

Stamford Youth Hockey Association June 11, 2014 Open Board Meeting

Board Members Present: John Nilsen, Rex Morris, Vic Rella, Lee Bowbeer, Dave Genova, Brian Mitchell, & Kevin Unger

Called to order at 8:30 pm.

- John introduced the new board to the members present and discussed the need to have the program grow moving forward
- Dave discussed the league's financial situation and the upcoming budget. The league lost money last season mostly on unused ice, 40th Anniversary Dinner, & Sound Tigers program. He also discussed the overwhelming need for fundraising. We should have a better understanding of the finances in the next month. John discussed the league getting a scholarship from Chelsea Piers along with a week of camp being donated in exchange for the use of our ice time for a tournament at TCR. Discussion held on the Sound Tigers program.
- Hockey Directors: John had conversations with all three hockey directors. The board has decided to go forward with 2 hockey directors for the coming season. More discussion will follow with Rosario & Bobby. Discussion
- Travel & House Update: Kevin reported on our ongoing Bantam A @ 16, Bantam A1 @ 13, Mite A @ 14, Mite B @ 9, Squirt A @ 16, Squirt A1 @ 13, Pee Wee A @ 16, Pee Wee A1 @ 17. Pee Wee B with only 6 and Squirt B with 7 are a concern. Both teams need additional players. John discussed the importance of the house program to grow the league moving forward. Question raised from the floor regarding the transition from Tiger Sharks to House. Discussion
- Issue raised from the floor regarding the lack of voting rights for free programs. It was suggested to charge a minimal fee to allow voting. Discussion
- Discussion on ideas for house including younger Mites only playing cross-ice and older Mites playing full ice with Squirts & possibly Pee Wee's.
- John discussed the problem with a league-wide tournament for this season. The Haunted Shoot-out this year falls on Halloween along with being the same weekend as the Silver Sticks Tournament. Lee discussed other tournaments available. The league traditionally has paid for one tournament along with states. We are looking for Squirt to Midget tournaments and will pass the information along if others are found.
- League Calendar: John discussed the need for a league wide calendar for the upcoming season. It will help parents know what is coming up through-out the year.
- Brian discussed the need for more involvement for league wide events.

- The Golf Tournament this year is set for 9/18 @ Sterling Farms and is an afternoon tee time.
 - The kick-off picnic had difficulties with involvement last year. We are targeting for the Sunday after Labor Day for this year's picnic with on-ice events.
 - We are trying to get House Sponsors early this year. Cost is \$750 per team with the form being available on the website. Three sponsors to date. Brian also discussed need for increased fundraising including corporate sponsors.
- Question raised from the floor over what specific volunteers are still needed for the league. Discussion. Need immediately for equipment manager along with kick-off picnic & banquet coordinators.
 - John discussed the need for better communications along with a newsletter which will be out shortly after the meeting.
 - Discussion raised over the state of our jerseys. Kevin reported that our current jerseys are in bad shape and only lasted 3 seasons. John Ferris showed samples for an improved logo. Discussion on families purchasing their own jerseys. Going to get samples to the team meetings along with working out a numbering system. Also looking at setting up online shop for league spirit wear. Goal to get any additional clothing before the start of the season. Discussion on purchase of jerseys.
 - Rex stated if members need to get info to the board to reach out to them
 - Question raised from the floor on when teams will start up. Midgets will begin in mid-August others after Labor Day. Team meetings targeted to occur before the end of the school year.

Meeting adjourned at 21:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Victor J. Rella, Secretary