

**Blaine Youth Hockey Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2005 7:00 pm, Fogerty Arena**

**Attendees:** Keith Gerads, Forrest Wilson, Scott Penn, Kristi Zamrzla, Mike Brodzinski, Sean Linderholm, Dave Faulkner, Brad Slawson, Jon Ketola.

**Guests:** Rich Nordlund, Chris Carrol, Mike Bjugstad & Andy Shermoen

Forrest Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Request to amend the agenda to add the following items; Mike Bjugstad-StickCheck, Dryland Facility proposal-Chris Carol & Paul Lentner; Petition to move up Waivers (last item)

**Motion Made (Gerads), Seconded (Zamrzla) to approve the agenda for the September 19, 2005 meeting.**

**CHARITABLE GAMBLING:**

Rich Nordland presented the August 2005 Charitable Gambling report. Overall the pull tab sites showed a profit last month. They were able to contribute \$50,000.00 to BYHA. Rich noted that the profit at Bebops were down and will evaluate this issue with Forrest & Jon. Jon Ketola asked if there was an anticipated deposit amount for BYHA over the next few months. Rich stated that he anticipated a \$20-\$30k contribution to BYHA.

It was noted that the advertising dollar amount on the expenditure report needs to be changed top \$168.00. There is still a plan to schedule a meeting to educate board members on Charitable Gambling. October is a very busy month so this meeting will be scheduled at the November or December meeting. Also noted was the need to change to October board meeting date to October 24, 2005, 7:00 pm at Fogerty Arena.

**Motion Made (Slawson), Seconded (Ketola) to approve the August 2005 Charitable Gambling report.**

**Motion Made (Slawson), Seconded (Brodzinski) to approve the October 2005 Charitable Gambling monthly expenditures.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion Made (Slawson) Seconded (Faulkner) to approve the August board meeting minutes.**

**OPEN FORUM:**

**Dave Aus- Boys High School Hockey coach and the Blaine Blueliners** presented a donation request in the amount of \$10,000.00. A proposed budget was distributed to the board. Dave's vision is to make the Blaine High School hockey program as 1<sup>st</sup> class as possible to make it the best it could be. The boy's high school team will be assisting the

in-house initiation skate. Dave Aus is will to help out with the Traveling tryouts and will also get some boy's to help out. If we need him he is willing to help out. In the past Dave has heard that we needed him and he was unaware of the request. We must remember to communicate and work out a schedule if we need assistance.

**Mike Bjugstad and Scott Bjugstad**, are doing a program called "Stick-Check". There is a 45 minute seminar about everything and anything pertaining to the hockey stick. The benefit/goal is to make sure that your skater is using the correct type of stick. Parents can save a ton of money before they purchase the wrong type of stick. As part of the seminar your child is set up with a stick and they will show you how to shop for a stick. The cost is about \$20.00 per kid and there is a possibility of offering a team discount. If BYHA is interested in scheduling Mike would like to do it here at Fogerty Arena.

**Andy Shermoen – A Bantam Head Coach**, Andy introduced himself to all of the board members and membership in attendance. Andy has made a request for payment to his 2 assistant – non-parent coaches. The request is in the amount of \$500.00. He would also like to request 1 ½ hour practice times. A One hour practice is not enough time that is needed to be as competitive as he believes BYHA wants to be. He is flexible and is willing to eliminate 1 of the week night practices to accommodate the longer practice time. Mark Clausen commented that there might be some after school hours available. Mark will contact Rick Ringel and the 3 of them will see what options are available.

**Dryland Facility – Paul Lentner/Chris Carol** – There was a meeting scheduled to discuss the Dryland training facility located at Fogerty Arena. Paul Lentner volunteered to assist in getting a program organized. Paul would like to see all teams utilize this facility. He noted that in the July 2005 meeting minutes that the facility hadn't been used as much as it could. Paul mentioned that he wants to make sure all coaches are certified correctly on the use of the machines in the facility. Last year he saw many kids using equipment incorrectly. Paul introduced Chris Carol who is an Assistant Hockey coach at Bethel University. He is in the process of obtaining his master's degree at the University of Minnesota. Chris would like to work with BYHA to put together an official Dryland Facility program. The focus needs to be on developing better athlete's not just hockey shooters. You can't teach speed you can develop it. You develop power through the legs. He will make sure the kids get stronger the correct way. You do this by making the muscles work smarter. He would like to develop a modified program for the Girl's program and Mite level program. Again the main goal is to make them better all around athletes. We need to get the kids in the facility on a regular basis. Chris can train the coaches. Teach the coaches the benefits of dryland training. Chris would be qualified to certify the coaches and Chris worked with the STP program over the summer here at Fogerty. Sean noted that we need to train the coaches. Minimums of 2 coaches need to be in the facility during a session. Chris will not be a babysitter, his focus is to train. Chris is dedicated to BYHA and willing to work out a schedule with BYHA. Mike Brodzinski noted that this would be a positive move for Blaine. This type of training is a great thing if Blaine wants to remain competitive.

**Petition to Play Up Forms:** Brad Slawson presented 5 petitions to play up forms with the addition of 2 petitions for 2 skaters who have already skated at the Squirt level for 2 years. Forrest Wilson read the exceptional player move up policy from the policy and procedure handbook. Ron Broberg asked what determines an exceptional player. Ron noted that the better question would be what is an elite player? His challenge to the board is the board needs to decide on what exactly BYHA's philosophy is. Ron noted that unless the child is a top 3 player he isn't an elite player. There was a question on the form itself. Was proper paperwork turned in for all petitioned players or only some of them? Brad Slawson made note that no matter what we do some kids will be displaced. Either way somebody is always feels they are displaced.

Scott Blommer explained that his son is one of the 5 petitions to play up Squirt kids. He decided to petition his son based on what was done in the past. In the past kid's have been moved up to fill teams as long as they could skate at that level. Due to the large number of eligible Squirts Scott is withdrawing his son's petition. He feels the opportunity should go to the eligible Squirt level child first.

Sean Linderholm stated that we as a board need to discuss what an exceptional player is. He agreed with Ron Broberg's comments. This issue is at both the Girl and Boy's level. There is a major problem with moving up kids and cutting a large amount of eligible skaters. This problem has blossomed out of control and will continue to be a huge problem until the board puts a stop to it.

Mike Brodzinski noted that we keep adding kids to the program, passing out fliers at school, growing community etc. BYHA can only have so many traveling teams.

**Motion Made (Slawson) Seconded (Ketola) to move up 2 Petitioned skaters to participate in the Squirt tryout. The 2 skaters have been skating at the Squirt level for the past 2 years. Role Call vote: YES – Slawson, Faulkner, Zamrzla, Brodzinski and Ketola. NO – Gerads, Penn. Abstain- Linderholm.**

**Request for discussion: Penn; The form states that the petition is for the above-mentioned season only. Just because they played last year doesn't mean they automatically get to move up again. Ketola; These 2 skaters played the last 2 years so it would not benefit them to play back a level this season. Penn; Those skaters who are legitimate Squirts shouldn't lose a spot to a move up player.**

**Linderholm; would like this discussion looked at further in a closed session.**

**Zamrzla; I do not agree in moving up kids but I believe that the 2 skaters shouldn't be penalized for the poor actions of us adults. BYHA needs to adopt a policy and stick with it and stop the move ups.**

An In-House parent would like to petition her Squirt level son to move up and play at the In-House Peewee level. **Motion Made (Brodzinski) Seconded (Zamrzla) to allow In-House Squirt to play up at the In-House PeeWee level.**

Open forum discussion continues: Vitek – Agrees with the move up of the 2 past year players. But if BYHA wants to stop this pattern we need to stop it now. Mr. Vitek asked Brad to remove himself from voting because he doesn't know the players. Brad explained the board votes policy – the evaluators/judges decide where the kids are placed. This move up petition is so they can participate in tryouts.

Turnquist – Agrees that BYHA needs to set a policy in place.

Brodzinski – The parent’s requested the skaters to move up. The parent’s all followed the policy in place right now.

Penn – Would like to see more discussion this issue before a vote. Slawson – the policy is a formality. Penn – This policy is not just a formality. The entire board votes on the petition to move up forms.

**Motion Made (Slawson), Seconded (Brodzinski) to approve the 3 petitions to move up requests; Turnquist, Dahl & Corbett. The petitioned skaters would be allowed to participate in the Squirt Traveling Tryouts. Role call vote: YES – Slawson, Brodzinski, Faulkner and Ketola. NO – Penn, Zamrzla, Gerads and Linderholm.**

**Forrest – Table discussion on Boy’s Squirt petition to move up issue.**

**Randy Thunstrom – Girl’s Program petition to move up.** So far there are 30 eligible U10 traveling Girls registered. **Motion made (Gerads), Seconded (Faulkner) to approve 5 petitions to move up girl’s to participate in tryouts at the U10 level. This is based on the recommendations made by the Girl’s Traveling Director. Roll Call Vote: YES – Faulkner, Ketola, Gerads, Zamrzla, Brodzinski, Slawson, & Linderholm. NO – Penn.**

Scott Penn – Wants to see consistency in the move up policy and doesn’t feel any kids should move up.

**Motion Made (Brodzinski), Seconded (Slawson) to approve waiver to move up bottom 2 to participate in the Girl’s Traveling tryouts at the U10 level. Roll Call vote: YES – Slawson, Brodzinski, Ketola & Faulkner. NO – Gerads, Penn, Zamrzla & Linderholm.**

**Forrest Wilson is going to go with the Girl’s Traveling Director’s recommendation of No.**

**Forrest Wilson withdraws vote on move up of 2 U10 Girls. It was asked that both ties be broken by the President – Move up the 2 Traveling Girls – NO, Move up the 3 Traveling Boy’s Yes.**

**Motion Made (Faulkner), Seconded (Brodzinski) to take a 10-minute break.**

A parent comment in regards to the entire move up issues. BYHA should have a pre-requisite list such as: Must advance through level one at a time. Can’t move up more than 1 year/level at a time. Gather coaches recommendations.

#### **COORDINATORS REPORT:**

Ice Coordinator: Checking the District 10 web site for a date change for the ice scheduling. He will work with the Bantam A coach to see about 1-½ hour practices.

Julie Milligan & Denise Linderholm/Fundraising: The form that Jon Ketola developed worked well at the second registration. BYHA donated 22 cases of candy to Sharing & Caring Hands. This is candy left over from last year.

Bill Marshall: Traveling tournaments are just about all scheduled. He is waiting on a couple of Pee wee A confirmations. He needs to have a check for the VFW Hall of Fame Tournament for Girl's and Pee wee A – Boy's. Bill confirmed that he and Kathy are blocking hotel rooms for the tournaments.

**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

**Vice-President:** Brad Slawson, an Operations meeting will be set up within the next week, before tryouts start. Keith Gerads mentioned that we have only has 2 meetings and still have unfinished business. Discussion between Sean and Brad in regards to Operation's issues.

**TREASURER:**

Jon Ketola: New forms worked well for registration. Charitable Gambling deposited \$50k and registration deposits of \$32,003.05. Paid out to Fogerty \$47,732.66 Bond payment. Fogerty \$37,000.00 Dryland payment & \$17,140.00 ice bill.

**SECRETARY:**

Will be scheduling a Team Manager meeting for all Traveling teams. Kristi will also work with the in-house director's to schedule a meeting for the in-house team managers.

**REGISTRAR:**

Still receiving registrations from Mite level and some in-house level kids. The tryout sheets are ready to go. Kristi will be scheduling the Jr.Gold/U16 registration date this week.

**EQUIPMENT:**

Scott Penn would like to be included on any emails and/or meeting in regards to equipment. Discussion of the tryout jersey procedure and how we will distribute them. Scott would like to know when we set a registration date for Jr.Gold/U16 so he can plan on any equipment hand out that might be needed.

Scott is purchasing some CCM breezers, a good breezer and cheaper. In-House jersey's are ordered and will be here in about 3 weeks. Scott & Kristi will coordinate the helmet pick up once they arrive.

Scott will gather some quotes on tailoring of the XXL jerseys from Tahoe. Mark Aho spoke with Mike Brodzinski and told him he would take up the sleeves and length for \$7.00 each. The problem is with the width and this was the original problem that went unfixed when jerseys were originally ordered.

Jim Mitchell has some new goalie equipment he would like to donate to BYHA. He would take a receipt or credit to his ice bill.

Still missing some traveling Jersey's will continue to work with Kristi on getting these back.

**TRAVELING DIRECTOR-BOYS:**

Spoke with John Bauer – Hall of Fame Tournament donation. They would like to request a donation in the amount of \$3000.00.

Verify a Pee wee registered skater is really a goalie – confirm with Kristi.

**TRAVELING DIRECTOR GIRL’S:**

Randy Thunstrom presented his report in the open forum.

**ACE COORDINATOR/DEVELOPMENT:**

Jr. Gold/U16 – we may have an issue of a large amount of kids registering at this level. We will need to discuss how many teams we can have. At this time we are only scheduled to have 1 Jr. Gold A and 1 U16A team.

Dave would like to see us utilize Scott Christianson as our goalie coach. Forrest requested a plan from Dave on his Goalie plan and the Hockey School survey.

**IN-HOUSE:**

First year parents meeting on Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and the In-House coaches meeting also on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at Fogerty Arena.

**DISTRICT 10:**

Will confirm dates of mandatory meetings. Keith has the CEP classes all set up.

**PRESIDENT**

Forrest would like to thank all of those who volunteered and helped out with the Summer Hockey School program.

Forrest will get in touch with the City of Ham Lake to gather information on moving forward with an outdoor rink.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Donation requests:

**Motion Made (Zamrzla), Seconded (Gerads) to donate \$8000 to the Blaine BlueLiners.**

**Motion Made (Zamrzla), Seconded (Brodzinski) to donate \$3000 to the VFW Hall of Fame tournament.**

**Motion Made (Gerads), Seconded (Faulkner) to donate \$250.00 to Julie Montgomery.**

**Motion Made (Faulkner), Seconded (Slawson) to pay \$250.00 each to the 2 non-parent assistant coaches of the A Bantam team.**

**Motion Made (Brodzinski) Seconded (Slawson) to adjourn meeting at 11:15 pm.**

**Kristi Zamrzla  
Secretary**