

North Branch Mite Committee

Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 6:05pm.

Committee Members Present: Ray Croal, Cherie Turek, Janelle Olson, Lisa Isaacson

Members Present: Kerry Harvey, Tim Cashill, Pat Steffen, Paige Lee, Craig Moline

Mite Coaches

Ray and Tom will work together to come up with a list of coaches that will then need to be approved by the board.

Mite Skills Assessment

The skills assessment was completed over the Halloween weekend. Ray has followed up with some of the parents that had concerns with how the skills assessments were handled. Ray has addressed the issues with the parents and they now understand what the skills assessments are and what the data is used for. At the last board meeting we were not going to allow the 1st year skaters on the ice and that they were not going to go through assessments. We need to make sure, as a board, that we fully understand what will be happening at these Mite skills assessments. These assessments are a good tool for both the players and the coaches to see how well our mite program is doing and how our coaches are performing.

There were some concerns with the skills assessments and some feel we should place the kids based on age instead of using the results of the assessments. We will need to decide if this is the same process we want to follow through with next year or not. The Mite Director is starting a player profile. We have taken the first assessment and there will be 2 more assessments through the season, one mid-season and end-season.

Suggestions:

Suggestion for the Mite Skills Assessments for next year would be to have the Mite open hockey include the drills that they players will be doing during the assessment so they know what to expect. We may also want to have the kids skate in pairs during the skills assessment to make it more like a race instead of just a drill.

Mite Girls Level of Play

Both Tim Hink and Tom Garin are okay with playing a girls' U8 team as long as we skate an easier U8 schedule otherwise they would prefer to skate an easier C-Mite level for this girl's team. There is a large range in talent on this team. It would be nice if there was a U8 B level for these girls, however, this is not currently available.

There will be more options for playing at a C-Mite level as compared to the limited number of U8 girl teams. There are a couple of Kindergarten girls that are signed up for the U8 girls' team this season. Bruce would like to try U8 and feels the girls are another year older and may be more competitive.

There was discussion about getting a Girl's coordinator to try and get more girls into the program that can spend the time to create these teams. Do we look at not scheduling at any level and then work at finding other teams to scrimmage with throughout the season?

Flyers to Pre-K and Kindergarten kids will go out in the Friday folder. The flyer is asking to have players sign up by the 14th of November and then have another equipment pickup scheduled. Ray will contact Brian and let him know that we are going to lean more toward a girl's C level team instead of a U8 team.

Mite Committee Items

Items for Younger Mite Skaters

Kerry will send a list of items that may be useful for the younger mite skaters such as hoola-hoops and other items that make the skating experience more fun. There was some discussion about looking at purchasing some of these items to help our younger mites develop their skating skills while having fun.

Mite Committee Members for 2010-2011 Season

At the next coaches meeting we will find out if there are people willing to take part in the Mite Committee. We should try and get at least 1 representative from each team or team managers. We may need to define that at least one representative from each team attends these meetings. We need to look at promoting coaches or managers to attend these meetings.

Ray will talk with District10 to find out if the jamboree games are included as part of the 15 game limit or are these games not included with the 15 game limit?

Meeting ended at 7:35pm