

**BHB Board Meeting**  
**Monday, January 12, 2015**  
**5:30pm, VFW Curling Room**

**Members Present:** Mike Odegaard, Sheldon Sime, Jason Fetch, Melissa Long, Jason Fischer, Jason Frank, Kristi Anderson-Schmidt, Bill Curl, Craig Nelson, Sandy Stevahn, Suzanne Fuchs

**Members Absent:** Adam Hipp, Steve Churchill, Joel Roloff

Jason Fetch called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Jason Frank made a motion to approve the minutes from January. Sheldon seconded the motion. All were in favor. The January minutes were approved.

Sheldon gave a SafeSport update. Things are going well. We have over 200 members certified. Sheldon thinks that about 50% of the hockey club took the SafeSport training this year.

Jason Frank gave an update on the Dryland Training. We are now at the point where the pilot program has gone on long enough that if we are going to keep going with this program for future years, we need to send out RFPs. Jason looked at several different RFPs to get an idea on how BHB should proceed. The Dryland Committee then composed a letter to send to Gold's Gym, Healthways, the YMCA, and Bismarck Parks and Rec. The letter explained a little about our hockey program, the purpose of the RFP, the scope of work to be done, and asked for a response to the request with very specific questions as to how their facility would handle a program like this. The letter was also worded in such a way that the organizations contacted could choose to do the whole program or just part of the program.

We are looking at implementing this program from Squirts on up, though the Bantams may not do.

Jason Frank made a motion to approve the release of the RFP as written to the four institutions, Gold's Gym, Healthways, the YMCA, and Bismarck Parks & Rec, for dryland training. Sheldon seconded the motion. All were in favor so the motion passed. Jason will get the letters sent out and the deadline to turn them back in to the Dryland Committee is February 13, 2015.

At this point, we are just taking bids.

The overall goal is to provide a continuation of ADM into our program.

Jason Frank, Mike Odegaard, and Jason Fetch will be the committee to look over the RFPs as they come.

Jason Fetch and Jason Fischer talked about a possible salaried Program Director. This person would oversee the program and scheduling, which would make things more streamlined.

We are close to being able to pay someone to do this job, but we need to figure out how to get a steady income. This of course could be tied in with Gaming.

One Board member mentioned that a possibility could be we hire someone and have certain expectations that have to be met in their first year, or we could offer incentives. For example if the person can bring in more money they can get a salary increase.

A paid Program Director will be able to run more of the program because they will be at the rink more. This will be one person who will become the face of the program and we will have more accountability.

We will look at forming a committee in either February or March. The Board wants to make sure we find someone who will buy into what we do and works well in this type of environment.

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP would be the person to manage/oversee the Program Director.

Jason Fischer and Melissa met with two PeeWee parent coaches on pay/reimbursement. It seems they have not had any of their expenses reimbursed yet and were wondering what was going on. As a group they discussed some different options. One option would be to just write a flat amount to them or another option was to possibly waive their child's fee for the season.

Jason recommended doing a flat \$800 reimbursement. This would actually cost the Board less than if we did an actual reimbursement with receipts. When asked how it's been done amongst other teams, Jason said that it's not 100% consistent between team to team.

The Board told Jason to make it work.

Jason Fetch touched base on the open Board position. Last month he had let the Board know he was willing to stay on another year as President since we don't have a President Elect. With Jason staying on as President, that means Joel will need to stay on as Past President. However, in order for both Jason and Joel to do this, we need to make a by-law change. The change would be making the term limit two years instead of one year for both President and Past President. We will make this change/take a vote in March. We need 50% of the membership present at that meeting for this change to pass.

At our last Board meeting, we voted to put our support behind the expansion of Schaumburg. A meeting was scheduled just before Christmas for the membership to attend and ask questions and find out more information about the rink expansion. The meeting was held at Tom O'Leary and only about 30 people showed up.

Jason has been working on a five year financial forecast for BHB. Things have been tracking pretty closely, which allows us to have an idea what kind of money we would possibly have available to pledge to the rink expansion. BHB is looking at donating \$500,000 over the next 10 years, with one payment in July and one payment in October. This would coincide with our registration.

Mike made a motion that Bismarck Hockey Boosters, BHB, pledge \$500,000 to the Schaumburg Ice Expansion Project to be paid as follows: 20 payments in the amount of \$25,000. Payments

will be made semi-annually April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> over 10 years. Jason Frank seconded the motion.

Before voting, Jason opened the floor up to discussion. Bill had a couple of concerns. One concern was we've gotten all these kids into the program with our Intro to Hockey but as fees go up, we may see more kids drop. Also, he was wondering if this would affect us getting a paid Program Director.

It was brought up that if we don't get more ice soon, the numbers will go away in a couple seasons.

Hopefully, we will have our gaming up and running within the next two years, which will help bring in extra revenue. Plus we are looking at selling rights for signage on the boards. This revenue has not been included in our 5 year forecast. Also, we'd like to pay faster so that we can start working on a new two sheet of ice rink up north.

Once all concerns were addressed we took a vote. All were in favor of the motion Mike presented.

The Gun Raffle Committee let Jason know that everything seems to be going well. People are starting to turn their raffle books back in.

The question was asked about what happens if we get to the point where the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline has come and gone and there are still outstanding books. The off ice coordinator will need to be contacted and they will then go to the parent to let them know they have raffle tickets to hand in. The coaches should not be involved in this. Suzanne did ask that a paper trail or email trail be kept just in case we would need to let a parent know when they were originally talked to about the issue.

There wasn't much to update with Sponsorships.

Kristi is working with Universal Athletics to see if they can get more casual wear in. There have been some pros and cons in working with both Spectrum and Universal Athletics. We hopefully will have another e store sometime before the end of the season.

We need to find a night to sell the old logo jerseys. We want to keep a set of away and home jerseys for try outs. We will sell the jerseys for \$20/set or \$10/piece.

We are going to continue to use the Trademark Agreement. However, we are going to do \$3 per use fee instead of the \$200 fee.

Bill asked on Tanner's behalf about a Pizza Party for the end of the year for Termites. His suggestion was either February 28<sup>th</sup> or March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board okayed paying for the pizza. As for awards, we will hand out pucks to each of the kids. Bill will let Tanner know.

The coaches' coats are in and are now getting the logo put on. The cost for the logo was \$8, which was less than what was anticipated.

Mike let us know that DIBS was up and running. They used DIBS for the Squirt Tournament.

There was no Tournament Committee Update or NDAHA Rep Report.

Suzanne asked if an email could go out to the Mites in regards to Sportsmanship.

The cleanliness of the locker rooms at VFW 1 & 2 was also brought up.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor.

#### FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION

After the meeting was adjourned, Sandy talked a little bit about some of the schedule issues happening. We need to work out a better system. The schedule is demanding but still needs to be flexible.

Individuals have been making arrangements with other organizations, which is not being considerate to either organizations scheduler. All changes need to go through Sandy so that she can not only contact the other organization, if needed, but also change the calendar.

There is a point where the off ice coordinator could talk with the other team about schedules but then they need to pass that information off to Sandy so that she can contact the other scheduler.

Overall we need a better way of communicating changes. NGIN does have an app, which is free of charge. This is a good way for parents to follow their child's schedule.

Jason Fetch is going to look at how we may possibly do some of this communication through NGIN.

Suzanne mentioned that you can go in to NGIN in the Registrations and Create A Group. Once you have saved the group, you can then go in and send emails to the group as a whole or just to certain individuals.

Sandy also mentioned an issue with a game being changed from one rink to another without letting her know. So she was unable to forward this information on to Dennis from Parks & Rec.

Again, it was mentioned that we need a clear chain of communication. The very first thing we should do is notify the scheduler and then program director.

Jason Fetch is going to draft a list of instructions/protocols to follow when making changes with rinks or games.

Gate fees were briefly discussed. Usually parents have to pay the fees but some organizations just include the fee in the registration fees. BHB should be getting the Gate Fees back from the parents in instances like this.

In February, Bismarck is hosting WDA. There are concerns about not having enough refs. Dickinson was called to see what they pay, which is \$50-55 plus travel.

BHB may have to pay to get refs in for that weekend. The Board also discussed paying a bonus to refs here in Bismarck who will help us out. We need to let Jeff know to offer the bonus option and then go outside to get refs.

The last bit of information Sandy shared with us is that she is resigning. However, she will work with the person who takes on this position to make sure they know what needs to be done.

## **General Membership Meeting**

**Monday, January 12, 2015**

**6:30pm, VFW Curling Room**

Jason Fetch called the General Membership Meeting to order at 6:40pm. We had a small attendance of members present for the meeting.

Jason first talked about our support of the Schaumberg Expansion and the monetary support that BHB has decided on.

The Level Directors were asked to give a report on how things were going with their levels. Those Level Directors that were present gave a brief report and then asked if any of the membership had questions.

There was mention of liking to see the Squirts and Mites on the ice more. Jason Fischer did talk about how much on ice time teams were getting either single or shared practices.

There was also mention of how teams are getting on and off the ice later. Jason Fetch mentioned he's going to try and work in our new contract with Parks & Rec to get earlier ice times.

Kristi mentioned that another apparel order is in the works. She's debating on whether to go with Spectrum or Universal Athletics.

One parent wanted to know if we could sell our products at the concession stands. Since we aren't part of concessions this is really not an option. Duffy's and Scheels can carry products with our logos.

One parent asked for a page with the Coordinators or Coaches contact information. We would need to get permission from the coaches before putting their contact info on the web.

One parent asked about the possibility of going to tournaments in Canada. Since we have so many Canadian teams who come down and support our tournaments, he felt it would only be fair to reciprocate. This parent said he would help look into what would be good tournaments to go to. Suzanne mentioned she could get together the information we would need to travel to Canada.

There were questions about the schedule. Sandy said she does the best she can trying to get everyone in in an equitable manner. They are trying to have a balance in the rotation of either earlier morning or late night.

Jason Fetch adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm