



CYHA PUBLIC ANNUAL MEETING – 4.24.2008

CYHA Annual meeting – Thursday, April 24, 2008
New Hope Arena – Meeting Room #1

Board Members Present: Laurie Ahrens, Diane Eliason, Greg Erickson, John Gautsche, Troy Loken, Holly Martin, Eric Marsh, Derek Olson, Joanna Rooney and Scott Syzmanski.

Board Members Absent: Dan Longhenry and Lisa Rogers.

Members: Carrie & Mike Adams, Jens Ahrens, Brooks McCloud, Jon & Shawn Hanks, Erik Hanson, John Huber, Pete Johnson, Bill & Nikki Kasper, Bob Marshall, and Brad Nightingale.

Visitor: Todd Pannek, Armstrong Youth Director.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by Derek

President's Report (Derek):

Three goals over the past three years: 1) Reduce player costs, 2) Provide for player development opportunities, and 3) Increase retention.

Highlights:

New shooting cage built in conjunction with AYHA and both high schools

Equipment remodel and additions to the weight room.

Finished 3rd year as operators of the concessions at NHIA.

Financial overhaul – Diane E. started the process, and Scott working to diminish costs

Shared ice scheduling in conjunction with Armstrong. Reduced costs 25% while maintaining ice opportunities for players.

Hosted Bantam A state championship – looking for regional and state tournaments

Built a second locker room for the Bantams – AY and CY worked together.

Kept all our players in our association both boys and girls this past season (i.e., didn't have to waive out to find an opportunity to play at the appropriate level).

3rd year of shared fall camps, including participation in the Squirt Cup

Shared ice and curriculum at Mite level – saved \$6,000 this year over last year.

4th year of shared girls program with Armstrong and SLP.

Shared teams with AY – overall feedback was positive despite some challenges.

- Peewee B2 team in District Championship game – 2nd place result.
- Squirt C team won 3rd place in Districts.
- Squirt A team was 2nd in Districts.

Derek took an opportunity to publicly thank each board member individually for their service to the association this year.

Treasurer's Report (Scott):

- Annual financial report available by the end of April. Currently have \$8,000 in the checkbook, with some bills yet to be paid (All-Star, SLP shared program).

Secretary's Report (Troy):

- Minutes for 3/30 and 4/10 board meetings posted on 4/16 (approved by all board members electronically).

- Sent email to all CYHA members on 4/15 with merger proposal details and announcement of annual meeting. Hard copy mailed via USPS on Saturday, 4/19.

Volunteer Report (Laurie):

- Laurie thanked CYHA President Derek Olson for his commitment and dedication to hockey.

- One more tournament this weekend at New Hope. Some last minute cancellations and volunteer opportunities available.

- Able to reduce the CYHA volunteer commitment to 20 hours / player this season. Some families worked 25 hours at the beginning of the season, and many worked more than their required hours as usual.

- Laurie worked closely with AYHA volunteer coordinator, Jim Siebe, to spread out the hours more evenly this year throughout the season.

Traveling and Ace report (none).

Girls Report (Derek for Diane):

- Still working out the year-end financial distribution. SLP paid most bills during the season so CYHA needs to reimburse SLP. Amount owed is approximately \$11,000.

- U10 will be Armstrong/Cooper next season as SLP is sharing teams with Southwest. U12 and U14 will still be Armstrong/Cooper/SLP for 2008-09, but phasing out SLP involvement after this group of girls moves through.

Equipment Report (John):

- 2007-08 jerseys purchased for Cooper only were not used due to the late decision to share teams with Armstrong and purchase additional A/C jerseys. John has identified other associations around the country that also use orange/navy, and looking to sell them. One larger set that was to be used for Bantams may be of use to the high school.

- All the A/C jerseys have been returned. John and Kevin Roddy, AYHA equipment mgr., discussing how to store. Still collecting equipment from teams.

Mite Report (Eric):

- Great season. Players had good development opportunities this year.

Registrar Report (Joanna):

- Attended a District 3 meeting for registrars. USA Hockey is offering online registration primarily for those associations that don't offer online registration already. Since we have online registration in place, suggested not combining registration at this point.

Corporate Fundraising report (Holly):

- Merger rumors have made fundraising difficult. A lot of businesses ask “Aren’t you merging with AYHA.” Essentially, why should I donate to both organizations?

Ice Report (Lisa):

- Jim Corbett is planning September ice schedule already. Need to commit to ice soon.

District 3 Report (Greg):

- Next year’s Pee wee A tournament is up for bid. Presentation scheduled for later in August/September if we want to bid on that tournament. Tournaments are a significant fundraiser.

Tournament Report (Derek for Dan):

- Just finished Advanced 15 tournament here last weekend. Dan has learned on the job this year and has done an excellent job. District 3 team took 3rd place. Hope to host additional tournaments in future years.

Concession Report (none).

REVIEW OF MERGER DISCUSSIONS:

Committee of AY and CY people met together Spring 2007 to discuss opportunities to work together. Agreed to share C-teams for 2007-08 and offer waivers to any player for skill-appropriate placement. Beginning with 2007-08 we quickly moved to “Shared Teams.” A number of families requested waivers, some people we expected to didn’t register, and faced a significant challenge of low numbers at the Bantam level.

Both boards discussed a potential merger in e-mail and face-to-face communications over the past 5 months. CYHA asked for feedback from members on 2/18 and received comments and suggestions. On 3/1 an outline of a potential merger was e-mailed to all members and additional feedback was requested. Board reviewed 10 comments and heard from members at Feb. and March board meetings. At this point, the CYHA Board is seeking a merger with AYHA for both player development and financial reasons.

Merger Proposal Details reviewed with handout of Executive Summary that all members received via e-mail and via USPS.

Question was asked why the mascot is the Falcons. Even though Cooper loses the majority of its identity and gain the majority of Armstrong’s identity, it is still important to do. Commitment to have all players skate under the same “flag,” regardless of what colors. Proposal calls for red breezers and white helmets, but a new 4-color jersey and helmet sticker incorporating both identities. Bantams will wear Falcon jerseys for 2008-09 season to spread out cost of new jerseys over two seasons. The secondary rationale being that Cooper has the fewest players impacted at this level.

Two seasons ago all the Bantams were in an A/C jerseys. Question as to why we seem to have gone backwards at that level. In hindsight, having some traveling teams -- Squirt, Peewee, and Bantam – in A/C jerseys and some in Falcons' jerseys was a mistake. The moment Cooper gave up its identity last year, it weakened its negotiating position. Each association is given up their identity regardless of whether the mascot is a Falcon or not.

In the course of merger discussions, the Cooper Board realized that each association has its own perspectives and priorities. What do we have to give and what do we have to get? Alternate viewpoints exist on both sides. It is a compromise.

Armstrong voted to refund \$100 / traveling player earlier this year. Todd Pannek suggested a new ACYHA board will figure out a way to accommodate families for equipment purchases. For example, an equipment swap is being planned for players to find white helmets and jerseys.

MMC (Holly): I would like make a motion that approves the merger between Armstrong and Cooper pursuant to the documents submitted to the Cooper Board of Directors on Thursday April 10th and the Executive Summary Published to All CY Members.

Second: Eric

Written Vote of all members present. Results. 21 in favor. 2 opposed.

Additional comments:

MASH team recruitment was an issue after the season as not all players received information. CYHA leaves MASH recruitment and planning to individual coaches, but some players are feeling left out. Suggested a more consistent or formal process for communicating MASH opportunities, perhaps even an off-season coordinator position.

Identity will be “new” for everyone. The Armstrong/Cooper Falcons will be the reality, and the kids won't care. In any merger, there are difficulties along the way. Encourage communication and patience.

Upcoming activities:

Share CYHA year-end financial statements to AYHA to clarify financial position. AYHA changing their by-laws in preparation of their annual meeting. AYHA membership must ratify the by-law changes to create ACYHA. Pending approval, ACYHA meeting with election of new board members can occur.

Sunday, May 4, AYHA is holding a town hall meeting at Crystal Community Center. AYHA annual meeting and ACYHA meeting date currently set for May 18, but may need to be changed.

Available voting positions on the new ACYHA board open for election this year will include President (Youth Director), Travel Coordinator, Ice Coordinator, Equipment Manager, and Registrar. Additional positions being created as voting members include

Girls Coordinator and Concession Coordinator. The position of At-Large member (past-President) also available. CYHA and AYHA will communicate to all members the available positions and a process for nominations.

AYHA/CHYA Cooperative items:

3 committees:

- 1) Identity and Design Committee: Matt Deterding, Greg Erickson, John Gautsche, and Dave Jensen.
- 2) Nominating Committee Tom Keller, Troy Loken, Dan Longhenry, and Todd Pannek,
- 3) Web site committee: Mark Gauer, Derek Olson, Joanna Rooney, and Jim Siebe with input from Kris Harnett.

MMC (John): To adjourn.

Holly: 2nd

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF CYHA BOARD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2008

New Hope Arena – Meeting Room #1

Board Members Present: Laurie Ahrens, Diane Eliason, Greg Erickson, John Gautsche, Holly Martin, Troy Loken, Eric Marsh, Derek Olson, Joanna Rooney and Scott Syzmanski.

Board Members Absent: Dan Longhenry and Lisa Rogers.

MMC (Laurie): In anticipation of the AYHA/CYHA merger, and the approval of the change in AYHA bylaws to create ACYHA, move to dissolve CYHA.

Second: Eric

Discussion.

Passed unanimously.

MMC (Greg): Rebate of \$100 to each traveling player pending the approval of a merger of CYHA/AYHA.

Friendly amendment (Lori): Rebate will be applied to any outstanding balance first prior to returning to the family.

Second: John

Discussion.

92 families = \$9,200

Traveling is defined as Squirts, Peewees, Bantams, U10, U12, and U14.

MMC (Eric): to adjourn.

Second: Holly