

Blaine Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2007, 7:00 pm, Schwan's Meeting Hall

Attendees: Kristi Zamrzla, Brad Slawson, Shannon Gilbert, Jon Ketola, Mike Brodzinski, Scott Penn, Todd Erne (left at 8:15), Tom Bloyer. **Absent:** Randy Thunstrom.

Kristi Zamrzla called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Motion made (Erne), seconded (Slawson) to approve the August 20, 2007 agenda. Motion carried.

Charitable Gambling Report: Rich Nordlund reported that since the smoking ban pull tab deposits have decreased. He is reporting to the state for the next 6 months on the effect the ban is having on total income. Ole Piper has been the hardest hit so far. They are monitoring it also. The contracts at all of the sites are coming up for renewal. Tasty Pizza has signed so far, Majors is coming in next week. The only outstanding contract at this time is Ole Piper. **Motion made (Slawson), seconded (Penn) to approve the Charitable Gambling Report for September 2007. Motion carried. Motion made (Slawson), seconded (Penn) to approve the Charitable Gambling Expenses for November 2007. Motion carried.**

Todd Erne asked again about the meat that is purchased through Feders. He had spoken with them and they refused to sponsor BYHA. Todd Erne asked about other options open to us for purchasing meat for the meat raffle. This will be discussed with Rich at a later date.

Motion made (Penn), seconded (Slawson) to approve the September 17, 2007 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Bill Marshall, the A Bantam coach requests that Adam Herkus, a non-parent assistant coach on the A Bantam team be paid \$800.00 for the season plus the hotel costs for out of town tournaments. He also requested that Scott Reichart's, another non-parent assistant coach on the team, have his hotel costs covered.

Concerns were voiced by an assistant coach on a B2 bantam team that some of the players' skill levels left them more open to being injured during play. There has been no report of this from the head coach of the team. There were also questions raised about coaching and who was going to coach one of the B2 teams. Many of the members raised concerns over the tryout process and the coaches' selection process. Some of the suggestions brought forward for next year's process follow: 1) Don't split the teams, just name the players at a B2 level and then pick the coaches; 2) Allow more ice time for the B pool selections; 3) Have more evaluators watching the kids- at least 6; 4) Use adults to man the boxes at tryouts and make sure the kids are getting out the same number of shifts; 5) Have a tryout committee go over the procedures as well as the Operations Committee; 6) Have more than one tryout for the goalies; 7) Follow the procedures that are outlined; 8) Use a combination of outside evaluators and members that have been in BYHA for awhile and know the kids; 9) Give the evaluations sheets for each kid to the parents so they know what to work on; 10) Use the HEP scores to help evaluate and place the kids at the right levels.

The question of having 3 PeeWee B2 teams and 1 C team instead of 2 B2 teams and 2 C teams. This also led to the discussion of getting more ice time for the C teams to play. The teams need to be declared by 10/01/2007. The teams are declared based on numbers at registration. District 10 puts a heavy emphasis on the players being placed at the level they are declared. Once final declaration of teams was made on 10/01/2007, another team at the B2 level could not be added.

The question was raised as to why the top level kids weren't pulled from the ice once their level was determined instead of letting them continue to skate and distracting the evaluators from watching the remaining players. The evaluators had requested the top players remain on the ice to see how other players played against them.

Concerns were raised that all of the players were not watched equally and thus not evaluated. Scott Reichart spoke up and indicated that he and Dave Aus did the best they could to evaluate every kid on the ice. He did acknowledge that it was difficult for 2 people to evaluate the numbers that were on the ice.

Complaints were brought forward about the goalie tryouts as well. The comments were to the fact that the evaluators were on the ice with the goalies and could not possibly watch all of the goalies on the ice and shoot pucks at them at the same time.

Concerns were raised about adding additional players to the B2 Bantam teams as well. No further players will be added to either team nor will any players be switching teams.

Concerns were raised as to what team a player was placed on. The comments led to it would take a player placed on a C team a year and a half to catch back up to the B2 level players after spending one year at the C level and these children should be told ahead of time that they have no chance again of making a B2 team. Several players were named at that time that had moved from C teams to B2 and higher teams in subsequent years.

Dave Falkner indicated that he had a disk with a tryout process on it that works and drills that would show the skills of the players. Kristi asked to see the disk.

Chuck Taylor challenged everyone to attend the board meetings regularly and become involved.

Secretary's Report

The deadline for the newsletter was 10/15/2007. There are still several outstanding articles from board members and they will be given to the end of the week to submit an article.

Ice Scheduler

Games are scheduled for all of the traveling teams except the Jr. Gold and U16. The in-house games will be scheduled on 10/30/2007. The November practice schedules will come out the end of the first week of November. The remainder of the schedule will come out the end of November. The game schedules that Bill Marshall hands out are taken from the District 10 site. He may have made a mistake in listing a time and place and requests that the schedules be checked against the master schedules posted by District 10 as those are the correct schedules. District 10 has sanctions for missing games or rescheduling games. The Penalty starts at \$100.00 for the game and then increases with several other considerations such as backing a game up with another game and the penalties increase in increments of \$50.00. It was mentioned that for future reference, only 3 tournaments should be scheduled ahead of time at the Squirt B1, B2 levels in order to stay within the District 10 maximum number of games allowed.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance (August): \$135,339.86

Income: \$60,930.54

Expenses: \$93,090.15

Ending Balance: \$103,180.25

We are trying very hard to hold to the budget set out for this year. We continue to have about \$35,000 in outstanding past ice bills. \$3,000 of that is from families no longer playing at BYHA. The discussion leads to a suggestion to hold back from the Blue Liners donation, the amount still owed by families who now have high school players. Brad Slawson questioned how we could have people skating who have outstanding bills if we did indeed draw the line. Several of the members were concerned with the continued outstanding ice bills. Jon did encourage the strong line and that the people still on that list of owing BYHA money should have their players removed from the ice. Kristi and Jon were going to meet over the weekend and finalize the numbers on payments and families still owing money. The first league games begin for traveling teams on 11/10/2007.

Vice President's Report:

Brad Slawson reported that he had taken notes on today's suggestions and will present them at the next Operations Committee Meeting. Last month he attended the Centennial Board Meeting. The meeting mostly consisted of discussion surrounding upkeep of the building. They would like new lights. They also want to put together their own league for the off season and pull Blaine in to the league. They also discussed the cost of the ice, staff, health and welfare of the employees.

President's Report:

District 10 meeting was last week. We need to make sure we have the STOP patches for the backs of the jerseys. The coach's education program went well. Kristi needs copies of all of the coaches' cards as well as the background check forms from all of the people interested in coaching. She needs these as soon as possible.

Coordinators' Reports:

BYHA Sponsored Tournament Coordinator – Kristi Zamrzla - The U14A and PeeWee B1 tournaments are full and consideration is being given to increasing the number of teams to participate in the U14A tournament to 10 teams instead of 8. The Squirt B1 and U10 tournaments have 3 spots open currently.

Fundraising Coordinators – Julie Milligan and Denise Linderholm – The frozen food fundraiser brought in \$17,000 and 40% of that goes to BYHA family ice bills. Julie presented the list of volunteers they had working the day they handed out the food. Everything went smoothly.

Sponsorship – Todd Erne – Not present at this time.

Volunteer Coordinator – Shannon Gilbert –The volunteer opportunities will be posted on the website with the name of the person organizing the activity and their contact information. The people responsible for the activity requiring the volunteers will also be responsible for reporting the volunteer information to Shannon Gilbert.

Director's Reports:

Registrar/District 10 – Kristi Zamrzla –The only registration remaining is the Jr. Gold and U16. The High School tryouts end on 11/16/2007. Bill will schedule ice for the Jr. Gold/U16 tryouts. The registration will be set for right after the High School tryouts are complete. We have declared 1 Jr. Gold A team, 1 Jr. Gold B team and 1 U16 team.

Boys Traveling – Mike Brodzinski – Tryouts are over. He has a lot of notes regarding the suggestions made at the meeting. He will be suggesting we close the tryouts next year and continue with non-parent evaluators. He also would like to involve more people in the tryout process. He would like to see the tryout run more smoothly and thinks a combination of the High School staff and non parent coaches makes sense. He will also let the B2 Bantam team know who will be coaching them tomorrow.

Girls Traveling – Randy Thunstrom – Not present.

In-house – Scott Penn – The first weekend of the initiation skate is done and he was overwhelmed by the amount of help that was given by way of on ice help (10 – 12 guys) on the ice and the help with check in. The second weekend of the initiation skate is next weekend. There are 182 registered Mites taking part in the initiation skates and 3 or 4 will most likely be joining. He is expecting 12 teams: 1 D Mite, 2 C Mite, 5 B Mite, 4 A Mite and 1 U8. The game scheduling for the Mites will be held on 10/30/2007. He is going to work at scheduling more of the A and B mite games with other associations. The City of Blaine contacted him and they are going to try and put together an adult league at Happy Acres so there may not be the amount of ice time there for the mite teams. He also suggested that the BYHA board take a stance on allowing the video taping of the tryouts or initiation skates in future policy. He is looking into how best to generate goal tenders at the Mite level. Picture nights are scheduled for 11/12/2007 and 12/03/2007. Sports Star Photography will be getting the final lists and times of the photos so they can go to the team managers. Craig Voltin has brought up that the BYHA website only has the capability of 41 team sites and we will soon have more than that number of teams. The Blaine High School does use one of our pages.

ACE Coordinator / Development – Todd Erne – Not present.

Equipment – Tom Bloyer – The C Traveling jerseys should be ready for handing out next week. He will need help again from volunteers in the spring.

Old Business

A) Outsourcing the Accounting: Kristi Zamrzla and Jon Ketola are working on the packet for Charlie at Legacy. They will be meeting this weekend to finalize that and get it to Charlie. Kristi Zamrzla will ask Charlie to attend the November Board Meeting.

New Business

Squirt B1's moving a league game: The team has a game scheduled on the weekend they are at a tournament. They had cancelled a tournament and then had to find another to take its place. They were asking if they could reschedule a league game. **Motion made (Slawson), seconded (Brodzinski) the B1 Squirt team can switch the league game with the penalties being paid by the team. The motion carried.**

Pay for non-parent coaches: These are the 2 A Bantam assistant coaches, the B2 Bantam Head Coach and the PeeWee B1 Head Coach. Bill Marshall, the A Bantam Head Coach, had previously brought this up in the meeting. **Motion made (Slawson), seconded (Brodzinski) to pay the A Bantam 1st assistant \$800.00 plus hotel costs; the A Bantam 2nd assistant the hotel costs. Motion carried. Motion made (Ketola), seconded (Slawson) to pay the B2 Bantam and the PeeWee B1 Head Coaches \$500.00 each plus hotel costs. Motion carried.**

The question was raised by a member if all of the coaches were paid the same fees? How was it decided who gets paid and how much they are paid. The payment is based on level of play and experience of the coach involved.

Tasty Pizza : The security system put in cost quite a bit more than initially thought and Tasty would like more contribution to help offset the increased cost. **Motion made (Slawson), seconded (Brodzinski) to give an additional \$1266.00 to Tasty for increased security costs. Motion carried.**

Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Slawson) to close the meeting. Motion carried. A break was also called for at this time. The meeting reconvened at 9:55 pm.

Discussion followed regarding our pull tab sponsors and how much we appreciated them. **Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Brodzinski) to pay to have dasher boards put up at Super Rink 7 for the 3 pull tab sites (Tasty, Majors and Ole Piper). Motion carried.** Mike Brodzinski was going to contact the sites and get their information for the dasher boards.

Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Slawson) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm.