

Armstrong Cooper Youth Hockey Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 14th, 2009 – 6:30pm

New Hope Ice Arena – Meeting Room #1

Meeting called to order at 6:38pm

Board Member Attendance: Mike Goergen, Greg Erickson, Jim Siede, Dave McDonough, Carolyn Soper, Anne Winter (for Tom Keller), Mark Gauer, Holly Martin, Paul Wood, Scott Symicek, Troy Loken, Jon Piazza and Scott Breitenfeldt.

Mike Goergen welcomed everyone to the September meeting.

SPECIAL GUEST: Sandra Sullivan is the D3 SKATE rep and will be outlining a potential recruitment initiative to pilot with ACYHA.

Sandra has been asked to come up with a program to help improve recruiting numbers into the organization. This program will be at no cost to the organization. She wants to build a partnership with ACYHA to develop the resources to tailor the needs of the organization that would be simple, easy to use and can be applied quickly and affective. She is currently working with recruiting and retention to set up the basics of the program. Once she gets the approval of the committee the target date is February to roll it out. She is here today to give an overview of the program and see if it is a viable program in youth hockey. She is trying it out with Hopkins as well. The program is being driven by MN Hockey. The final program would have to have school district approval. The program would include high school hockey players (who would get community hours for the project) reading the books to Kindergarten and 1st graders and then send home a flyer in the Thursday folders to go home with the kids to increase interest in hockey. That would tie into something that the organization would put together, mite clinics, etc. District 281 has already approved of the program. The next step is to come up with the specific materials and involve the players and coordinate the process through the community contact at the high schools. A series of books would cost about \$60 and the flyers are in digital form.

Mike comments that he and Mike Baker would be in charge of the program because it is mainly recruiting.

Holly Martin asks, "How would the selection of the players who go to the schools work?" Sandra is thinking that it could be the player of the week that the coaches would elect. There would be 2 players at a time going to the classrooms. Going

through the community service reps at the high schools would be the coordination contact along with the hockey coaches.

Mike G thanks Sandra for coming and will get with Mike Baker on the next steps and be in contact with Sandra.

-Open discussion on non-parent coaches' pay

Scott Symicek comments that these are proposed payments:

Assistants \$500

Squirt A \$2200

Peewee A \$2800

Peewee B1 \$1200

Bantam A \$3400

Bantam B1\$1800

U12 A #2800

Jim Siede comments that it would be more fair to pay each coach separately than each team. Greg Erickson makes the point that the Peewee A coaches had to split up the money 4 different ways last season intern they did not make as much money as the Bantam A coaches. Jim Siede recommends that we cap each team a dollar amount so that you don't end up with too many non-parent coaches. Jim would like to see how it was spent last year so that we can be consistent with what we have done in the past. Mike will get the numbers from last year and send them out so that the board can know what we have done in the past.

- Waivers

Jeff Wall is asking for a waiver for his son. Our policy in the past was that we did not give waivers to players that we have the correct level for them to play in. The residency rule has changed this year. Jeff has been looking for a new environment for his child because he is not doing well in the school he attended last year. His son is now open enrolled in the Hopkins school district and this is his first year in Hopkins. A waiver from ACYHA would allow him to tryout for the A team. Jeff feels strongly that his son needs a new start in school and hockey and will not be playing with ACYHA whether he gets a waiver to play on the A

- team or not. Mike states that last year we did not issue any waivers. Mike states that this player is already gone from our organization and no matter what we decide this player will not be in our organization. Mike supports the waiver for this player and wanted to make sure that the board heard about the situation from the parent and completely understands the situation first hand. ***Mike will ask for a vote that is confidential either later in the meeting or electronically.***
- Carolyn Soper comments that the board wrote this policy so that the president didn't have to make tough choices on their own. That we are going against ACYHA rules and the new MN hockey rule. Mike comments that this situation is different because the player is gone no matter what and this decision is more difficult because of the new rules. Mike comments that Jeff has options to go directly to District 3 for a waiver if we choose to not pass the waiver. Greg Erickson states that there was another situation that was pushed through last year or a couple of years ago and the players are going to Minnesota Made (an outside hockey organization) rather than playing with the youth organizations within the school districts anyway.
- Review of Tournament Summary, Gate fees vs. Tourney fees. (Paid by Team or association?) Per the board the Teams pay the gate fees and it is paid back in the account. Each tournament is handled differently and there is confusion on the process since there are so many options. ***Troy Loken makes a motion that all tournament gate fees are paid by the team and all prepaid gate fees need to be paid back to the association, second Jim Siede, Paul wood comments that there will be different options for different tournaments and what do we do. The board agrees to audit the fees at the end of the season. Motion approved.***
 - **Manager meetings, Manager duties. (How early can MGRS. Be appointed?)** In previous years the managers are selected immediately following the break out of teams and training is set up that involves duties, responsibilities, etc. The date of training need to be set up and Mike will coordinate with Derek Olson on past procedure and Mark Gauer on the administrative money duties.

Tracee deNeui, Gambling Manager: *Tracee is waiting to get info from accountant and will have it by the 20th to be voted on.*

Charitable Gambling update:

BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS

1. Approval of monthly report to board
2. Approval for expenses for August
3. Approval to pay July 2009 taxes to the City of Maple Grove - \$

She has a gambling control report that gives us an overview of the year's activities.

Troy Loken asks to clarify the numbers on the annual gambling report. 70k came in last year and a tax refund of 10k was brought in. Tracee comments that yes those numbers are correct.

General Reports:

Carolyn Soper, Concessions:

Carolyn has the five managers in place and is still working on training for all of them. New Hope is hosting the upper Midwest elite tournament this next weekend and should bring in some good business to concessions.

Anne Winter for Tom Keller, Girls Coordinator:

Hopkins is interested in U14 girls and Anne Winters mentioned that we are in discussion with a goalie from our association to see if a team can be put together. Many of the girls are looking to try out for the high school program and making the numbers shifting until tryouts are over. The level of cooperation has been good on all of the girls so far.

Mike Goergen, Youth Director:

Went to the district 3 meeting and did get dates for mandatory coach meetings and will share those with the coaches.

District 3 is doing a recreational league that is non-checking on Sunday nights starting in November with fees around \$225. The late enrollment was meant to not interfere with normal Youth hockey registration.

At the Bantam level we will be playing, Mound/Tonka and those games will be counted as district games.

Registration numbers to date are 358 skaters. We have been close on most groups and are waiting to see a rush from the mites. The unofficial count from last year was 441, we are off by about 20% from last year.

Troy Loken, Assistant Youth Director:

Troy presents a letter from Cooper High School Boys hockey program for a donation to their program. *Paul Wood makes a motion to donate \$2000 to the CHS Boys hockey program, second by Dave McDonough, motion approved.*

Jim Siede, Parent Volunteer Coordinator:

Volunteer business looks good; all multi-skater adjustments have been made. Following up with Joanna tomorrow on the number from registration.

Mark Gauer, Treasurer:

Profit and loss statement is out and will be posted on the website. Mike and Mark are getting together to work on the budget this week. Mark wants to make sure he has enough checkbooks for the all of the teams. He will be pulling the receivables and getting those done this week as well.

Paul Wood, Boys Traveling Coordinator:

Peewee and Bantams are on the ice. Bantams are still looking to have 4 teams but Paul hesitates because of the lack of goalies, there are only 4 for 4 teams. Ideally the A team would have 2 goalies and that would leave one team without a goalie at all. There are 6 goalies at the Peewee level with 5 projected teams. Paul feels that the goalies should be treated better. He is working with the HDC on the goalies programs and would like to see our organization figure out how to attract and retain more goalies. Holly Martin comments that as an organization we should try to keep our goalies skating longer and try to have more goalies who can be more cross functional between skating out and being in the net. Our goalie program is good but needs to be worked on to retain and develop more players.

Holly Martin, Secretary:

The board needs to vote on July and August meeting notes so that they can be posted on the website. Would like to get the e-voting portion of our website working so that we can get things voted on more quickly. Will try to have more information on the e-voting for the next meeting.

Troy Loken makes a motion to approve July 13th and August 10th board meeting minutes. Dave McDonough second. Motion approved.

Scott Symicek, Ace and Coaches Coordinator:

Coaches would like to use a software program Flexx coach to track progress, curriculum, drills etc. Cost would be roughly \$60 per coach. He has requests from 2 coaches to use the program already. Scott wants to give the board a heads up on the product and is going to do more digging to see who would be interested in using it for the 09-10 season.

Scott would like to know how the board would like to handle approving parent coaches. He sees them coming forward at different times.

HDC will handle coordinating the parent coaches to all teams.

Troy Loken asks, " How do you handle two parent coaches volunteering for a head coach position?" Scott comments that he would consult with the HDC and try to make the best decision based on experience with the organization. Although Troy comments that it has not worked out well in the past when this situation has arisen.

Holly Martin comments that maybe we should have a more structured process for parent coaches to volunteer. For example; the deadline to volunteer for a parent coaching position would be the last day of tryouts and that way it can be unbiased and fair for everyone.

Jon Piazza, District 3 Rep:

Nothing

Dave McDonough, Equipment Manager:

Holly Martin asks if there is going to be an Equipment swap this season? Dave responds that Teresa Deterding did the swap last year and he is talking to her about the possibility of doing it again. He is also trying to figure out what to do with the old jerseys. Options are to sell them at the high school games or try again to sell them at tournaments. Putting one under the concession stand and sell them from there. He is open to ideas and more brainstorming is in the works.

Greg Erickson, Tournament coordinator:

Peewee and Squirts are scheduled. Bantam level is looking for more room and he is looking to tell another team that the tournament is full.

Other Business:

Question from the floor: Is the Mite 3 and U8 going to be run the same as last year in reference to jerseys? The jerseys were too big last year and they wore several different ones. Mike Goergen comments that the board is planning to do the same this year as far as he is aware but that he would contact Matt Deterding to discuss the plans for this season.

Holly Martin Motion to Adjourn September Meeting. Mark Gauer and Jon Piazza second. Meeting Adjourned 9:02