

Attendees:

Board Members:

Mauricio Rosales, Dean Bartlett, John Laliberte, Jeff Cabanaw, Craig Butkus, Jerry Heath, Pat Burke, Craig Benson, Al Foice, Paul Murray, Estelle LeClair

Other Attendees:

Deanna Cram, Ken Short, Kristin Ronick

Notes:

- Meeting called into order 7:08 – with a quorum.
- Minutes were approved from last meeting with no discussion
- Open discussion from visitors – none
- Old Business: Cross Ice task force proposal presented by Paul Murray:
 - State proposal, and other organization input as well as the committees input were used to formulate recommendations – Recommendations were provide to Board in a separate document (posted to web site as a Preliminary Plan)
 - Discussion on referees and their role was discussed, Board was generally in favor of continuing to use referees to make the games more “real”. Follow-up discussion with Bruce Garrapy to determine implications associated with cross-ice games. (no vote taken)
 - Recommendation included the possibility of a potential Girls U8 team – this was received well
 - Discussed the concept of the “transition team” and that the current proposal does not address the implications surrounding the four 2000 (birth year) players and the impact to them during the 08/09 season – while this gap was acknowledged it was determined that no action will be taken at this time to address it
 - Discussion around what if we have less than enough kids to play on the transition team lead to need to better have more feedback from returning parents – committee volunteers were asked to present draft proposal and obtain feedback from returning Mite travel player as to interest in participating on “transition team”. Agreed we need at least 10 skaters and a goalie participate to support a “transition team” and that only those players previously in travel hockey were eligible to play on the transition team.
 - Discussion around cost, and ways to minimize costs were made
 - Board discussed the possibility of no transition team if there were not enough sufficient players returning or interested in full ice; the impact is that all teams may need to be cross ice
 - Minor language changes were suggested to proposal. Board voted on making the proposal and official draft to share with, VSAHA, parents and other organizations.
- State – VSAHA Agreement with Glades to be VT representative at Tier I was going forward, including the following two suggestions made by EHYA
 - Some items:
 - No double roster for tournament bound teams – meaning Glade minor roster players cannot also be a roster player on tournament eligible local association teams

- Challenges – A level teams have the right to challenge the Glade major teams for the right to represent VT at Tier 1 but give up the spot at the Tier II state tournament
- Local A level associations will compete to represent VT at Tier II regional and runner up will play at the non-national sectional tournament. AB associations will compete for the Tier 3 regional.
- Select Girls proposal was discussed. EYHA believes this will negatively affect the ongoing viability of local girls programs due to limited numbers of girls playing the game. The concept of why the Select process was supported by VSAHA was heavily debated and it was determined that follow-up discussions with VSAHA reps must occur.
- Treasurers Report
 - Account balances, Cash Flow and Transaction Activity reports were reviewed and approved by the Board.
 - Budget items were discussed:
 - Missing information on draft Budget was discussed
 - Maurice will continue to send e-mails asking for missing items
 - Mite Jamboree Tournament idea was proposed to replace the Thanksgiving AB Squirt, Peewee and Bantam tournament. It was believed that this would be more profitable and perhaps supportive as the first VT based cross ice event.
- Head Coach –
 - Clinics dates /suggestions dates and times proposed
 - Clinics include Pre-Season Warm up, Goalie Clinics, Checking/Contact, Power Skating Sessions
 - Pat provided an update on the established Coaches Committee.
 - Discussed the idea of working towards improving the practice to game ratio consistent with USA Hockey guidelines. Perhaps using weekend ice typically reserved for games will be explored.
- Tournament –
 - Sept 9th Golf Tournament –
 - Need Volunteers, encourage Board members to play - 120 players is the goal
 - Thanksgiving Tournament – as noted there was discussion to make this a Mite Tournament, Jeff asked that another volunteer run the on-site items, and he would continue to perform prep, advertising, registration etc.
 - Other Tournament discussion - hope to have a regional tournament this year – this would be a positive from a fundraising perspective
 - Jeff will work with Maurice to finalize tournament budget numbers
- House – no report
- Dean provided a report on Equipment:
 - Dean and Rich have not been able to get together to discuss the transition items.
 - A new jersey design was presented –no action taken until more information is gathered
 - Dean and Al will meet with Rich to determine jersey replacement needs and financial costs .
 - Dean cautioned that we are running out of time to begin the process for a wholesale replacement – need to determine soon

- Craig Benson reported on Scheduling and Ice Procurement matters:
 - Warm-up schedule and Tryout scheduled was presented and approved
 - Paul will post the schedule on the website

- - Craig Benson recruited the following schedulers for the season:
 - Heaths - Peewee
 - Craig – Bantam
 - Mites, Squirts – Deanna Cram
 - Midget, Girls – Needed
- Estelle reported on Fundraising activities:
 - Less team sponsors this year due to kids aging out
 - Concerns were presented on the challenges of getting donations
 - Golf tournament in preparation

- Paul reported on Travel activities:
 - Proposal to clean-up main page of web-site – Board agreed to Paul’s proposal
 - New Game Profile was proposed.(see separate document). Key items were to minimize the variability between min and max games , adjusting Mites based on new cross ice proposal, and reducing overall games for bantams and midgets based on continued feedback that profile was too demanding at the more physical older ages. The new profile was voted on and passed unanimously. The parent handbook will need to be revised to reflect these changes.

- Craig Butkus reported on the Girls activities:
 - Bring a friend day for girls Aug 18th – dates to be published
 - \$763 (\$637+\$126) funds requested for poster and other recruitment - request voted on and approved. Board noted that it was important to provide recruitment funds ASAP to maximize the effectiveness of the efforts.
 - Craig reported on some early success in attracting interested candidates for recruitment.
 - Craig asked if we could use the web site for gear swap/message, Paul indicated that this feature could be setup, and that he would proceed setting it up. Craig also indicated he had an individual from his committee interested in helping.

- Additional New Business
 - Paul initiated a discussion regarding the current numbers of girls returning at the U14 and U12 age groups and the impact to teams. This led to further discussion regarding the VSAHA sponsored girls select teams and created additional concerns from the Board’s perspective.
 - Action items were developed to discuss the following items:
 - We contact various VSAHA reps regarding questions on the purpose and implications to

- local associations regarding the Select program.
- We contact Harwood and Milton regarding the state of their girls programs and the potential of entering into a year to year agreement to ensure that the U14 and U12 teams have continuity and sufficient numbers to sustain the girls programs competitively as well as ensuring age appropriate hockey development and retention.

There being no further business for the open session, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 pm.

The Board entered into Executive Session.

Related Materials:

Cross Ice Proposal

Treasurer's reports

Tryout Schedule

Proposed Clinics