

**WESTFIELD YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2010**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Labbe, President  
Bob Jacques, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Todd Jensen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Ice Scheduler  
Steve Jarvis, Director of Finance  
Jeff Koziol, Communications Director  
Pam Bussell, Secretary

**APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Keith Duboff, Team Rep Coordinator  
Tom Roskey, GSL Representative  
Jen McMahon, USA Hockey  
Heather Schnopp, Registrar  
Kevin Uva, Ace Coach Coordinator

**TEAM REPS PRESENT:**

Mini-Mites, Mite 1, Mite 2, Mite 3, Squirt 1, Squirt 2, Squirt 3, PW1, PW2, B1, B2, Midgets

Meeting began at approximately 6:35 p.m.

A Motion was made and passed to accept the minutes from the September meeting.

A Motion was made and passed to nominate Heather Schnopp as Registrar, which is a Board Appointed Position. Thank you Heather.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (Paul Labbe)**

Would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Team Reps for stepping up and volunteering their time to assist their teams.

In regards to Amelia Park Skating Arena, please keep your kids under control. No balls, pucks or sticks are allowed unless they are on the ice. The displaying or hanging of any posters, banners or signs at Amelia Park is prohibited unless prior approval has been received from the Amelia Park Board of Directors. If you would like to display any of these items during a game or other event at Amelia Park please allow at least a week advance notice for approval. All requests should be sent to Carole Appleton via email. Team Reps please be sure to communicate this policy to your parents.

### **1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (Bob Jacques)**

LTS/LTP – Numbers are low right now due to the 3 eight week sessions that line up with the Mini-Mite sessions. The next session that begins on November 20, 2010 should have a lot more interest.

Fire & Ice – out of 12 visiting teams, we already have all 12 teams signed and committed. That is great for this early on. In mid-November we will look to form a committee to solicit volunteers, team baskets for raffle, etc.

Coaches Patching Update – Mite 1 and up need to be patched at Level 3. Mite 2 and Mite 3 need to be patched at Level 1. Next year a new set-up will be in place where you may only complete one level a year.

### **ICE SCHEDULER REPORT: (Todd Jensen)**

The schedule has been updated with the second round of bonus practices added into the practice schedule. Bonus practices are when some teams are filtered through to practice on the other half of the mini-mites ice time.

All teams have submitted their No Play Dates. No Play Dates for the play-off season are due by December 28, 2010. The play-offs will begin February 26, 2011.

### **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT: (Steve Jarvis)**

Ice Payment: Last season, we were able to reduce the total ice bill by \$250. This season, we will have a \$50 reduction in the total ice bill. The reduction in the ice bill is due to Amelia holding their rates flat, increased number of skaters, and the Board's continued efforts to reduce the costs of playing hockey.

Mites, Squirts, Peewee: \$500 due on January 1. Total ice bill of \$1,100 compared to \$1,150 last season. (\$166.67 per month)

Bantams: \$600 due on January 1. Total ice bill of \$1,300 compared to \$1,350 last season. (\$200 per month)

Mini-Mites: As a reminder, Mini-Mites are \$200 per session (3 sessions in total).

\* Place ice checks in either Pam's or my envelope at the rink. NO CASH.

Our rates are very competitive when compared to other organizations, especially when considering we play in the best rink in the league. We are approx. 1/3 the cost of travel

100% of calendar raffle proceeds will be returned to Mite through Bantam teams to help offset tournament or other hockey related expenses. Net of \$2,600 to be paid to calendar raffle winners, calendar raffle proceeds totaled \$9,825 which would equate to \$982.50 per team (10 teams). We will round this up to \$1,000

per team. This amount should cover at least 1 tournament entry fee (typically range between \$800 and \$900). I will hand out envelopes tonight to team reps after the meeting.

Ref & TK Fees: I have handed out ref & tk fees to all team reps that cover all games through the evaluation round. Please review, and if this looks OK, please sign and return to my attention. I have done the work for you by listing all the games out, you just need to review and confirm. No change for this season. Team Reps: For games played at Clifton Park only, you WILL NOT need to deliver ref & timekeeper fees before the game. Ref and timekeeper fees are already included in the ice bill that I will pay direct to the Treasurer of Clifton Park.

GSL Ice Fees: Last season, I did not have fun dealing with inconsistent payment methods across the GSL – some teams wanted payment through the team rep, some wanted it paid direct, some wanted payment in Mexican Pesos. My goal heading into this season was to standardize, to the extent possible, the payment of GSL ice. In addition, I sought to eliminate the use of the team rep to deliver ice payments.

I have sent lots of emails over the past 2-3 weeks on this topic, copying all GSL organizations. For the most part, the response has been very positive with regards to making direct payments versus delivering through the team rep. The end result is positive.

Westfield Youth Hockey will no longer be delivering ice checks through the team rep. All ice payments will be made by me direct to Treasurers of each organization. Some teams may want to pay us through their team rep. Please accept any ice checks you receive from the opposing team and place in my envelope.

We are looking to fill the open Treasurer Position. The Treasurer would work with me in a support role. If anyone has an interest, please let me know. Thank you Pam for your support as we look to fill the Treasurer position.

**COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (Jeff Koziol):**

A new newsletter was sent out Tuesday night, October 12, 2010. Please encourage parents to join the email list for the newsletter. The calendar raffle winners are being updated almost daily. Game write-ups for the Westfield Evening News can start after the evaluation round. 50% of the teams participated in this last season. Start to prime a parent who is interested in writing a game report to be submitted to the paper on a weekly basis.

Breast Cancer Awareness Posters have been placed throughout the rink stating WYHA's commitment to awareness with the use of pink tape on all player's sticks

during the month of October. Team reps please remind your players to use the pink tape.

**GSL REPORT (Tom Roskey):**

There was an ADM presentation by Roger Grillo. All mites in Massachusetts will follow ADM next session.

The Cheever Grant is available again. Paul Labbe notes WYHA will look into submitting our ideas and will work in conjunction with Carole Appleton at Amelia Park. Intent to submit is due 12-31-2010. Applications are due 1-31-2011. Decisions are made in February.

Hockey equipment is available from the One Goal program for those who want to try the game (LTS/LTP).

Mites can play cross-ice games at the Falcon's games if there is an interest.

Steve Jarvis was nominated to head a committee that will write a proposal that will amend Article 3 of the GSL Bylaws (including 3 other treasurers, 1 must be from NY) regarding ice payments, handling of disputes and consequences if organizations do not pay.

Team registration fees have been set. \$75 for full year team, \$40 for ½ year midget team, \$40 for novice teams.

Standings should be updated weekly, toward the end of the week. Coaches and organizations will not enter game information. Game results will be posted on the web site by an attached PDF file.

Bantam playdown applications are due before November 1, 2010. All other playdown applications are due by November 15, 2010.

Midget rosters are due by the end of the month. Full season Midget No Play Dates are due by December 10, 2010.

Playoff Proposal – Submitted by Westfield, Troy-Albany, Clifton Park and Holy Name Hockey Associations. Purpose is to create a more exciting playoff structure that allows for more of a tournament atmosphere and allows for a standard format for playoffs. It is proposed to change the current playoff format to a weekend tournament that takes only the top 8 teams in a division and creates a weekend event. Troy-Albany has offered to donate the ice at one of their local arenas (Frear Park) for a trial of such a system during the 2010/2011 season. The suggestion is to use the Squirt North Division as there are two teams from NY already in this division. Teams would still be responsible for the cost of all officials and timekeepers for these games. Ice costs donated by Troy-Albany is equal to over \$3500 in ice fees. Troy would be responsible for hosting

the event. The benefit is that it would create an opportunity for a weekend event at a centralized location. Allows the schedule to be set in terms of knowing what date the playoffs would occur early each season. All teams would be guaranteed 3 games. There would be a first place team in an upper and lower division. The date for the trial playoff event would be March 26 – 27. These teams would have additional games added to their regular season up to that date.

**USA HOCKEY REPORT (Jen McMahon):**

CORI forms must be filled out by all Team Reps, Locker Room Attendants, Coaches and Assistant Coaches. Please give the CORI forms to Jen.

Rosters will go in team rep folders. Please have everyone check to make sure all the information on the rosters are correct. Once you see all information is correct, please have everyone sign the rosters and put them back in Jen's envelope.

**MERCHANDE REPORT (Brenda Labbe):**

Merchandise was available last week at the rink. If Brenda missed anyone, please let her know and she will try to make the merchandise available to try on. Orders must be in by October 15, 2010. No orders are guaranteed to be in by the holidays, however, she will do her best to have them by then. Hats, blankets, garment bags and some sweatshirts are available and are in stock. Orders will be taken until the beginning of February for jackets and running suits, etc. and then we may roll out some golf shirts, etc. for the spring. The order forms are available on the website.

If you need pins for upcoming tournaments, please let Brenda know and she will get them to you.

**EQUIPMENT REPORT:**

Every teams should have received first aid kits by now as well. If you need more ice packs, please let Paul Labbe know. Also, if you have broken water bottles, please let Paul Labbe know as well, we can replace them. All teams were given non-marking pucks for practices. Coaches please keep track of these non-marking pucks for your team. All game socks should have been distributed to all players by this point. If anyone has problems with sizing on the socks, please let Brenda know and she will swap them for different sizes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Scrimmages – if you have scheduled one for Amelia Park, please secure refs through the GSL contact. Also you must notify the rink in advance so they may set-up their locker room assignments. This is critical because the rink prefers to set up locker room assignments for the day in advance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.