

Hockey Board Meeting

August 22, 2006

Present: Joe W., Joe S., Al D., Dan D., Chuck A., Tim C., Brian K., Jef M., Joe M., Dan G., Paul A. Wendy H., Tim B.

Guest Name: From Altoona Hockey Association Ralph Rosemore

Luke Strand UWEC & ECACC

Discussion:

Regarding Ice Time and Clinics

Would like 2 hours of Ice: Troy Ward is a great Teacher, He is a former Player and coach in the Eau Claire, and coached at various Professional Teams and Positions. This will essentially be a clinic for our coaches, not for coaches. Cost is 500 dollars as of last year, so we are anticipating this. Altoona would like us to split this. Proposed Date is September 19th. Would like to get a date that covers the coaches that will be signed up late from Rec: October 3rd and 5th will probably be better dates. Stu needs to be contacted so that the mite, mini's, etc... so that we can get all the coaches here that we can. So the cost for the ECYH will be 800 to 900 as an estimate. The dates may change.

Motion: Will be discussed when the guests have left.

The Altoona guest said that they are anticipating offering ice to the cut travel Bantam Level Kids. We will wait until we have specifics to discuss further.

Luke Strand:

ECACC: Needs committee appointments,

Beginner Mite; Marty Fadness Chad Olson.

Mite; Andy Akervik, Pat Rolbiecki, Chad Olson,

Squirts; Mike Collins Mat loen and Mike Schwengler,

Peewees; Ernie chambers, Dan Degen, tim O'Reilly and bob thorp

Bantam; North and memorial hockey staff

High School C; Bob Thorp.

These guys will be with these levels through out the year – they will coordinate clinics, Clinics are all set, and there will be one week of goalie camp during the season. These will be Wednesday nights, and once a month the forwards will go and once a month the defense will go. These are later times to avoid religion commitments.

Luke: Shared Ice: Makes people communicate, and more players get better, and the kids get an additional hour of ice. There will be some split time, but players will be comparable in ability, age.

Luke: If there are any ideas regarding a U16 and U18 team, we need coaches, we are one of the only areas without this kind of team. This starts right now. This is a regional team, they have to be a high school eligible kid, U16's could play with U18's provided ability is adequate. Our High School Coaches will not be doing this. Luke will discuss this with Marty H. good Response for this idea, but the ice time will not be here – Home ice this year probably Black River.

Back to the Altoona Issue, Guests are Gone:

Joe W and some others believe we should compensate them. Roughly 75 bucks an hour is what we believe the rate is for that. Troy and Luke will run, Troy is getting paid a rate.

Joe Walter: We spend maximum of 500 from ECYH on the Troy Ward Coaches Clinic. This is of a 1000 dollar total, so the ice should be in the 225 for two hours of ice, 500 for Troy Ward, and 275 to compensate others. This is shared between Altoona and ECYH. There are some unknowns at this point. Second by Brian K. All in favor.

Dasher Board Opportunity:

EC would like to talk to ECYH and Figure Skate Club. No other user groups are contacted. It is a 3000 commitment for two years plus art work. For each sold, ECYH would get 250 bucks per Obrian sale. At Akervik, we get 400 per year

Idea is to remove tournament fees from fees, then let the teams sell dasher boards to make up the difference. The issue is we have 18 tourneys, and a cost of over \$9,000 that we need now. An idea was to get checks from parents to cover, than as dashers were sold, we would send it back to the parents. Another issue is the timing of the dasher money back to ECYH from Dasher.

Budget:

We have 807.04 dollars in the checking account. All checking accounts are reconciled. 2,700 dollar check to USA Hockey did not clear. Jef will include reconciliation to all accounts including balance sheet accounts. It is under control now, but we are very low on funds.

Funds we not ear marked in the past for capital etc. Chuck and Jef will get a committee together with Mike and Larry to work on cash flow timing and understand the outstanding checks.

May June and July Checks still have to be included. Chuck will schedule the meeting ASAP.

Nice work on the reconciliation Jef!!

Back to Dasher Boards:

Concern is that the city still gets the major benefit. But, the city is going to push, so it can be said they are cutting us in for the work we are doing. Will this conflict for the rink fund raiser? Or will we have an opportunity, to get the entire charge in our own fund raiser. If we don't we forgo a fund raiser. Can this be looked at as an opportunity in addition to others, or in competition with the city. This is the basis of the discussion.

Al D:

Proposal from last meeting (since minutes didn't get posted Paul!):

See attached summary sheet: (Al, please email to me for insert):

Essentially is a technique to push fund raising out into the player community to leverage the possible sponsorships. Each Player has an opportunity to get sponsors, for 200 dollars. This does put all the players out as individuals. And we are counting on sponsors to cover more than one kid (more than 200 dollar contribution) so that those that are not having success, or do not have sources, can get costs covered.

Alternative Idea: tournament sponsors, then we have 18 sponsors (one per tournament), this may be more successful. It combines efforts on potential sponsors. Most businesses get a multitude of requests for funds.

Again, our motivation is to lower fees. Al's idea does contribute to this. Another suggestion is remove one, instead of all of the tournaments and go for a smaller decrease in the over all fees relative to last year.

Joe W.

Each team goes to 3 tournaments plus state, and include this in the fee, same as its always been. Wendy Second: All in favor, passed. The fees go to the same as last year. Now we can focus on specific fund raisers. Three checks just like last year.

Motion - Paul: have sponsors for 24 tourneys at 600 dollars per. We would network team parents but the board and team managers would take the lead in the procuring sponsors. This would only apply to the 3 tournaments and state. Additional tournaments would be handled as in the past by the parents of the players. So would be a total of 15,100 divided by 100 kids roughly, is a check back of 150 roughly per kid. No second, motion dead.

Motion: Joe W. Give the parents the opportunity to solicit donations to reduce their fees by 200 dollars. This allows them to go to commercial entities as well as the usual family members and they can say they represent ECYH. Discussion: Now we have the calendars and this. But, the fact that the opportunity if they want to. Is this different from reality now? The board expressed concerns about the association's perception in the community. We would generally ask the sponsor to write the kid a check and not the association. If the motion does not pass, the ECYH association will not endorse this. This also causes some issues if parents start to 'donate' the entire amount for tax right offs.

Joe D. Second: Motion did not carry after vote:

Players FEES

At 14 players we are at approximately \$950, if we field a team of 17, 15 skaters and 2 goalies we drop the cost by \$150-200.

Squirt Level numbers are down, and the issue is getting enough kids to play.

Discussion: Have a three payment plan for travel team payments – we would do this with post dating checks and will look at cash issues. The board expressed concern regarding collection issues.

Coaches for REC – meeting held, Dan D has talked to some of them, but formal letters and applications will go out.

Chuck will check with Mike to see what orientation letter went out and Paul will provide the rec orientation letter. From these, chuck will organize a letter, and send directly to each player. We believe we are already in the prime time from the Parks and REc.

New Rink:

Discussion regarding another offer to partner with an external entity. Land acquisition is a huge issue. The alternatives vary dramatically.

Huge emotional comments made regarding a start date for the new AI, Chuck, Paul, and everyone else – the board is committed to getting going.

Options:

One:

One Rink - Purchase property from Mark Stiles at almost a Million dollars – 3500 seats (can't list the exact cost of the property due to confidentiality). 8 Acres total.

Two:

One rink - Approximately ½ that amount, we make an offer to YMCA for approximately 8 acres. 3500 seat.

Three:

Single sheet, 300 seats youth rink –

Four: Original plan with Personal Seat Rights and roughly 2400 seats.

Cost for rink only for 3500 seat is close to 4 million. Smaller Rink, at 2400 seats is approximately 3.2 million. These are estimates at this time. The high seat count is due to the potential viability of a USHL franchise that is very interested in EC. For the next meeting, we will have written options for the alternatives above distributed to the board members prior to the meeting. Then we will decide which is primary and finish the fund raising package to start the fund raiser in time for the season's start. Chuck will coordinate this effort with the committee. The committee will recommend the 'best' alternative at the next board meeting. Once this is complete, fund raising efforts will begin.

AI D: Development promotions Committee:

Bring a buddy Sept 30 6 to 7:30 Sunday – let every one know and AI needs all the help he can get. AI is anticipating help from Stu on Pop and Hot Dogs.

Joe W: Fund raising

Has a 'cookie dough' fund raiser. The kids sell it for 13 to 15 dollars for a box. They drop it here. Also there are Arby's and DQ cards – they sell for 10 and we get 5 bucks for those. Question is do we want to add on top of the calendars?

Raffle – we collected 900 and offset a fee of 650. Not real profitable for ECYH. Was 25 for 5 tickets.

Joe needs pictures for his calendars – can we post a notice on the web site – He needs High resolution electronic.

Tournaments – Joe

Provided a summary sheet for the Holiday Inn offer. The date will be November 26 at 3 to 7 or 4 to 8 pm – times will be posted. They will sponsor the tournament to 750 dollars and contribute 500 to trophy's. In addition, ECYH can sell tickets for up to 600 people for a spaghetti meal with no cost to ECYH. They will also provide 2 dollars per night for each room used in by the teams at the tournament. We will charge 6 dollars.

Scheduling:

Brian: Will be up at Turtleback in Rice Lake to set up league play.

Tim: WEB

Paul:

Committee got together and divided responsibilities – Joe S., on the Managers book, Wendy on coaches interviews, and Paul on coach contacts. Things are rolling 2 weeks earlier than last year. Need help on interviewing coaches

Facilities: Al D.

Banners for State tourneys need to go up.

Motion that 1st and 2nd state teams get Al D, Dan D second, all in favor.

Regarding mini mite equipment – board would like to, but want to straighten out the funds.

Jerseys – a sale of older City jerseys, Stu would support a sale, but worried about replacements. So that has to take care of. There are jerseys no one uses. We want to find out if we can get rid of the excess. We have to find out if this action requires additional expenditures. We are not interested if so.

Concept of the Value Card: Scheels wants to get the kids a card so they buy at their store, 10% off and free sharpening for ECYH. From our perspective, we have no obligation. Members have no obligation. We would list this on the web site. We hope that more business would follow to help reduce the cost to players and their families.

Motion to adjourn – Tim second Paul, all in favor.

