

Hockey Board Meeting:

August 21, 2007

Called to order:

Present: Chuck, Kathy Englerth, Wendy, Tim C., Paul, Al D., Joe W., Tim B., Joe S., Dan G.

Motion to accept: Joe D., Second Joe W. all in favor, motion passed.

New Rec Format:

Plenty of visitors, and thanks for coming!! 17 Parents.

Chuck Explained some history, then the new format.

In the past we've tried to combine elements of a travel program and elements of a recreational program. We feel from the average comments we need something in the middle, but still maintain the fun of the sport, just 'to play hockey.' We feel we have over structured the program. We are trying to address some of the issues, not enough players at 'away games,' ice time, and meeting the varied parent expectations.

New Program:

Have a program that goes the same amount the season always has. The description will be on the web site; Chuck went into detail on the format. And thanked the parents for coming to the meeting. It's always good to get direct input.

(I was unable to get all comments, but approached 80% of the comments and believe I caught the general themes...)

1st Comment: Good idea and what if we have 30 kids that want to try out. Do we cut? What is max roster size? 20. Have we put together numbers vs. these two teams? It is estimated. Would be initially in the 150 to 175 ranges vs. 225 last year. Then an add on for the travel.

2nd Comment: When do we find out about other games/tourneys? Too ambiguous. We limit the tournaments to 2 tournaments and state, plus maybe games. Anything that is added would have to be paid for by the team parents. What is money going to buy? Not clear. Right now we would add the tournaments we would know, other incidentals like insurance and entry fees, coaches expenses, etc. So we try to match the team's desires. And then charge accordingly. We feel this is what was wanted vs. trying to dictate. But appreciate the input tonight.

3rd Comment:

Are schedules already set? How do we get in so late for more games?

There are late scheduling in the NORWIS games now, then cancel later, but we got so much feedback regarding games like Hayward, so we need input for how many games. We will get them, and then could cancel. Or certainly count on them. If we combine games, with home/away its like a free game given we don't pay for one side of the ice. This is for the travel C team, now, that we are addressing. Our pressures have been for less travel, so we would like input.

You are looking at end of March then? Peewees first week, bantams second week.

State is the second week of March. And the Blades tourney is now the last week, or the 23/24 for Feb.

4th Comment:

What about the kids that don't make the C team?

It depends how many kids. If 20 came out, then the rest get cut. What about the kids that get cut? They can't be told they can not play. We told them that we would still have the weekly practice with the game. Then the comment was made 'it's a glorified practice' and not the same as the rest go forward. The board agrees, we are trying to respond to over all comments. We are trying to cover the parents that want the games for fun, and the parents that want the more competitive approach.

5th Comment:

I understand that the board is responding to the 'too much travel comments' from last year. Do the last 6 or 7 kids not get to play?

They still can play at the weekly practices under this proposal. Remember, this is a proposal. Also, or thoughts are that we would not get that many for the 'travel/all star' program. We think there are some kids that would not try out. We don't know the real numbers until/if we tried this.

6th Comment:

There are people that will not play on this, because they don't like the change, so it's a wash, not a gain. They can go out to the neighborhood rink. And they want to compete at this age and like the camaraderie of the team.

7th Comment:

For the boarder liners, then they don't get competitive hockey anywhere. Doesn't work.

8th Comment:

As a grand parent, there where very little missing kids. Why fix something that isn't broken. The kids and their families want games.

Chuck asked about last year: Ice time enough?

No, they want more. Twice a week in other orgs, so we would like that, but we also realize that it's less money and less volunteer time. Chuck: there is more ice at some times, but often conflicts with weekend. The week has very little 'reasonable ice time.'

9th Comment:

Kids will tell you they want to play games. Chuck: We can play games and could schedule some games.

10th Comment:

Sounds like junior badgers, and my kid didn't like it.

11th Comment:

My kids asked if he could go to Altoona because it's what he is use to playing. To give this up for some people that doesn't want to travel, not.

Joe Walter: Is this the majority, to not change it.

Kathy Englerth: How much are these serious kids going to get experience when there are kids screwing around on the ice? Will the coaches be able to do a good job? The kids changing each week will not get to be part of a team.

We took a show of hands. 14 of the 17 want it left the way it is, 2 for the proposed format, and 1 didn't vote.

12th Comment:

What is the problem with combining this? Get some Chippewa and Menomonee type games close to home, not Hayward? The problem with a travel program is we have to roster teams by 12/31 to go to another rink and to get insurance.

13th Comment:

Please just considering scheduling games inside one hour; forget Hayward and go for Rice Lake. Chuck: this would work, and we have to make sure we watch costs.

Al D: Games or Tourneys:

Why not both? Just add them.

14th Comment:

We are always getting B tournaments. The main issue is a second hour of ice a week. This would give them a better chance to be competitive. Al D. Cost? No, I think the parents would be fine with this, and of course we would like a nice time. Chuck: Would you want to have base hours, then be able to purchase more time? Comment that never works. Chuck: Wednesday, comment, but that is church night.

15th Comment:

The Wednesday drills were intimidating to the rec players. They did not know what to do and then did not go out for this much. Al D. what should we do? Comment, we need more basic drills, and less strategic/tactical hockey drills. Chuck: This is valuable information, because the coaches wanted to 'bring up' skills of rec, not intimidate, but if not working we should consider changes. Al D. what if we split it? Comment, no it would be intimidating still.

16th comment:

We want balance so we are not always practicing at the 10 am slot.

17th comment:

We were kicked off after ½ hour ice. I know we did not pay for the ½ hour, but would have been nice. Al D. we had been counting on a second squirt team and it didn't happen so it created the opportunity.

Chuck:

Closer games, more ice, not Wednesday skills and drills, and try to schedule some more ice times. They are not convenient additional times with the current demand on Hobbs. Games can be added, there are more games in the norwis league. We also have comments about 'sick of getting beat...' comment, flips with the kids that show up. Comment; can we go other places? Yes, where you can find a game. Al D., If the teams want to take it upon themselves to get more games, go ahead. Then we have to get refs. We also have to pay the refs, so we would need more money and for the ice time. But we can do that need more.

18th comment;

We would like you to set this up rather than this kind of democratic discussion. But in doing so, listen to these concerns.

Chuck:

There will be higher bantams in he program given the MHS no movement issue.

Joe W: last year you had 16 games and two tourneys. Where do you want to go to with this? Bantams? 16 to 20 with two tourneys and we will schedule more if the team wants.

Chuck:

Before you leave, please know that your input is so much appreciated. Thanks!!

19th Comment:

Pocket or wall calendars. The pockets sold better. Comment, another want wall more and they sold better.

20th Comment:

Please show team parents how to use web. Tim we will set up complete team page. So Tim will show you.

Chuck: No with all's emails, and team pages we can do a better job of getting information out there.

21st comment:

Why does it take so long to get calendar winners out there? Volunteer board.

Sept 16th is mandatory parent meeting. Be there. Time and place to be decided.

If you have comments for coaches for rec, let us know.

Joe W: Would you like to sell half as many for 2x as much? No seemed to be the consensus. Any pictures? Why not ECYH logo. Please email thoughts to Joe w.

Al D.: Motion to leave the rec league the same as last year, and to make sure the practice times are evenly as possibly distributed on a clock basis with all other youth hockey teams travel/rec/age groups; with 16 to 20 games and two tournaments with an effort to find a greater variety of teams to play within a one hour travel time. There is NO state tournament in this proposal. Wendy discussion. One opposed: Paul – wanted 2 hours of practice ice time weekly. All others in favor. Motion passed.

Injured Kids:

Talking about an insurance proposal that would refund some ice time fees if a kid gets hurt early in the year. We are looking at numbers.

Evaluation Fees:

Motion Joe W: Travel at 35 with three try outs at each level and rec at 25 with two tryouts at each level. We are expecting the coaches association to continue the clinic. Second Dan: All in favor, motion passed.

Tryout Dates:

Close Registration on September 30th. So if register after this date, but before the day prior to the actual tryout, then 10 dollars more.

Need tryout dates.

Need alternative to the 16th so that parents. The agenda needs to be established. We discussed Oct 21st as well because it is a packer bye-week and will be right before squirt and peewee tryouts.

Al D. Set up a meeting with travel committee, and set up the tryout procedure. So that it is clear. Bob Thorp is willing to run the tryout as well. He used to be the coaches coordinator.

Web Site:

The web site name is now registered for two additional years. You have to register every two years. So this should go on the calendar of events for ECYH.

Photos:

Paul Leave it with Buckley – second Dan, all in favor, passed.

Fund Raising:

Idea: Zamboni Rides... we can't do it given EC constraints from city government. Calendars: Discussion on pocket vs. wall. Most comments seem to lean to wall. Paul. Leave it the same and do wall calendars Joe S, second, all in favor, Joe W. abstained.

Cut back on payout – 11 hundred. Could be better fund raiser. If we cut the 2200 largest in half, then we raise another 1100. If we cut to a couple large it's easier, but on the other hand people like the weekly payouts.

Motion: Paul: modify the payouts to produce another 1100 dollars for the association. Second Al D. Tim opposed, should leave it. Joe W. abstained. All others in favor, motion passed. Joe W. will manage the payouts with Jef M.

Tournament Fees:

Joe S. Thinks we should keep it at current 575 given we are more than other associations. Wendy motion for the same, Tim B second, Joe W opposed, all others in favor, motion passed.

Facilities:

Scheels wants travel hockey jersey to hang. Approved.
Stew would like 5 full sets of equipment that they would rent. This is a wish list, or maybe one full set of equipment. Two years ago we bought both sets of goalie equipment. Last year we did some misc items. Post web ad to get used stuff contributed. Al will get bids and then we can pick what we want to do from there, next meeting maybe will be done. Two bids. If they run out of equipment, we will look again.

Travel Committee:

Jef M, Al D., Dan G. Chuck

REC

Paul, Kathy Wendy.

Al will coordinate a meeting for establishing tryout procedure. Both Travel and Rec:
5:30 Thursday 30th at Hobbs.
Travel and Rec will be there.

Get Stu to show us our web site and introduce ECYH.

Finance and Schedule Nothing:

Rec: Need better communication with teams, Kathy and Wendy will help a lot this year!!
And need coaches, only 1 of 6 or 8 needed (1 person for 4 teams so far) add will go in spectator. That produced coaches last year. Need to get team web page instructions and need to get

Tournaments:

Spaghetti feed – January? Yes good date... will be about the same time. Get date for this prior to parent meeting. Can we also discuss getting preferred rate at other hotels? Got 220 bucks for best western for kickback on rooms. Will get to jef to deposit.

Wendy wants to get the hotels prior to teams, for rooms for those teams that are going to go there. So that the teams can stay together. Need to know tournaments for REC to get this done. Thanks Wendy.

Next meeting: Sept 11th and the 25th at 6:30 at Hobbs.
Oct 9th and the 23rd 6:30.

Chuck: Update on Hockey Arena: not working to ECYH objectives at this time. We support action at Hobbs that works for all user groups and ECYH. The current proposal doesn't appear to accomplish that. New rink committee needs to get together and figure which way they want to go.

Need to set fees – Jef was not here tonight. So should not be a problem, Chuck will have Jef email prior to meeting.

Motion to adjourn Al D. Tim C second – all in favor...

