

Blaine Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2009, 7:00 pm, Fogerty Arena

Attendees: Todd Erne, Brad Slawson, Shannon Gilbert, Mike Brodzinski (7:15pm), Chuck Taylor and Scott Ullan (7:50pm), and Gretchen Severin.

Todd Erne called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Severin) to approve the February 16, 2009 agenda. Motion carried.

Charitable Gambling: Suzanne Slawson reported that BeBop opens on 02/24/2009 with a soft opening on 02/23/2009. They will be having meat raffles, Bar Bingo and they moved the booth back to where it was originally. They remodeled the space. Mega Bingo at Ole Piper was postponed again and scheduled to open on 03/03/2009. **Motion (Slawson), seconded (Severin) to approve the January 2009 Charitable Gambling Report. Motion carried. Motion made (Gilbert), Seconded (Severin) to approve the March 2009 Charitable Gambling Expense Report. Motion carried.**

Motion made (Severin), seconded (Slawson) to approve the December 22, 2008 minutes. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Shannon Gilbert reported that the volunteer hours continue to be posted soon on the website for the District 10 tournaments. We still are in need of volunteers to cover time frames for the District Tournaments.

Treasurer's Report – Chuck Taylor reported that Bond refinance went through and it will be saving us about \$18,000 per year. Our monthly payment will be about \$5900. At this time the collections company has recovered about \$11,000 of the past due ice bills from before this season. We currently have \$104,000 in outstanding ice bills for this season. Chuck indicated that there are still payments coming in on the ice bills. Todd Erne requested a list of unpaid accounts from Chuck so we can begin the process of pulling kids from the District Tournaments.

Vice President's Report – Brad Slawson was present but had no report.

President's Report – Todd Erne- District 10 is promoting the AAA hockey being backed by USA Hockey. This will be in the off season.

Open Forum – Troy Wolens spoke up on behalf of the Junior Gold teams. He requested the help and cooperation of the Board to make the Junior Gold Teams feel more a part of BYHA. The kids at that level should have the support of the association too as those kids have played with BYHA longer than any of the other levels. Todd Erne indicated a long term coach would help in that area. Some of the other suggestions would be give them some of the earlier ice times, new jerseys, a good tournament for example in Canada. The Centennial schedule for this level is set in May and June. The Junior Gold A team is currently ranked 12th in the State and if they win 3 or the next 5 games they will move into 9th and will make the district tournaments this year. We could do a youth night at a game and have a mentoring program for some of the younger levels like we do with the high school team.

Blaine Baseball is short on funding this year and asked BYHA for help. Todd Erne asked the Baseball representative to write up a proposal and get it to the board.

Ice Scheduler - Bill Marshall had no report.

SKATE Coordinator – Michelle Larson requested Chuck Taylor post the SKATE information on the website. The deadline for the grade forms is 02/28/2009. She still has an invoice from the Johnsville School for a knee hockey event that John Markham put on. John took the bill. SKATE has many volunteer opportunities yet. They are in need of more help in the preparing for the SKATE Event. She is scheduling a meeting for the volunteers and will have that posted on the website.

Traveling Director – Mike Brodzinski reported that there have been some issues with the Junior Gold Tournament in Duluth. The tournament coordinator from Duluth called Mike and indicated that he is not going to report anything from that tournament as the issues were not reasonable. All the teams in BYHA made the district tournaments this year.

In-House Director – The A-Mites played at the High School games. The jamboree scheduled have been sent out to the Mite teams. 3 A-Mite teams on the ice for practices at one time may be a way to better use the ice next year at that level. The B Mite numbers are down at ice times recently too. May want to look into doubling the B-Mite practices too for next year.

Equipment Director: Gretchen Severin – She will schedule the equipment return times and post them. The roster books need to be returned too. 3 Jerseys from the U14A team were taken from the High School game. Also the #10 on the Bantam A team had to be cut off so will need to be replaced also. The A Bantams are in the Regional Tournaments for the VFW. The Pond hockey sessions today were well attended for both sessions and this would be a good way to use empty ice time. BYHA may want to plan more of these sessions for next year.

Ace Coordinator/Development – Scott Ullan – The hockey academy is set to start the last day of March. Online registration starts on 03/01/2009. The spring session for the U10, Squirts and Mites will run through April and May. The academy will take June and July off and resume for the fall session in August and September. FHIT is winding down but still have some open sessions. The Junior Gold teams have 1st choice on the sessions. There will be a couple of hours at the end of the academy for an “Intro to Hockey” session.

Old Business

No old business presented.

New Business

No new business presented.

Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Slawson) to close the session. Motion carried. The session was closed at 7:56 pm.

The outstanding ice accounts were discussed and plans for pulling the skaters from the District Tournaments.

Motion made (Gilbert), seconded (Severin) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.