



PO Box 508
Park Rapids, MN 56470
(218) 732-9179
www.prhockey.com

**Park Rapids Amateur Hockey Association
Board Meeting Agenda
May 23, 2011**

Norita Smith, President
Krista Hesby, Vice President
Clayton Hoyt
Mark Carlstrom
Diane Johnson, Treasurer
Mike Johnson
Lance Crandall
Heidi Pachel, Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** By: Norita Time: 6:06 PM
2. **Agenda Approval:** Ed/Mike M/S/P
3. **Approval of regular Secretary's Minutes of May 9, 2011:** approved with additions Diane/Neil M/S/P
4. **Director's Reports:**
 - a. Executive
 - b. Treasurer/Scholarship
 - i. Letter from the chamber regarding the parade for the 4th of July
 - ii. Itasca-Mantrap congratulations letter for a grant– next Tuesday at 4pm Rick will go
 1. Neil will work up a news release for the paper & website
 - c. Public Relations
 - i. Neil & Krista have been trying to work together, Krista has provided some information to him
 - ii. Website – apparel is not available to order online with either of the local embroidery shops
 - iii. Recruiting - still on Neil's plate, but not "in charge of"
 - d. High School Hockey
 - e. Hockey Development
 - i. Setting up a meeting for this Thursday at 7:00pm – sending out an agenda & will have minutes
 - f. Administrative Support
 - i. Nothing has come through for registration yet, will talk to Patty about PayPal
 - g. Hockey Operations
 - i. Scheduling – Chuck & Ed got together, requested access from Jake
 - h. Fundraising Operations
 - i. Expecting an email tomorrow from Reed's regarding the gun raffle
 - ii. We need to do something big, we need to figure out what this would be



- iii. Community Ed is requesting use of the building as a backup for their dog obedience classes

5. Old Business:

- a. Policy handbook approval – motion to approve with the change regarding the code of conduct Krista/Neil M/S/P
 - i. Reference codes of conduct in the handbook as items that need to be filled out during the registration process.
- b. Varsity coaches proposal –
 - i. lots of discussion over the letter that was given to the board from Pete:

To the Park Rapids Hockey Board: We were told to write a letter regarding what problems we had in Park Rapids with youth hockey, and the Hockey Development Committee.

What we saw this year:

Coaches/practices:

- *Practices consisted of too much down time. Too much concern with wasted ice time. Too many drills had players standing around, and not getting enough reps. Drills weren't suitable for age group. Practices lacked organization, and consistency. Example: Pee Wee team spending too much time on power play during ice time. Example 2: squirt practices consisted of too many one man drills, thus wasting ice time. Drills should include many players getting the most out of ice time.*

Player Development:

- *Player development lacked implantation of fundamental hockey drills. Development did not follow Burgraff drills, or varsity coach's drills. The drills that were shown to the players in the fall, were not used to further development during the season. Did not follow through on critiquing players during drills.*

Level of play:

What was wrong with this years levels: Having your top team being a "B" team, is exactly the same as not having a varsity team, and having only a JV team. Playing "B" hockey when we had a pretty good team, was foolish and very misleading to the kids and parents. The kids did not progress the way they should have. Playing youth hockey is a stepping stone to the varsity program. When you play against the areas second best kids, you are basically playing their JV team of the future, thus making it very difficult to compete when they reach the high school level.

What we want to see changed in the upcoming seasons:

Coaches/practices:

- *Understand on ice drills, limiting the down time. Have different drill options, giving the coaches guidance when needed. In locker room talk to discuss practice plan, new drills, different ideas, etc. Example: discuss power play, and other systems in locker room, thus limiting the talk on the ice. Have practice plan, or at least a rough draft of what practice will consist of each day. Practice plan is a way of communicating with the HDC, and to better our young coaches. In the past, there has been grievances that weren't handled the best way. With our proposed HDC, these situations would be handled fairly, and with coaching experience factoring into the decision.*

Player Development:

- *The HDC will follow up with the coaches, instructing them how to teach certain drills and fundamentals. Also, make sure they follow the progression for each level.*

Level of Play:



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We need to have an “A” program. The HDC will make the final decision on whether a team is going to be “A” or “B”. Some situations will be better suited for “B” hockey due to ages and ability. The HDC’s expectation’s for coaches, players, and parents is to be an “A” program. We have to build a youth program that has a reputation of producing good teams, with good players for the varsity program. Right now we are not doing this. We have high expectations at the varsity level, by the coaches, players, parents, and community. This is very tough to do with “B” hockey being played in the youth. Again, right now, the varsity program is being given “B” players, with a “B” mentality.

Final words:

- ii. *To better our program, the HDC needs to have full support of the hockey board. The HDC will take directly handle of all hockey issues. The HDC will also support the hockey association board members on their roll. Doing this will make the program more efficient. This will help with recruitment, and retaining numbers by having a solid, and cohesive respect between the HDC and the board members. By years’ end, to keep a consistent and strong program this needs to be instituted in the by-laws.*
- c. lots of discussion over the join HDC with PR & Walker – Pros & Cons
1. Commitment
 2. Level of pay & expectations to encompass the “A” & “B” decision
 3. A proposal that would develop & support a co-HDC with Leech Lake Youth Hockey Association placing final decision authority on any recommendations from the HDC to be voted upon by the PRAHA board, while keeping the independence of each youth association. With a review at the end of the 1 year. Members of the HDC would be as proposed by the coaches to include: one ACE coordinator, one board member from each association (as appointed by each respective board), and two advisors (someone to work with the coaches perspective as well as the board – decision made jointly) from each program, totaling 7 members in addition to all boys & girls varsity coaches as standing members. Neil/Krista M/S/P 4 opposed, 5 in favor
 4. Pete has requested permission to contact the parents of the Bantams – we left a message with Pete to call us back – he called us back and his intention is to discuss a paring, would probably send an email to see what their responses would be, then possibly set up a meeting. If the response would not be 100% then would not do a pairing at the bantam level. About 7 or 8 kids from PR & about 12 from Walker. At this time the board would like to table this decision, until after all has been decided with the HCD proposal.
 5. Comments were made about some of the items in the letter that were not agreed with.
- d. Insurance
- i. Dick encouraged us to get a firm foundation of what we have in our building, Chris didn’t feel this was as important to do. Equipment breakdown included in our policy, appraisal not necessary. We need to at a minimum to get a list of big ticket items –Diane is willing to head up this committee, Ed will assist with this.

6. New Business:

- a. Registration
 - i. Diane did some research – got an email regarding having registration on the website, they will waive the \$100 set up fee if set up in the month of May. Cost would be about \$1400 per year or \$125 per



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month. Also looked again at the PayPal option, we only have to pay if we use it during the month.
Motion to add PayPal as a payment option on our website Krista/Heidi M/S/P

7. Next Meeting date is **June 13, 2011** at 6:00pm Board Room, second floor.
*Meetings are scheduled for every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month unless otherwise noted.
8. **Adjournment:** Krista/Diane M/S/P TIME: 9:14pm