

December 14, 2005
Hockey Board Meeting

Members Present: Dan G. Mike F., Al D., Paul A., Joe M., Jeff M., Joe W., Brian K.,
Chuck A., Pat R.

Guests: Jeff, Ron Buckley, Marty Hickey

1. Guest: Ron Buckley – Buckley Studios. Ron provided a sheet summarizing his services and passed very nice quality photo examples of what we could expect. The memory-mate and magazine covers are done in house at Buckley studio. Turn around is two weeks. They have all the products: buttons, bag tags, magnets. They 'give back' 10% to the organization. His comment included the fact that the photos are very important and takes his effort seriously and does great quality, and offers the most services. He asked for the order. No questions by the board. Motion to go with Buckley by Al D., Second by Jeff M., all in favor, motion passed.
2. Jeff: Comment on Rec Program: Parents are not use to the traveling and this is an issue with some parents. Paul response. In past, the issue was not enough games. We have added one game since the parents paid for the season. The schedule was posted before the season, less this game. Mike F., comment, we do understand this new approach will take some time to absorb and get through. We acknowledge the concern. Brian K., and Joe M. comment, the reality is that even in travel the kids don't make every game. We as a board appreciate the feedback. Mike F., and Al D.; we are going through a changed program, and everybody is going through change and getting use to it. We do appreciate the feedback and will consider this next year. Al D. We believe the parents will see an improvement in their players with the added games. This will be considered next year. Joe M., roughly which way is the majority, say 75% for this format? Jeff did not know the answer to this issue, but said the program definitely has improved, and this issue of traveling is significant to many. Chuck A., suggested making an effort next year through a letter, when the format is determined, to alert the parents so they can make an educated decision. With all that said, the board will work to keep the teams closer. This issue is driven by the low availability of ice time in Eau Claire. We will work to find a better balance. Also, parent managers must call ahead to verify that the game is still on so that travel does not result in no show games. Mike F., we need to do a better job of communication with the team managers and the parents. Chuck A; it may help to have the Coaches and Team manager have another team meeting or two. Feedback on the coaches so far is that they are doing a good job.

3. Approve minutes from last meeting. Brian K moved approval, Jeff M., second. All in favor motion passed.
4. Mike F. filled in the board on the meeting with the City Regarding Hobbs. The local school and college hockey coaches and figure skating representatives were there. It was an informative meeting. They shared figures and discussed costs associated with running the facility; for instance staffing and utility costs. The purpose was to promote Hobbs as an asset to the facility and to make it clear that either fund raising must happen, or user fees must increase. This overlapped the hope that our user groups would get a bit more vocal to communicate to elected officials the fact that this facility is second only to soccer regarding use, and only the skaters pay fees. They would love input regarding ideas to manage the cost of the facility to insure it remains as a valuable community asset. They also would like the user groups to communicate the value of the facility to the community. Joe M., What should the board do? We need to communicate our position to the city board and needs to be coordinated with our future fund raising efforts. Mike F.; The user groups as a group need to create the need and value with the same kind of talking points. The board needs to make its case and get unified and communicate the position. The issues need to get to the 'voice of the people' and 'it seems to me' in the paper. We need to get the parents and various user groups aligned as much as possible regarding our message. Mike F commented, the city is coordinating small group meetings to determine the next course of action. Joe M., it seems that raising money now for any city effort seems out of place when we are about to raise money for our own rink. Al D.; Remember the budgets are already committed. Chuck A; Remember this is 600 skaters, not just hockey, and it is a large user group, and pays.
5. No Financial Report
6. New Rink:
 - a. Rink, Friday at noon. Marsha Van Beek will be there from UW to help us learn how to run a coordinated fund raiser.
 - b. Meeting is at noon at action city. Joe and Chuck would like all the board there to hear this.
 - c. Chuck wants board members to go to Ayres to talk about phase 2 type numbers for the possibility of enclosing the other rink sometime in the future.
 - d. There is also currently good condition warranted equipment for the rink.
7. Fund Raising – Joe W.
 - a. Advertising opportunities are being published for the tournaments. Joe has page rates.
 - b. Each tournament will be running silent actions, so if anybody wants to donate items let Joe or Al and they will coordinate.
 - c. If any body hasn't received their t-shirt, see Dan G.
 - d. For Tax deduction, they need to keep the tabs from the calendars.
8. Tournaments – Al D.
 - a. Contacted Mr. Kurth and she is very excited.
 - b. Working on souvenirs – towels and lanyards.

- c. There will be a tournament meeting soon.
 - d. Tournaments will be filled.
9. Travel – Mike
- a. High school C – Dan has been working hard to get the team going.
 - b. Team has had penalty issues, and one match penalty. A conduct meeting has been held and the issues are to rest at this point.
 - c. The High School C needs to get more games scheduled. Dan will need help getting games schedule, Brian said he will.
 - d. Coaches should work fine.
10. ACE –
- a. Had coaches at Mustang Stables – got them their keys and ran through the drills.
 - b. Marty went through coach’s curriculum.
 - i. The coaches were questioned about skills that should be achieved at each level, compiled the results and then compared the results against USA hockey’s list. So this created a great reference for the coaches.
 - ii. Also there were web sites and other reference materials provided as resources to the coaches. Some of them have fees.
 - iii. Pat R: If coaches use these web site, can the coaches get reimbursed? The copy right restrictions are such that sharing is not really possible. 11 teams are in total. Joe M., we want to make sure they use it. Pat: we just want to offer good resources. The goal is to get all coaches abilities up from where it is. They are all good, just want to make sure they have opportunity to improve. Pat is going to go back to the coaches to check interest.
 - iv. Pat made sure they know they will be evaluated and we want them to strive to improve. Lanyards were provided to bring practice notes/prep. Also work on utilization of ice, for instance. It’s a work in process. Also ideas to gain ice with joint work, to get an hour and a half, vs one hour, as another example.
 - v. Communication to coaches was covered. And they have to communicate regarding shared ice cooperative coaching.
 - vi. Covered the desire to cover ‘ownership of ECYH’ as a whole to insure continuity, and other coverage issues to ensure effectiveness and quality of the program.
 - vii. Issues with ECYH travel players from other teams that are out of control in Hobbs and/or other facilities. All coaches are

expected and authorized to settle the kids down and get them to behave.

viii. Nice Job Marty!!

11. Recreational League

i. Bantam C kids need to behave and clean up the room after its use. There was some breakage. Screen out of a window. Respect for the facility, Al will contact.

ii. Parent meetings were held.

iii. At all levels if a kid is screwing off, then it's a game suspension.

12. Dry land/Player Development.

- a. Water at the facility? No. Water fights, health issues, they should bring their own water bottle.
- b. Kids that are out of line will potentially loose a game. They will be brought to the conduct committee. This will be posted.
- c. Coaches that were not there have to be at orientation. Then they will get a key.
- d. Donations need to be collected by the team managers then turned into a board member.
- e. Outside teams need to have times assigned.

13. Scheduling – Brian

- a. Working on all levels. Most teams are approaching max games.
- b. House teams have received one extra game then originally promised.

14. Facilities.

15. Conduct

16. 5 minute topics –

- a. O'Brien Award is coming up in February. Discussed some candidates. Board is supposed to think about this. Need to Vote in January.
- b. Center Ice Club is selling \$5 raffle tickets for fundraiser; see Pat at his shop.
- c. Al wants people to consider ideas for fundraising, think now.
- d. Brian – Are there any elite players that would do a fundraiser in EC for ECYH vs this team... so locals take on this team. In a no check game.