

Armstrong Cooper Youth Hockey Association
PeeWeeA State Tournament Special Board Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2009

The Board Meeting began at 6:58 with the following Board Members in attendance: Mike Goergen, Carolyn Soper, Derek Olson, Joanna Rooney, Greg Erickson, Todd Pannek, Larry Gonrowski, Paul Wood, Jon Piazza, Mike Terres and Kris Harnett in attendance.

Tracee deNeui was in attendance representing the Tournament Committttee. Dave White was there as well.

Board members absent: Tom Keller, Troy Loken, Laurie Ahrens, Matt Deterding, Jim Siede, Mark Gauer and Ed Kirchoff.

Greg Erickson led the meeting as Tournament Coordinator. He started by recapping the income and expenses of the recent New Hope Invitational Tournament that took place earlier this month. We netted almost \$6,100 for the weekend, which is great news. When asked about concessions income for that weekend, Carolyn Soper stated that Friday night was very low with only \$700 in gross sales, but that we caught up on Saturday with a \$2,700 day. Sunday was another good day and we ended up at over \$5,000 for the weekend.

Greg then led the Board through his preliminary budget for the PeeWee A State Tournament. He had also provided the preliminary budget from the Bantam A Tournament from a couple of years ago so we were able to compare what was done then to what we're planning now.

Todd Pannek stated that he was unsure of whether or not we made money on the Bantam tournament; we did not have the final income/expense statement to look at. Derek Olson felt that we had at the least made a lot of money on the concessions as each Association received a "larger than usual" check from the Concessions Board that spring. The Board discussed that when you host a State Tournament like this, you do risk losing money and that's just part of the deal.

In going over the line items, it was noted that ice rental has gone up \$20/hour in the last two years, as has the cost of referees and EMT's. The biggest concern and expense is the banquet for the players, coaches, managers and parents. The cost per meal to us is set by the Marriott. The question is who do we charge to attend the banquet and how much do we charge them? Greg is under the impression that the Association must pick up the tab for fifteen (15) guests from District 3 and Minnesota Hockey. We also need to buy dinner for about ten (10) Tournament Committee Members.

After much discussion it was decided to give each of the eight (8) teams attending the tournament twenty (20) banquet tickets each to be used at their discretion. Any additional coaches and managers will have to pay to attend, as will the parents. A price of \$30 was set by the Board for ticket price for the Banquet.

Greg then mentioned that the Emcee for the evening will be Brandon Milesky from KFAN Sports Radio, and that Rob McClanahan, former NHL and Miracle on Ice team member, will be the guest speaker. It is likely that both gentlemen will make appearances during the tournament to announce the games as well.

The program printing and cost was discuss; we need people seeking ad revenue. We are charging \$75 for a ½ page ad and \$150 for a full page. We need to get the ads in sooner so that our program designer has more time and less stress in creating the document. The Board suggested a color cover and gave the go-ahead to charge per program whatever the cost was "plus". People will be willing to purchase a \$3.00 program at a State Tournament. At the suggestion of Todd Pannek, Greg will have 400 programs printed. This covers two per skater with some extras for additional fans.

Gate fees are set by Minnesota Hockey and will be \$15 for a weekend pass. Derek brought up having lanyards printed for each team so that we know who has paid and who hasn't during the weekend. Concession workers, etc will get lanyards as well.

Greg then mentioned that John Gautsche, Association Member, will be taking panoramic pictures of each team involved in the tournament. We are still looking for an action photographer. Kris Harnett offered to look into a couple of companies for Greg.

The question arose as to how many outside vendors we want/need at this tournament. A few ideas were bounced around. Kris mentioned a hockey stick that was an item at the Squirt Tourney in Bloomington last month. At the start of the tournament, each team member “autographed” a hockey stick for their team. The vendor then took the sticks, engraved them with the name of the team, the tournament name, and all team members. They were very well received. Kris will find the name of the company that did this and get back to Greg.

The Hospitality Suite is a big issue at this time. Greg really needs someone to take the bull by the horns on this; we need donations and a chairperson to make sure things run smoothly. After some discussion, the Board agreed that the target for donations on this should be \$500. Items available in the Suite will be limited to things you cannot get at the concession stand during the day: fruit, cheese, crackers, etc. In the mornings we should have coffee and donuts available. At this point no one has stepped to fully take on this project. Greg will ask Tom Keller if he’s up for the job.

With a scant quorum present, the Board accepted a motion from Derek Olson to approve the preliminary budget, although it shows us taking a possible \$2800 loss. Mike Terres seconded the motion. After some discussion, it was agreed that Greg’s income projections are probably on the light side and that we should expect to lose a bit of money on a tournament like this anyway. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.