

## Armstrong Cooper Youth Hockey Association

### Monthly Meeting Minutes

Nov. 9th, 2009 – 6:30pm

New Hope Ice Arena – Meeting Room #1

#### Meeting called to order

**Board Member Attendance:** Michael Baker, Mark Gauer, Mike Goergen, Greg Erickson, Tom Keller, Troy Loken, Len Lopez, Dave McDonough, Greg Symicek, Paul Wood

**Board Members Absent:** Matt Deterding, Holly Martin, Derek Olson, Jon Piazza, Joanna Rooney, Jim Siede, Carolyn Soper

**Additional members present:** Rob Davidowski, Tracee deNeui, Joan Evans, Mitch Hunstad, David Jensen, Kim McDonough

#### **Kim McDonough, ACYHA member, Team Banner opportunity:**

Kim reported on an in-kind donation from Eric Homme and the National Guard for team banners. Eric donated one last year in addition to a banner for the SKATE program. He has agreed to donate 17 this year for each team.

Kim offered to take responsibility for the distribution and collection of banners through the team managers. Discussion about two additional banners for U8 girls and Mite 3 boys to be used for full-ice games. Suggested that ACYHA offer to pay for two additional banners.

After Eric receives artwork, Kim expects it will be a week before the banners are available.

#### **Charitable Gambling update – Tracee deNeui, ACYHA gambling manager:**

##### BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

1. Approval of monthly report to board
2. Approval for expenses for October 2009 - \$28,275
3. Approval to pay August 2009 taxes to the City of Maple Grove - \$113.04

***Motion to approve three gambling related items for September 2009 as stated above: Motion by Troy Loken, Second by Greg Symicek. Motion passed.***

ACYHA Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 2009

#### BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 2009

1. Approval of monthly report to board
2. Approval for expenses for November 2009 - \$28,975
3. Approval to pay September 2009 taxes to the City of Maple Grove - \$439.07

***Motion to approve three gambling related items for October 2009 as stated above: Motion by Troy Loken, Second by Greg Symicek. Motion passed.***

#### BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 2009

1. Approval of monthly report to board
2. Approval for expenses for December 2009 - \$31,175
3. Approval to pay October 2009 taxes to the City of Maple Grove - \$178.71
4. Approval to donate \$20,000 to the City of New Hope for ice time.

***Motion to approve four gambling related items for November 2009 as stated above: Motion by Troy Loken, Second by Greg Symicek. Motion passed.***

Tracee shared with the board that the audit by Jere Bartz is ongoing. The Gambling Control Board has contacted Tracee regarding its biannual compliance review as well. Tracee also shared that she met with her group at the Sunshine Factory Nov. 8 to review procedures. Profit for August was \$14,603, for September was \$7,350, and for October was \$12,524; however, the Champps location accounted for only \$1,200 of that total last month, or approximately 10%.

#### **David Jensen, ACYHA member, and wreath fundraising coordinator:**

David reported that wreath sales grossed \$44,000 with a net of \$15,500 to ACYHA before any deposit checks are cashed. That compares to \$21,500 last year. We sold approximately 300 few pieces in 2009. The goal for each family was to sell 10 items, which would provide a net of \$50 to the association (approximately \$5 / item).

The board reviewed the language from program regarding the clarity of expectations for the 10-piece goal. Although it clearly states that not selling 10 items will result in cashing the \$50 deposit check, the board agreed to offer some latitude for families that did participate, but didn't sell 10 items.

***Motion to cash \$50 wreath deposit checks for all families that sold less than 5 items. Motion by Troy Loken, Second by Len Lopez.***

**Mitch Hunstad, ACYHA member, regarding Wells Fargo program:**

Mitch shared with the board that if a client refinances through Wells Fargo, the company will donate \$300 to the charity of the customer's choice. One ACYHA family recently refinanced and Mitch presented the \$300 check from Wells Fargo on behalf of his client, Mike Maiers. This donation is currently "unrestricted," but Mitch recommended that the board contact Mike to see if he would like to designate his contribution to a particular aspect of the organization.

Mitch will e-mail an electronic copy of the program to Mike Goergen for additional publication to the ACYHA membership. Len Lopez will follow-up to make the appropriate thank you to Wells Fargo and the Maiers' family. Troy Loken will follow-up with Mike to see if he would like to designate his gift in any way.

**Joan Evans, ACYHA member, regarding Squirt Tryout process:**

Joan asked to board to consider the impact of the tryout decisions on the players and their families, specifically the prospect of placing C-team members prior to the completion of tryouts. She strongly urges the board to support all players, but especially the Squirts at a vulnerable time in their young hockey careers. Her son was a Squirt C player a few years ago and is now in his second year as a Bantam A player. The ultimate goal should be to treat all players the same during tryouts.

Mike Goergen reviewed the board discussion of this item at the October meeting. A sub-committee will be formed after tryouts are completed to review the entire process. The committee members will include Mike, Holly Martin, the HDC Director, and others to be determined. For 2009-10 season, the intent is to follow the by-laws as written. Mike Goergen, Paul Wood and Tom Keller offered to follow-up with the Squirt coordinator, Squirt A coach, and HDC coordinator to review the tryout procedures for this season.

**General Reports:****Mike Goergen, Youth Director:**

On behalf of Scott Breitenfeld and the HDC, Mike shared Scott's recommendation for 5 teams at the Squirt level: A, B1, B2, C and C. Team numbers expected to be 13, 13, 13, 12 and 12 respectively. Scott also requested financial information from Mark Gauer, ACYHA treasurer, regarding all payments to outside instructors in 2008-09 (e.g., Pete Samargia and Rick Beckfeld).

**Troy Loken, Assistant Youth Director:**

Brought items from Jim Siede, Volunteer Coordinator to the board's attention. We are down to 15 families who have not submitted a \$500 deposit check for volunteer hours. I made 15 phone calls this morning to all the families with outstanding checks from Jim Siede's updated list as of Nov. 9th. I reached 5 people and left 9 voicemail messages and had one number that was busy 4 times.

Assuming all checks are submitted as promised, we will be left with three Mite checks (6 skaters as each family has two Mite players). Matt Deterding, Mite Coordinator, will withhold Mite jerseys until those checks are received.

We have six traveling checks and the board felt it was not appropriate to use the players as leverage against the parents in this situation. Recommendation to continue communicating with the families who have not submitted checks.

**Len Lopez, Corporate fundraising:**

Upcoming events:

11/21 Pancake breakfast at Champps in Maple Grove. Encourage teams to attend as a team activity.

11/19 and 12/6 Team photos with John Gautsche and Sports Star Photography.

1/4/2010 Pond Hockey movie showing at New Hope Cinema Grill. Tickets are \$10 and ACYHA receives \$5 / ticket. 250 seating capacity and tickets will be available in advance only. We have over 400 players registered in the program and should be able to sell all 250 tickets. Len will work with the team managers to encourage participation as a team, distribute a flyer and promote.

Competitive Edge offering 15% to ACYHA for any training packages sold to ACYHA members. Checks will go directly to ACYHA for easier accounting. This program is off-ice training that some of our members have used. Suggested promotion through the web site and via e-mail blast.

Jim Lupient automotive group donated season tickets to the Minnesota Gophers women's hockey team to promote girls' hockey in our area. 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of the tickets targeted for ACYHA girls and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> for Armstrong High School girls' program. Need to publicly recognize Lupient on our web site.

**Tom Keller, Girls Coordinator:**

Coaches identified for U8 program, including two board members: Jim Siede and Derek Olson.

Tom is looking for level coordinators in the girls' program similar to what is in place for the boys. That would add three, non-voting coordinator positions to the board: U10, U12, and U14 level coordinators. Also, Tom 's term will be up in May 2010 and he is recommending Anne Winter as the new Girls' coordinator. She has been working with Tom as an assistant coordinator this season.

Tom also asking for any boys' team that is willing to give up their hour of ice at NHIA during Armstrong/Cooper Days. The U10 and U12B teams are at out-of-town tournaments and the U12A team plays at 7:00 pm. Hoping to involve the U14 girls if an hour of ice is available.

**Mark Gauer, Treasurer:**

Financial reports available upon request.

Mark reported that he is working on designating ice expense by team. We have accumulated a \$55,000 ice credit with the city of New Hope and Mark will not pay any invoice for ice until the credit is used up. As a point of information, ice payments can be between \$20,000 and \$40,000 per month for New Hope. Also have VMIA and PIC payments.

Still working on coaches' reimbursement for the \$40 USA Hockey registration fee. All team checkbooks have been distributed. Mark needs to know the Squirt managers when they are determined, which could be as early as next week as tryouts are completed.

**Greg Erickson, Tournament coordinator:**

Greg is looking to get his tournament committee together for its first meeting of the year soon. Still looking for two U12A teams to fill that tournament.

Discussed possibility of a "gate fee" or a reduced admission price for tournaments this season. Many tournaments charge each team a flat fee of \$200 to \$300 rather than sell tickets at the door. This may be unnecessary if we have already filled our tournaments and will result in less ticket revenue, but it also has advantages. A gate fee eliminates the hassle of ticketing (volunteer hours, enforcement, cash boxes) and may encourage more fan attendance. Greg will ask the board for a final decision next month.

**Greg Symicek, ACE and Coaches Coordinator:**

Reported on coach's selection for 2009-10 season. Bantam and Peewee levels fell into place with parent coaches filling the remaining positions. Squirts still to be determined based on team selection. At the Squirt C level, two parents have agreed to be co-coaches for one of the two teams. A number of second year Squirts whose parents are coaches, but assuming that many of those players will land on the upper level teams as second year skaters.

**Mike Baker, Marketing and Membership Coordinator, no report.**

**Dave McDonough, Equipment manager, no report.**

***Motion to Adjourn November Meeting by Tom Keller, second by Greg Erickson.  
Meeting Adjourned.***