



Yankton Area Ice Association Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2017 at 6:30pm
Rink Meeting Room



Board Members Present: Kevin Schulz, Gwen Wenisch, Ryan List, Kevin Heiman, John Lillevold, Sarah Thoms, Heath Larson and Heidi Berry

Guests Present: Mike Freeman and Pam Erickson

- I. **Call the meeting to order**
- II. **Approval of December minutes, motion was made by Kevin Schulz; second by Gwen Wenisch**
- III. **Old business**
 - a. Rink boards "finishing touches" project
 - 1) All parts have been ordered and will be completed this summer.
 - b. Drinking fountain replacement finished
 - c. Entry doors replacement cost and timeframe
 - 1) Ron's will be installing the doors within the next 2 weeks.
 - d. Pee wee state tournament update
 - 1) Kevin Schulz has been working on this and had no additional updates.
- IV. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Financial** – Please see attachment for the financial report.
 - 1) **Motion was made to approve the presented financial report by Heidi Berry; second by Kevin Schulz**
 - b. **Registrar-submitted by Kendra**
 - 1) All coaches have all information up to date for the Dec 31st deadline – (even the new coaches – Weber and Weiner – and Zane Scott) YAY!
 - 2) Rosters all in except Mini mite –waiting on a few birth certificates. But, we have until the end of the season to turn in since they do not travel or play other towns.
 - 3) Good turnout for LTS for 2nd session. 13 new -- 2 did not return -- 3 moved up to MM. 24 -total count below.
 - c. **Coaching-NA**
 - d. **Figure Skating- submitted by Pam**
 - 1) 7 skaters participating in the Brookings Polar Blast Competition on January 7th & 8th. Should have results by board meeting.---Pam has not received these results yet.
 - 2) Registrations coming in for Yankton Winter Miracle Competition and Sioux Falls Competition.
 - 3) Butter braids & Hovey coffee fundraiser brought in around \$1200 net. We will do a Pizza Ranch fundraiser on March 6th.
 - 4) Starting preparations for year-end performance. Costumes are ordered; pictures

are scheduled. Working on practice schedule.

- 5) Wednesday March 1st is Ash Wednesday so would like to have Dress Rehearsal on THURSDAY, MARCH 2nd starting at 6:30 p.m. This would require cancellations of Hockey practices that evening. YES OR NO?? YES
- 6) Brought in new assistant coach to help with 2nd session and performance practices. We will be losing three coaches next season so hopefully she will be learning about YAIA and YFS and return next season.

e. Equipment-NA

f. Scheduling-

- 1) Ice will be removed for the season March 13, 2017

g. Marketing-

- 1) Facebook has been a good tool as far as marketing media and feedback for the rink.

h. Discipline-NA

i. Zamboni-NA

j. Facilities-NA

V. New business

a. Mike Freeman update - LTS – LTPH

- 1) Had a fairly small group in the first session on Learn to skate but, have double the kids signed up for second session.
- 2) He would like to introduce a Transition Program “Learn to Play Hockey” ; this program would be for those children that are ages 4-11, have finished Learn to Skate and want to join one of our Hockey teams. It would consist of a six to eight 30 minute practices where they can get the gear on, a stick in their hand and learn some of the basics of hockey before they move into normal hockey practices and games. He will be trying to schedule this yet this season after the Discover Hockey session in February. **It was agreed by the Board that this is a good idea and we should try it out yet this season if possible.**

b. Tournament fees and friendly games - updates and changes for different age levels.

- 1) **Motion was made to pay up to a \$275.00 fee for each Mite team to attend one tournament yet this 2016-17 season by John Lillevold and second by Gwen Wenisch.**

c. Coaches pay and expense reimbursements-

- 1) Stated in Handbook changes below.

d. **OTHER HANDBOOK CHANGES**—see below for the motion and changes.

VI. Adjourn; motion was made by John Lillevold and second by Ryan List

- 1) **Next meeting February 7th, 2017** – make note of date as this is the first Tuesday of February.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion was made to accept all of the below changes as part of the Yankton Area Ice Association handbook effective the start of 2017-2018 season by Ryan List and second by Heidi Berry.

CHANGES TO HANDBOOK:

Captains and Assistants (league play teams only)

The State allows 1 – Captain and up to 3 - Assistant Captains – Each League team is required to pick 1 – Captain. These are to be determined by the Head coach with feedback from any Assistant Coaches. This is not a popularity contest of the players. The young man or woman should exemplify good sportsmanship on the ice and leadership in the locker room. They are representing Yankton Hockey on the ice and to the officials. The Head Coach needs to make this decision before league play starts. Coaches, you need to know your locker room and its dynamics before making this choice. The player(s) you choose for these leadership roles need to know this and should take this responsibility seriously. Also, if a Coach has a player on the team they are coaching, who is their son/daughter or close relative, YAIA would seriously caution the Coach about making their child/relative a Captain or Assistant. Coaches, do not make this decision lightly.

Certification Reimbursement for Coaches

YAIA will reimburse any state required or USA hockey fees needed for coaches to fulfill the requirements necessary to coach a team. Once the coach has fulfilled all the requirements and is authorized by the coaching committee, the coach will receive a coach's jacket from YAIA.

Travel Reimbursement (non-Parent coaches)

YAIA will pay a mileage rate of \$.23 per mile for coaches to drive to practice, if they live outside the city of Yankton. YAIA will reimburse travel expenses (mileage and hotel stays) associated with games and/or tournaments. A meal per diem of \$25 per day will be allowed only with a required overnight stay for tournament/games. Coaches are asked to stay in the same hotel as the rest of the team. The team parent will reserve a block of hotel rooms, the coach will have to make their own reservation at that hotel. The Coach is only allowed to report actual expenses (if the coach rides up or stays with another family, they are not able to claim the mileage or hotel stay). This reimbursement allowance will only apply to coaches who do not have a child on the team they are coaching. (ie U.S.D. or Mt. Marty student that is a coach)

Mini-mites

No travel – Only in-house games as determined by the coaches. Sunday drop-in time has been a great opportunity for games without losing any practice time during the week. YAIA suggests having games one time per month throughout the season during the drop in time on Sunday's. These games are intended to be fun and coaches should not worry about assessing skill levels and splitting up the teams based on skill. YAIA wants to get the Mini-Mites more ice time and make it fun for them and the parents to watch. Coaches will need to find volunteer referees for the in-house games (squirts or peewee's have assisted with this in the past)

Mites

Travel is allowed to Mitchell, Brookings, Sioux Falls, Brandon Valley, Luverne, Worthington, Sioux Center, Sioux City and Fremont for games (140 mile radius). Coaches, teams are allowed to play up to 16 games against out of town competition. It is recommended to get at least 10 games with outside teams throughout the season. Yankton will host a Mite-Fest each year for at least 3 home games. The Coach is responsible for scheduling either friendly games or tournaments to fill in the rest of the schedule.

YAIA will pay a total of \$275 for each Mite team for entry fees and/or referee fees associated with these games. Any additional game/tournament fees are paid by the participating parents, split evenly based on participation.

YAIA also suggests that the events be spread out throughout the season so that travel is not a burden to the families who are participating. The Yankton Mite-Fest is held in December. The Coach should try and schedule something for each month - January, February and early March. Most tournaments are 3 game guarantees, some with a possible championship game. 4 tournaments of 3 games each, without a championship game, makes the number of games played at 12 – the coach would have discretion to host friendly games with other associations to fill the rest of the schedule if ice time is available. A list of tournaments Yankton has participated in the past will be included with this information.

Caution – Coaches do not travel fatigue the Mites...

Coaches when splitting the players to make teams, it is suggested to have 2 lines and a goalie (typically 9 players) to a team. Assigning skill level is appropriate at this age for the advanced Mite level games only. Also, the coach can split the teams by age level (2nd year vs 1st year). The tournament/friendly games rules will dictate how the coach splits the kids to make teams. If the number of Mites allow it, splitting the talent evenly at the intermediate level is appropriate.

(1 A level team – 2 B level teams equally split)

YAIA suggests having in-house games one time per month throughout the season during the drop in time.

These are intended to be fun in house games. This also gives the Mites more ice time and a chance for parent's to watch their child play in Yankton.

Squirts

Travel is allowed to Mitchell, Watertown, Brookings, Sioux Falls, Brandon Valley, Luverne, Worthington, Sioux Center, Okoboji, Sioux City, Fremont and Omaha for games (175 mile radius). Coaches, teams are allowed to play up to 24 games against out of town competition. It is recommended to get at least 20 games with outside teams throughout the season. Yankton will host a Squirt Tournament each year for at least 3 home games.

The Coach is responsible for scheduling either friendly games or tournaments to fill the rest of the schedule in.

YAIA will pay a total of \$750 for each Squirt team for entry fees and/or referee fees associated with these games. Any additional game/tournament fees are paid by the participating parents, split evenly based on participation.

YAIA also suggests that the events be spread out throughout the season so that the travel is not a burden to the families who are participating. The Yankton Squirt Tournament is held in January. The Coach should try and schedule something for each month – November, December, February and early March. Most tournaments are 3 game guarantees, some with a possible championship game. 4 tournaments of 3 games each, without a championship game, makes the number of games played at 12 – the coach would have discretion to host friendly games with other associations to fill the rest of the schedule if ice time is available.

Caution – Coaches do not travel fatigue the Squirts... (ie. 3 tournament weekends in a row)

Coaches when splitting the players to make teams, it is suggested to have 2 full lines and a goalie (typically 11 players) to a team. Assigning skill level is appropriate at this age. Also, the coach can split by age level (2nd year vs 1st year). The tournament/friendly games rules will help dictate how the coach splits the Squirts to make teams. If the number of Squirts allow it, splitting the talent evenly at the intermediate level is appropriate while maintaining an A level team.

(1 A level team – 2 B level teams - equally split)

PeeWee – Bantam – JV - Varsity (boys and girls)

Regular season games are scheduled by the state. You must set a roster for the season. No changes to the

roster may be made after December 31 without approval from the state association. YAIA Teams are allowed 2 additional tournaments and up to 6 friendly games during the season. Any additional game/tournament fees are paid by the participating parents, split evenly based on participation. Most of these non-league games should be done before the state scheduled league games start. These games are intended to prepare the team and coaches for the season. YAIA will pay up to \$750 per team for registration fees and/or referee costs associated with these games.

Travel is unrestricted at this age level for all games. Friendly games and any tournament registrations should be first attempted with associations that we are nearest to for convenience for the families that have to travel for the games.

Coaches when splitting the players to make teams, it is suggested to have 14 - 17 players and a goalie (typically 16 players- 3 lines and a goalie) to a team at the Bantam, JV and Varsity level. The state association allows 18 skaters and 2 goalies or 19 skaters and 1 goalie per registered team. At the PeeWee level, you are able to have smaller teams (11 - 12 players to a team) because checking is not allowed. To all coaches, make sure that you have enough players to cover illness, injuries, and players that are not available to attend every game, when deciding how to split the players up.

Team rosters will be split by talent. State League play requires us to field an A level team at each age level. With enough registrations at an age level, the 2nd team is allowed to play B level. At the JV/Varsity level, playing Varsity is not required unless you have 2 teams. Coaches have the option to play up to Varsity if only enough players for one team.

Boys Varsity teams are required to “lock 10 players” for the JV game. Those “locked” players are not allowed to participate in the JV game. A coach has the ability to change the locked players each week. JV players are allowed to dress and skate for Varsity games.

Based on previous history of success or failure, a coach may request in August to “play down” to B level if only fielding 1 team. The state association will vote to approve or deny the request. The coach will need to have documentation (i.e. – last year’s team’s record, returning players, players that are moving up from an age level, etc...) for the request to be considered by the state association.

Captains and Assistant Captains are named at these age level