

## GLYSA Board Meeting

November 7, 2011

Present:

Steve Knight, Tom Roche, Melissa Correia, Sharon Lessard, Christine Macpherson, Derek McManus, Abbie Garcia, Tom Carrabis, Christian Bando (Lowell Sun rep.)

### Try Hockey for Free Wrap up (Sharon)

19 children participated

6 signed up for Learn to Play, 5 of the 6 we loaned One Goal equipment bags to

3 others said that they were going to do a later Learn to Play session

Board members that were present said that they heard good feedback from the participants' parents.

The practice plan provided by USA Hockey didn't work out.

Will explore participating in Hockey Across America weekend in February.

Running this event made it obvious that access to equipment is a huge barrier in trying to get kids to play hockey. Steve offered to call manufacturers to see if we can get equipment donated or perhaps buy at a discounted price. The organization should also try to make up equipment bags, similar to the One Goal bags, from the inventory that we have in the shed. We should ask Roy if he would like to get involved with this seeing that he is the equipment manager.

A representative from Liberty Mutual was present at the event. She encouraged us to go to [ResponsibleSports.com/Hockey](http://ResponsibleSports.com/Hockey) to fill out a survey in hopes of earning a grant.

### PASS Clinic (Christine)

57 kids were able to attend the Bruins game

51 kids attended the on-ice clinic with Tom Songin

Everyone enjoyed it. We can apply for this event every year. As part of the application process, Christine wrote a letter stating why our organization would be worthy and with \$1000 that we received, we are going to put it towards skills because that is what we said that we were lacking in relation to select hockey teams and were losing players because of it.

### Apparel update-Melissa

The apparel sale was slow the first 2 days, but increased the last day. It is a lot of work and we should move away from on-site apparel offering to on-line with the ability to use a credit card.

If we have merchandise available, perhaps we could do a cash and carry sale in the spring.

For the future, maybe we should keep the same merchandise so that we are familiar with sizing and only change items every couple of years to make it less work.

Any extra apparel, we can and should sell at Learn to Play.

Earlier in the season, people approached Tom Roche about apparel; maybe we can reach out to them and get them involved for next year.

### Try Out Committee

Steve Knight would like a Try Out committee consisting of 5-7 members who would collect ideas, make changes, and reevaluate the try out process (drills, time frame, etc.) to bring recommendations to the Board to approve.

It was felt by the Board that the try out process needs to be decided upon by the end of February and that the committee should be made up of more non-board members than board members so as to not be biased

A motion unanimously passed appointing Steve Knight the chair of this committee.

### By Law committee

Melissa Correia will chair this committee. From the last meeting, Eric Nelson had volunteered to be on this committee; we will reach out to him.

### Friends page on website (Mike P)

Tabled until next meeting because Mike was not present.

### Financial (Mike)

Tabled until next meeting because Mike was not present.

### Marketing

All board members are encouraged to continue marketing the program. We should also continue cross-marketing with other local sports organizations.

Touch-A-Truck had 25 raffle entries with 10 winners. Some people who attended Touch-A-Truck came to Try Hockey for Free.

We will be marketing at an UMass Lowell Riverhawks game; Melissa will contact them to coordinate.

City of Lights Parade-an email went out to the organization; deadline to enter is 11/11/11. There are many game conflicts with the parade, Steve will send out another email to the organization asking for commitments for the parade by 11/10 12pm. If not enough interest, then we won't be participating in the parade.

Could we go into the schools during gym class to help promote hockey and our program?

We voted to place a full page ad in the Dracut High School Hockey Ad Book; cost=\$140 (7 ½ x 10 page).

### Coaching

There are only 3 more Mass. Hockey level 3 clinics left this year. Steve and Derek will be emailing coaches to remind them to attend. If the coaches aren't able to

receive their appropriate patches, this will have problems with coaching and perhaps insurance.

### Learn to Play (Abbie)

First session has ended. Out of the 25 participants, 5-6 asked to register for next session they were told to bring their checks 11/12.

There is a father that goes on the ice with the kids. He has spoken with Bob Ware about this, but he still needs to have a CORI form on file with GLYSA. This will be addressed 11/12.

Christine has asked if someone could come 11/12 (the first day of the next session) to help the kids with their equipment-? Roy.

We need to get feedback from LTP parents and educate them about In-house. Tom Roche has gone to the rink in the past and spoke with LTP parents and says that he will do so again in the future. Maybe a question & answer flyer about In-house should be compiled and handed out to the LTP parents, as well as emailing participants after the session ends.

Should we add the Learn to Play parents' emails on our general organization's email distribution list so that they are aware of what is going on with GLYSA?

We need to ask Bob if he is evaluating the children and letting Joe D'Arcangelo which children are ready for In-house.

### Pictures

Eastern Photography will be coming to the rink 12/6 from 5-6pm and 12/7 from 5-7pm. They do give us a portion of the sales and it was overlooked from last year, but they will be giving that to us soon.

### New Business

Melissa asked about the process of moving a Mite B player to Mite A. It will be as stated before, only if the Mite B team has 11 players (they currently have 10) so

as not to leave them short. As always this will be left up to the discretion of the coach Mike Pickett.

Learn to Play signs-we need 2 new vinyl signs, Roy is to order them. Steve will get 2 LTP lawn signs.

Venue for Jim Plunkett-Leeann has left a message with Lenzi's, no response yet. Steve will look into local hotels that he does business with.

We are still looking for an ice scheduler. The ice scheduler doesn't have to be a board member.

Abbie will be applying for the Cheever grant. Derek gave her information on how to access the website via the Mass Hockey website.

Christine is helping Tom Carrabis with a website issue.

Tom Roche wants to thank the board members for all of their hard work and likes the direction that we are heading in. He wants to keep up the community initiatives such as Hawks to Heroes and taping the sticks for different causes. He would also like a website committee. Tom Carrabis offered to be the chair of the committee. It was suggested that we ask for a representative from each team to be on the committee. Tom sold 8 sheets of ice to the Flynn brothers for middle school hockey. He would also like to see a GLYSA summer hockey clinic.

Steve feels that things are going smoothly so far with many changes for the better. He would like to have a fundraiser in February for St. Jude Children's Hospital. This fundraiser would be like a skate-a-thon, where children get sponsors and they would skate laps at the rink with a DJ. We could also charge a small fee to get in. Maybe acquire silent auction items. Then have some kids attend the St. Jude's fundraiser and present our donation.

Next meeting Monday December 5, 2011 @ 7pm, location TBD.