around 3:30 and will go until about 6:30pm. The Lions will be doing food and beverages and will share the profits with us.

Getting More Mites and Girls for U8 Program

Tim talked about getting the girls together for the parade. Look at doing an event with the Girl Scouts. We need to do this event earlier before other sporting event registrations start.

We did hand out flyers at the soccer games to let them know about the hockey registration. Look at contacting the cub and boy scouts and have some type of event for them to look at pulling some more players into the association.

Lisa will have contact information as she pulls this information together for the ground breaking ceremony.

Jesse mentioned the possibility of offering FREE registration for new Mite players. Maybe look at providing FREE skating sessions prior to registration to pull kids into what they can expect by joining the hockey association.

MN Hockey may include some other types of recruiting tips. Tim may have some information and will send this to Ray.

We need to keep the kids in the association after they have started. They need to continue having fun and work on skills for their level. The BMites and Girls had a great time during the 09/10 hockey season.

Kerry mentioned looking at the Rink Rat program at the Superrink and pull some of these training techniques into our coaching curriculum. The biggest thing for new skaters is to get them on the ice and have fun so they keep coming back.

Look at having the players wear their Jerseys at school the Friday before the Ground Breaking Ceremony. Maybe look at having the players wear their Jerseys to school every Friday to promote the hockey association. The new logo will be announced at the Ground Breaking Ceremony. Nick Miller does do screen printing and embroidery. We are looking to have this new logo added to clothing for raising money for the organization.

We need to work with someone that is already setup as a vendor for selling apparel online. We can advertise online, but will not be able to sell online. Kerry will get in touch with Nick to get this setup using the new Logo.

Fundraising Ideas for Next Year

- Raffle Tickets (done by most associations)
- Team sponsor for every team (do not pay for jerseys). Team manager sends information to the sponsor to keep updated on the progress of their sponsored teams.
- Looking to sell advertisements on the website.
- Looking to have a TV screen at the new arena and charge \$50 to advertise on this screen slideshow. Other larger advertising will be added as we get closer to the final days of the arena.
- Sell pucks for a puck wall – Todd Miska is going to put together a flyer. It will have North Branch Hockey with name personalization.
- Planning for the July 24th Golf Tournament
- Pancake Breakfast in Cambridge (December 11) – Have workers to cover serving food and sell tickets.

Meeting Schedule

Monday and Wednesday are BaseBall and TBall days. Soccer is scheduled for Thursday evenings. We are going to look at scheduling the Mite meetings on Tuesday evenings. Cherie will send out notification emails to all members prior to the meeting date each month.

FUNdraising Event Preparation

We will be contacting the captain to see who he can get to help at the Ground Breaking Ceremony. Lisa will send out an email and calling post to have players wear their hockey apparel and/or jerseys on Fridays at school. Cherie will contact Team Managers to find more volunteers for the Ground Breaking Ceremony and also mention that there are open spots on the High School Summer Hockey program.

Meeting ended at 8:45pm