

**Grand Traverse Hockey Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
May 10, 2010**

**Attended:**

Steve Peacock, Chad Fournier, Jeff Armour, Debbie Derrer, Todd Spaulding, Jerry Jenkins, Dianne Jurica, Keith Gillis

**Absent:**

Meeting called to order at 7:05

**Secretary's Report**

- Motion to approve March minutes, Spaulding 2<sup>nd</sup> Jenkins. Approved.
- Motion to approve standing agenda, Fournier 2<sup>nd</sup> Spaulding. Approved

**Treasurers Report**

- Making final adjustments to travel accounts.
- There will be a house treasurer this year.
- GTHA 2010-2011 fee setting meeting Thursday May 10 1-3 PM.

**Presidents Report**

- Director of Hockey will attend MAHA meetings.

**Executive Vice President report**

- Looking for sponsors for 2010-2011 season.

**Travel Vice President report**

- Midget Fall League
  - Motion to approve midget fall league, Spaulding 2<sup>nd</sup> Jurica. Approved.
- Travel meeting June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Working on tournament schedule.
  - House tournaments will be organized by Director of Hockey and run by Division Rep.

**House Vice President report**

- There will no longer be a house tournament director. Division Reps. will be responsible for running tournament.
- House Survey Results:
  - Would like to see full year schedule.
  - More tournament volunteers
- Still need squirt rep.
- Motion to approve House Committee slate of officers, Jurica 2<sup>nd</sup> Fournier. Approved.

**Director of Hockey**

- ADM program for all mites.
  - Mite tournament will be ½ ice.
- There will be a coaching clinic for GTHA coaches.

**Referee-in-Chief report**

-All Good

**ACE Coordinator**

-Absent

**Girls Rep.**

- Discussion over purposed rule changes and how this will effect or girls program.
- Keith Gillis will represent GTHA regarding proposed rule change at summer meeting.
- Girls Rep. is to oversee all girls' teams.

**New Business**

-NA

**Old Business**

-NA

**Floor**

- Claire Huhta, letter to board regarding purposed rule change in girls hockey.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30

Dear GTHA Board Members;

I am one of the faces of the future of girls' hockey here in Northern Michigan. I am 13 years old and have been a member of GTHA since mini mites. Last year I played on the Girls 19UAA team and in fact was a contributor on the team despite my age. I am appreciative of all that GTHA has offered for us in the past and are asking for your help now to make sure that I can continue to play girls' hockey here in Traverse City at a competitive level.

We have learned that a proposed rule change exists for girls' hockey that will effect what teams I can play on. The rule is a change to classification of teams, but the area of greatest concern to us is the one that says we may only play at our age level-U14, or one level up -U16, when part of a Tier 1 or Tier 2 team. Our problem here in Traverse City is that there is not a U14 or U 16 Tier one or Tier 2 national bound competitive team. There will indeed be a U16 team, but they will be classified in a Tier 2 Rec division, will not enter the state playoffs and will not be national bound. In addition the team is made of mostly newer skaters. Kendra Mac ,( another girl who could be effected by this rule), and I have been skating for a long time, as many of you know. We want to play competitive girls hockey and have set strong goals for ourselves.

We are hoping that you, as board members, have the ability to help us out. Kendra and I have made the U19AA girls team this year and want to stay on this team. Tryouts were held on April 24, 2010. This rule will be voted on at the MAHA summer meeting held at Shanty Creek resort in July. We ask that you get the word out to associations outside of the Detroit area. Make sure that voting members in Districts 8, 7, 6 and possibly 5 are aware of the change and the fact that it could prevent younger girls from playing on a girls' team without traveling hours each way to play hockey. We just don't yet have the numbers to have more than one team playing at the Tier 1 or Tier 2 level. As a matter of fact the teams need us younger girls to help field a team at all. Maybe someday that will change, and we hope that day will come sooner rather than later.

Whatever guidance and support you can give us will be greatly appreciated. We thank you for your time and would be happy to answer any questions you may have of us.

Thank you,

Claire Huhta