

## ACYLA Board Meeting

January 8, 2013  
New Hope Ice Arena

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. and introductions followed.

Present: Michael Charles (Co-President); Laurie Ripplinger (Co-President/Equipment Mgr), Julie Carpenter (past President); Kelly Thompson (Equipment Mgr); Carol Zehrer (Secretary); Kent Zehrer (Treasurer); Kim McDonough; Betty Tapias-Heinrich (Tournaments); Tony Johnson (Coach).

Betty Tapias-Heinrich has ordered lacrosse-style thank you notes. Kim McDonough volunteered to store the thank you notes and write the note to Pam at the City of Robbinsdale for working with us on the equipment grant.

### Treasurer's Report:

### Communication's Update:

- Mark Palony has been monitoring the emails coming in to ACYLA and stated that nothing needed attention. Mark Lucas can set up permissions for individuals in League Athletics on our website.

**Action:** Mark Lucas – In League Athletics, assign roles to different people based on need and give appropriate permissions. See Michael or Laurie for that information.

### Old Business:

1. Winter workouts
  - a. This is Homegrown 's fifth year partnering with ACYLA to run the one-hour sessions, which start Thursday, January 10, at the Plymouth Creek Center. We have 34 boys registered, which is down from 53 last year. A follow up email was sent to families who are not signed up but participated last year. Some of the registrations are outside District 281. Homegrown prefers a group of about 40; so our 53 was very high. We are currently at a breakeven point of \$4000.
  - b. An email will be coming out yet this week with details for Thursday including a reminder to pay outstanding balances and for boys to wear full protective gear. Homegrown has agreed to have 1 director and 4-6 staff from on-site. Laurie Ripplinger volunteered to check kids in at the Plymouth Dome.  
  
**Action:** Michael -- send email of Winter Boot Camp to registrants.  
**Action:** Kent -- email Laurie the list of registrants showing their payment status.
2. Operational policy updates – develop budget, spending controls, equipment policy
  - a. Kent Zehrer created a draft budget based on last year's expenditures and revenue as well as Kelly's equipment needs list.
  - b. Last year some teams cost more than others because they had more coaches. Kent proposed that we budget \$1000 per team per season for coaches. Julie stated that dads who coached a full season were told that their child would have free registration the following season (this could be the dad's compensation).
  - c. Michael stated that we cannot get our coaches' background checks processed through District 281. We can, however, set up background checks through League Athletics on our website. This will be linked to US Lacrosse – they will process the

background checks at a cost of \$50. Coaches will be reimbursed by ACYLA for the \$50 background check and \$20 US Lax membership after the season. The background check is good for 2 years.

**Action:** Mark Lucas -- set up link for coaches on the website through League Athletics.

- d. Player fees will need to go up this year to cover cost increases, including equipment, US Lacrosse memberships for coaches, and newbie discounts. The U9 team will focus more on skill building at practices and play fewer games, but will be just as active as other teams, so the rate can be the same. We discussed what rate should be offered for new players as an incentive to try lacrosse. As the cost of equipment is higher than baseball or soccer, the rate should reflect this. Rates were set based on an estimated number of players and teams. The budget will be finalized after registration is closed, and we know how much revenue we will have.

**Action:** Michael - send an email to Mark Lucas with the agreed-upon amounts to begin setting up registration for spring and summer.

3. 2013 Player fees
  - a. See above.

4. Coaching directors: Boys & Girls
  - a. Both AHS & CHS coaches plan to offer coaching clinics for all our current and incoming coaches. Kevin Whiteis (Cooper) and Ross Brower (Armstrong) offer a wealth of experience and knowledge. They are both defensive minded and are talking about bringing in speakers from the UofM to focus on other areas of the game.

#### **New Business:**

5. Apparel and uniforms
  - a. Michael and Kelly have been getting quotes for uniforms from All-Star, Northstar, VSA, and Letterman (no response). Michael brought a sample of the Maple Grove half-cap sleeve jersey and shorts, which was quoted at \$65. This is not a legal jersey and would require an additional shooter jersey to be worn over the pads – that would be an additional purchase by families.
  - b. USL rules say you need matching shorts, so we will purchase both jersey and shorts; shorts will not have matching numbers on them as it is difficult to coordinate.
  - c. If we keep a standard uniform design, players may be able to wear the same uniform over a couple of years. Neither AHS nor CHS is buying uniforms this year, so we cannot gain any cost savings by ordering with them.

**Action:** Michael or Kelly -- talk to VSA about a 5 year contract where we would guarantee full 5 year team purchases and keep the VSA logo to lower the overall cost.

6. Tournaments: Rochester & Grand Rapids
  - a. Our policy has been to pay for one tournament per season for each team. Any additional tournaments are paid for by the participants. Historically, ACYLA has

participated in the Rochester Rumble in the Bubble in early April as well as the Grand Rapids tournament in early May. We'll need to know if these tournaments will include both U13 and U15 teams. Betty has sent a Facebook message to the Grand Rapids tournament director.

**Action:** Betty - call the City of Rochester for more information.

**Action:** Mark Palony - check email history for any info on Rumble in the Bubble and Grand Rapids tourney as well as any emails from last year that include contact information.

7. Parent meeting

- a. Laurie Ripplinger volunteered to set up and lead the parent meeting, which should be scheduled for early February. The meeting could include information on where to get new and used equipment including online sites, our own web site, local stores, and used equipment stores. We could check with Play it Again Sports and Way to Go Sports, etc. to see if they want to have a table at the meeting to sell used equipment.

**Action:** Laurie – send Save the Date to entire distribution.

8. Spring registration

- a. Since the group has set the fee structure for the upcoming Spring and Summer season, we need to get the registration set up on the website.

**Action:** Mark Lucas - set up one- and two-season registrations based on the numbers Michael forwards to you.

9. Youth girls program

- a. Kendra Verbeten and Andrea Anderson are working on a clinic date. We have sent them our gym contacts, and we purchased girls lacrosse sticks for their use. The plan is to have 5/6 and hopefully 7/8 summer teams.

10. Clinics and camps – coach, new player, and girls

- a. Girls clinic in process; waiting for a date.
- b. Information on Coaches' clinics will be coming soon.
- c. Ross & Kevin are trying to find coaches to set up a new player clinic to be held at FAIR Crystal where they can use both classrooms and gym.

**Action:** Michael & Mark P. -- Advertise in envelope drops at all elementary and middle schools.

11. Coaching directors: Girls

- a. No discussion.

**Optional Topics:**

- 2013 board meeting schedule
  - This was the last meeting on the New Hope Ice Arena scheduled for our group.

**Action:** Kim McDonough volunteered to schedule additional meeting room dates for ACYLA at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month.

- 2014 grants - Hennepin Youth Sports Program, US Lacrosse AED & PE Programs
  - Tabled due to lack of time.
- Branding efforts
  - Tabled due to lack of time.

**Other Business:**

- U15 teams for summer: There will be no 9<sup>th</sup> graders participating in the spring season as it is during the high school season. Both high school coaches feel it would be better for their boys to play the summer season as a group or with the Loons rather than come back to ACYLA. This may mean that our U15 team will be predominantly comprised of eighth graders.
- Order new checks: Kent needs to order new checks but is not sure what address to use. Laurie suggested using a company that allows use of our logo as the background.

**Action:** Laurie, Michael, and Kent meet to discuss further.

- Proof of insurance:

**Action:** Kent will research further and meet with Laurie & Michael.

Adjourned: 8:40 p.m.

Notes submitted by Carol Zehrer

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, February 5**

**7:00 pm**

**New Hope Ice Arena, Meeting Room 1**