CLHA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**September 8, 2014**

# ROLL CALL:

\_\_\_ Jeremy Wahlberg \_X\_ Chris Bodell \_X\_ Jennifer Caudill \_X\_ Eric Lee

\_X\_ Jen Hegstad \_X\_ Mike Ritter \_X\_ Lea Vogelsang \_\_\_Erik Edson

\_X\_ Amber Hill \_X\_ Dave Burgen \_X\_ Shannon Hejny \_X\_Lisa Stangl

\_X\_ Scott Thompson \_X\_ Louise Bye \_X\_ Jenae Palewicz \_\_\_Jeff Dowd

\_X\_Paul Gibson

Others present: Jim Bever, Sarah Burgen, Jennifer Starkey, Doug Grilz, Mark Bye

* **Call to Order –** Chris Bodell called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

### **Review of Agenda –**Motion to approve the agenda by Jenae Palewicz; seconded by Amber Hill.

* **Review/approval of last meeting minutes –** Motion to approve the August meeting minutes by Jenae Palewicz; seconded by Louise Bye.
* **Treasurer’s Report –**

1. The checking account has $57,189.65. There has been a large registration check deposited.
2. The saving account has a balance of $66,679.85.
3. Mike Klun provided Jeremy with the amount owed by Laura Boudreau. This will be updated on the Treasurer’s Report once the information is given to Eric.
4. The Fall Hockey income and expenses will be documented on the next month’s Treasurer’s report.
5. Each fundraiser will be documented separately on the Treasurer’s Report.
6. Raffle Ticket credits from last year have been credited in Thriva. If there are any questions, please contact Eric Lee.

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report by Eric Lee; seconded by Jenae Palewicz.

* **Bills to be paid**

1. Let’s Play Hockey ad for our CLHA hosted tournaments for $725.00. There are at least 10 teams registered for our home tournaments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Waiver Requests**

**Discussion Points:**

1. In an effort to make an educated decision, the board of directors needs to evaluate player numbers at each level of play. The numbers are below for at all levels of play for the 2014-2015 season (this does not include the waivers).
2. Bantams are playing A and B2 and projected to have 28 skaters and 2 goalies.
3. PeeWees are playing A and B2 and projected to have 28 or 29 skaters and 3 goalies.
4. Squirts are playing B1, B2 and C and projected to have 35 players.
5. Girls U12s are playing A and B and projected to have 20 or 21 skaters and 2 goalies.
6. Girls U10As are projected to have 11 skaters.
7. Girls U8s are projected to have 9 to 11 skaters.
8. Player development needs to be considered. There needs to be building blocks set in place for a program to develop. The girls program has been trying to develop over the years and moving players around affects the program.
9. There is concern that there will not be an opportunity for all players to develop if only one or two of the players at a certain level are far above the rest of the group. There may be a time when a player masters a level.
10. There is no definition of an exceptional player and the board of directors does not have the information to vote on a player’s ability. The board can determine criteria based on tryouts results not on player’s ability. There needs to be consistency from the board of directors in regards to waivers moving forward.
11. Grade appropriate waivers are a different scenario than exceptional player waiver. An exceptional player can bump an age appropriate player from the top team. The players at the level should have the opportunity to make the top team before a waived player who does not meet a certain percentage of the top team.
12. Four out of the 6 waivers are from board members. There is a lot of passion involved with these decisions.
13. Need to look at an in-house program at our mite program to further player development. Need to include the U8 team in the development of a mite program. There is discussion at District 10 with half ice games in the U8 and all mite games prior to January 1st or the entire season.
14. There was discussion to have the players who are requesting to waiver up, be evaluated at both levels. This is not possible as there are different evaluators at all levels this year. FHIT is not evaluating this year due to cost and FHIT did not agree to evaluate girls’ tryouts.
15. There was discussion of having another board member be in charge of the U12 tryouts due to Dave Burgen’s position. All board members are doing their best for the entire association.
16. Waivers Requests Results-Chris Bodell made a motion to have the players make the top 40% of the top team. This motion was removed and each waiver will be dealt with individually.
17. **Alex Bachmeier-**The waiver was only requested if there was not a PeeWee A team for the season. A PeeWee A team declared; therefore no need to approve or deny waiver.
18. **AJ Hejny-**The waiver was requested to move player from Squirt to PeeWee level as player has played at Squirt B1 level for 2 years already. The parent did place a restriction on the waiver stating player would need to make the top team. Chris Bodell made a motion to approve the waiver request to allow AJ to try out for PW level and must land in top 5 players of the top team; seconded by Jenae Palewicz; passed with a majority vote; there was one nay vote.
19. **Danielle Burgen**-The waiver was requested to move player from U10 to U12 level. Chris Bodell made a motion to approve the waiver request to allow Danielle to try out for U12 level and must land in top 5 players of the top team at the U12 level; seconded by Amber Hill; passed with a majority vote. There was one nay vote and one member abstained. Pee Wee aspect of the waiver was withdrawn as the U12 waiver was passed.
20. **Samantha Bever –** The waiver was requested to move player from U10 to U12 level. Chris Bodell made a motion to approve the waiver request to allow Samantha to try out for U12 level and must land in top 5 players of the top team at the U12 level; seconded by Amber Hill; passed with a majority vote. There was one nay vote.
21. **Breanna Ritter**-First motion was by Jenn Caudill to follow the handbook and move players up from U8 to U10 to fill a team as needed. This motion was opposed by Chris Bodell. The second motion was made by Scott Thompson to deny the waiver and pull top players up based on HEP skills evaluations if needed to fill the U10A team per the CLHA handbook. The motion was seconded by Lisa Stangl; passed by majority vote and 3 people abstained.
22. **Alyson Vogelsang-** First motion was by Jenn Caudill to follow the handbook and move players up from U8 to U10 to fill a team if needed. This motion was opposed by Chris Bodell. The second motion was made by Scott Thompson to deny the waivers and pull players up based on HEP skills evaluations if needed to fill the U10A team per the CLHA handbook. The motion was seconded by Lisa Stangl; passed by a majority vote and 3 people abstained.
23. **Brandon Gillespie Scholarship-**Brandon is requesting a $500 donation from CLHA to help pay for his junior hockey program. Brandon and his family are very involved in hockey and our community in general. Jenae Palewicz made a motion to approve the scholarship; seconded by Eric Lee; passed by a majority vote. There was one nay vote. Jen Hegstad will create scholarship criteria for the association and this will be placed on the website for such requests in the future. There needs to be fundraising events to offset the cost of our scholarships.
24. **Girls’ Hockey Event**-CLHA will be hosting a Girls’ Hockey Event for girls in the community to skate for free on October 12th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. There will be skating clinics, fun events and several donated items for all the girls. Mike is asking for $1000 budget for the event but is also looking for sponsors to offset many of the costs. Motion by Mike Ritter to approve the $1000 budget, seconded by Amber Hill; unanimously approved.
25. **Annual Meeting Change**-this item will be moved to the October meeting. This will be submitted as a by-law change request.
26. **Coach Selection Committee**-Dave Burgen named the coach selection committee and the committee is chaired by the Coach in Chief. This year’s committee will consist of Chris Bodell, Dave Burgen, Erik Edson, Paul Gibson and Amber Hill. As a reminder, the president has the ability to sit on every committee.
27. **CLHA Helmets**-many of the CLHA owned helmets expired on July 2013. The association will need to replace these helmets moving forward. The imminent problem is the association has committed to providing equipment for the community education program, Learn to Skate in the coming weeks. The cost to replace the helmets is $1700.00. One option is to provide families with liability waivers, have the helmets recertified or purchase new helmets. In house events do not require HECC certified equipment. Mike would like to order 12 helmets at $38.50 per helmet. This should fit into his yearly budget. If not, Paul will donate the money to purchase 10 helmets.

# OLD BUSINESS

1. President – Jeremy Wahlberg-not present
2. Vice President – Chris Bodell
   1. Intent to try out for HS teams-Noah Cameron and Claire DeVries were the 2 players who have submitted their intent to tryout forms for a refund in the event their player tries out for the HS teams and decide to play there.
3. Secretary – Jennifer Caudill
   1. Lakes Country BBQ will have a board member table for members to ask questions. Eric Lee, Lisa, Jenn Caudill, Amber, and Jenae are all able to attend. Shannon will attend once her tennis match is over.
4. Treasurer-Eric Lee-nothing to report
5. Registration – Louise Bye-nothing to report
6. Ice Scheduling – Shannon Hejny
   1. Needs Tournament dates for teams as game scheduling is approaching.
7. Advisor – Scott Thompson
   1. NHL Alumni Game is full steam ahead with the fundraiser. There are several association members assisting Scott with the organizationof the event. Will need to find local hockey players to participate in the event and mite and squirt teams to play between periods. The event will be taking place on Saturday, October 11th at 6:00 pm.
   2. Rick Giese will assist Scott Thompson with writing grants. For the Polaris grant, the association needs to find an item or project to spend the money on and submit to Polaris.
8. Assistant Treasurer- Jen Hegstad-nothing to report
9. Mite Director - Jenae Palewicz
   1. School Open Houses-CLHA was present at the elementary school open houses. There was a drawing for a free first year mite registration for one boy and one girl.
   2. Will work on finding managers for the mite teams.
   3. Will coordinate referees for the mite levels.
   4. Has contacted Erik Edson regarding potential coaches for the mite/U8 level.
   5. Learn to Skate is available as a community education program. Theresa Cottingham is heading this program up.
   6. Flyers for CLHA hockey registration and the Girls’ free hockey event have been placed in Friday folders.
10. Coach in Chief –Erik Edson-not present
11. Tournament Director – Lisa Stangl
    1. The CLHA BBQ is scheduled for September 13th. Would like to sell 100 to 150 pre-sold tickets. Lisa is requesting board members to attend if they are able.
    2. There are 10 teams registered so far for the CLHA hosted tournaments.
    3. Will send out a spreadsheet of all the tournaments our teams will be registered in. Lisa will be looking at southern tournaments and a mix of local and out of town tournaments.
12. Director of Competition - Dave Burgen
    1. Fall Hockey registrations were at an all time high. The price point was correct for the amount of ice offered.
    2. Initial Declarations are Bantam A and B2, PeeWee A and B2, Squirt B1, B2, and C and Girls U12A, U12B and U10A.
    3. Junior Gold Hockey-St. Croix would like to waiver players to our association in order to participate in MN league play. Need to determine who will collect fees, schedule tournaments, etc.
    4. Evaluators will be Paul Gibson and his staff, Jason Mahlen and his staff and Dennis Canfield, the Forest Lake Lakers head coach.
13. Director of Operations / Equipment – Mike Ritter- nothing to report
14. Director of Girls Hockey – Amber Hill
    1. District 10 had a girls’ director meeting in August. At the U10A level teams will be playing St. Michael and Wright County in district play and at the U12A level, teams will be playing St. Michael, Wright County and Sauk Rapids. Blaine and Spring Lake Park are co-oping at all levels for girls.
    2. U14 Update-options are White Bear Lake, Centennial, and Forest Lake. Forest Lake is unable to commit the players at this time. White Bear Lake and Centennial are the best options at this time.
15. Director of Business Operations/Fundraising – Lea Vogelsang-nothing to report
16. Outdoor Facilities –Jeff Dowd-not present
17. Boys High School Head Coach-Paul Gibson
    1. Jenae can coordinate mite teams to participate in events during the HS Boys’ Hockey games. There will not be time for the teams to skate in between periods this year due to the scheduled ice times.
    2. In general, Paul is not in favor in waiving players up in the boys’ programs; can’t speak to the girls’ program.
    3. There were only 4 parents from the association and 5 high school parents who signed up for the Mike Lizotte Memorial Golf fundraiser for the HS Boys team. There will be a guest speaker and there is still time to register.

Open Forum:

Chris made a motion to adjourn at 10:33 pm; seconded by Jenn Caudill.