

**Mankato Area Hockey Association
 Monthly Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 21, 2009
 North Mankato Fire Station
 North Mankato, MN**

Board Members attending: (X = present, E= excused absence)

Jason Westerlund, Pres.	X	Dave Breiter	X	Holli Loe	U
Jeff Nickels, V.P.	X	Darren Bruns	X	Chad Lebert	X
Sue Salzle, Treas.	X	Lynette Cline	X	Tresa Lacina	X
Traci Hays, Secretary	X	Shaun Reddy	E	Char Rivers	X
Mike Steindl	X	Kirk Swenson	X		

Other Members

Jo Nickels, Gambling Mgr.	E				

Meeting Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm by Vice President Jeff Nickels

Guest : Shane Bowyer, Sport Institute
 Conrad Helms, Squirt C parent
 Debbie Swenson, Squirt C parent
 Bev Johnson, Squirt C parent

Review and Approve current agenda

Motion to approve agenda
 M/S/P: Chad/Dave

Review and Approve Minutes of last regular meeting

General discussion covering the minutes. Motion to approve minutes.

Need to add to the minutes the conversation that was had regarding ice time for PeeWee C's.
 Conversation was had at the same time as the other team ice discussion, need to add their name to the list of teams.

M/S/P: Darren/Dave

Gambling Manager Report and Expense Approval: presented by Chad Lebert

Reviewed the LG1004.

Presented electronically on Tuesday, December 15, 2009

- The Eagles is going to go into Bobby Joe's so it will no longer be a gambling site for us.
- Mac's has asked for their profits donation of \$500.00

M/S/P: Lynette/Chad

M/S/P: Jason/Jeff, Sue, Traci, Mike, Dave, Lynette, Tresa, Holli, Shaun, Chad and Char

Guest Discussion:

Anthony Ford Foundation update – Shane Bowyer

- Sue Salzle gave an update. They were looking for a trainer for the weekend of the tournament.
- They Anthony Ford Foundation is also looking for individuals from MAHA to help as workers/volunteers for this year.
- The Anthony Ford Foundation has also proposed that MAHA start learning how the tournament runs so we as an Association can take over. We as an Association are not in a position to take it over fully but we would be more than willing to help out in a different capacity.
- Shane was present to hopefully look at it from an intern perspective. The Sports Institute works well as far as organizing large events so we thought he would be a great resource.
- Members from the Anthony Ford Foundation are busy preparing for their tournament so they should be able to attend one of the Board meetings sometime after January.
- As an association we need to be better in the future about getting Mankato Hockey Day and the Pond Hockey tournament on our calendar so we are available to participate and attend as well.
- Their mission statement indicates that of the profits from the Pond Hockey Tournament 40% stays within the foundation, 30% goes to Children's Hospital for Children's Leukemia Research and the other 30% comes back to MAHA to use towards Scholarship dollars. If we as an Association would take it over we would have a larger allocation of dollars that would go towards MAHA Scholarships.
- Sports Institute is more than willing to help out, we just need to let them know what we need and when. They are also able to help on short notice.
- The Pond Hockey Tournament would like to see more kids teams enter the tournament.

Sports Institute Holiday Break Activities:

- Can teams use SI as a part of their ice time that is scheduled by MAHA? Jeff will check with Tom and Brenda Christenson to see if this is an option and check the ice budget. Good option for those teams that have not been getting a lot of ice time.
- The SI is charging \$100.00 per hour or \$10.00 per child.
- Stick Handling, Shooting and Skating.

Treasurers Report: - Sue Salzle

- Check register reviewed
- We have purchased snacks for the Schulz rink so Christine Billiar did the shopping and she has been reimbursed.
- If teams go out there on a regular basis try to bring a little something to help offset the cost and make our snacks last.
- Ice can be scheduled by calling Stacy Pope, Brenda does not schedule ice out there.
- Coaches matrix has been put into place so there is some consistency with the coaches payments. U10's & Squirts Head coaches get the same pay based on 1st, 2nd and 3rd year.

PeeWee Coaches and U12's are the same based on Head coach or Assistant and how many years you have been coaching. It is capped out on the 3rd year. Bantams and U14's get paid a little more because they are on the ice more.

- Parent coaches are treated the same as all other coaches.
- We only pay 3 coaches so if they have more than 4 they need to figure that out.
- Coaches do not get paid any additional dollars due to the certification that they have.
- Chris Hvinden is the only coach at the Mite/Mini level that is getting paid.
- We received a bill from 2 years ago from A.H Hermal for Parade Candy, we will be paying this.
- Ice bills are paid through the month of November

M/S/P: Tresa/Mike

Misc Treasurer Items:

- Our Insurance Coverage, Kent Hays will get a value of equipment and jersey's to Sue by the end of December.
- No insurance company will sell Flood Insurance
- If a pipe breaks we would be covered
- Vandalism and theft will be covered according to the guidelines of the policy.
- We also have a Gambling policy and a Workman's Comp policy. The Gambling policy covers Jo Nickels only and we should shop around for the Workman's Comp policy. We can probably get a better premium for what we have. The payment for this policy comes out of the Gambling fund. We should check classifications so we are not paying more.
- Receivables is still at \$11,000.00. There is \$2500.00 in payment plans put in place. Statements will be going out in December and it will be indicated that January 6th payments need to be made or a payment plan put in place. Anyone not adhering to these guidelines will be asked to not bring their kids to practice until their bills are paid. Send a reminder to the Manager's as well so they can communicate it to their parents.
- Goals for Kids, we have written off the \$1752.00 that we should have received from Realty Executives. We also need to get their sticker off of the glass down at the Verizon Wireless Center.
- We will also put a picture on the website of the Mites/Mini Mites with their new jersey's and as a thank you for our new jersey's.
- Traci will send a list of sponsors to Dave so we can get it out on the website.

Fundraising Report: Char Rivers

- Hams have been paid for at Hy-Vee. We will pick up any hams that have not been claimed next week and we will need to figure out what to do with them.
- March 16th will be the Stag down at Rounder's. They are going to only print 100 tickets at \$150.00 a ticket. Tickets can be split between 2 individuals.
- They will be raffling off a flat screen TV. They will again be doing the free limo rides home.

M/S/P:

Expansion and Growth: Kirk Swenson

- Kirk went to the City Council meeting on the last Monday of November. They went through the budget plan and went through the budget cuts that they are going to make. Kirk laid out some ideas and he thanked them for all that they have done for what they are proposing. They are moving some things back, Kirk asked them if they could leave the \$155,000.00 available if we would be able to come up with some additional funds. If we go to one of their working meetings and let them know what we have in place and what we want to do our chances are better. It was mentioned that they may add an additional sheet of ice on the Balcerzak side and annex the road by the apartments. The less expensive project would be the one that is the most likely to get approved. Nothing will probably happen until 2010, we should start working on a plan sooner than later. It would also be helpful to get our donations and funds in place as well.

Sponsorships – Traci Hays/Mike Steindl

- We will continue to add more sponsors. Mike would like to move the in-kind sponsors off of the jersey's and try to obtain more sponsors.
- At the end of the season the Mites/Mini Mites will be allowed to keep their jersey's since we sold that sponsorships that way.
- We would also like to try and have a sponsor for the coaches. Those funds would be used to buy coats for the coaches. We would then in turn put the sponsor logo on the clothing. Mike will talk to Shane at SI to see if this is something that he is interested in.
- Before next season Mike would like to meet with the equipment manager to see what our needs are for the upcoming season.
- Talked about ideas to get the word out about MAHA Day at Erbert and Gerbert's. Possibly do a day each month that would be "MAHA Day at Erbert and Gerbert's" with a time of 4pm until 9pm.

Operations Committee: Tom Christenson/Shawn Reddy

No report submitted

Registrar Report – Holli Loe

No report submitted

Communications: – Dave Breiter

- Dave is going to pay our website dues for 3 years which is \$12.00 a year.
- Dave will be gone next week so if anything needs to be posted contact Char

Tournament Committee: Traci Hays

No report submitted – next MAHA sponsored tournaments are in January, 2010

Follow-up Business:

- Calendar raffle went well and are out on the website.
- Chris Hvinden's dad and Terry Saar won the \$1000.00 prizes
- Coaches Compensation – a plan was put together so there is a cap.

Pee Wee C Home Tournament– there will be a home tournament in February.

- There are 8 teams and the Mankato team will be free.
- Verify how gate fee is going to be handled

Squirt C Gold and Purple Teams:

At this point there will not be any changes to the program.

- Char and Bev are the two managers. They are busy scheduling games which Char is taking the lead on. The Gold team has 9 games and the Purple side has 5 games at this point. They will work with the ice schedule between the two teams. The total of games will be at 16 games per team by the end of the season. They are also going to utilize Schulz ice at least one time a week. The coaches roster are set and Char will work with Holli to make sure that they are all certified.
- The Board has been a step behind throughout this whole process since the beginning. The Squirt C program should have been communicated before registration rather than waiting until players registered, paid and went through placements before information regarding the program was shared.
- The intent of the program was structured on building skills versus playing several games. There have been requests by parents to have games in December. The coaches have been consulted and they indicated that the players are not ready for games yet. The players are developing and having fun and that is good to see that happen. The HOC and coaches realize that the kids want to play games and we are doing everything to make sure that they get to play their 16 games.
- The mind set of the program was based upon a hockey mindset. Darren Blue drew up a practice plan that is structured around making the kids better in regards to their skills and gain confidence as a player. It was mentioned that it takes 11 games to equal 1 practice.
- In the future our association may restructure the amount of games versus practices.
- We as a Board feel that if communication would have been made on the front end this would have been a better experience for all involved.
- Locker room issues – would it be helpful to have a coach in the locker room? Need to teach players to respect each other, be on time and be disciplined. This may help new coaches coming in.
- The way coaches were assigned is a source on contention with some of the parents. The purple team has all of the new coaches and the Gold team has the experienced coaches. As practices continue the teams are getting better. New coaches still need to be mentored whether that be Marcus or from other coaches that are experienced and on the ice helping.
- Suggest more variety during practices, they are working on the same 4 drills all of the time. It would be good to add in more drills to keep them interested. They are working on muscle

memory which is important. There is time for adding in something fun at the last 10 minutes or so at practice.

- Need to let the kids know why it is important to do repetitive drills. They were not doing the drill correctly, they were doing it to get it done. They need to do it correctly in order to get the value of the practice.
- The first scrimmage was good as it showed some areas that need to be worked on. It made a lot of things evident as to what needs to be worked on.
- It would be helpful to have a meeting for the Purple team. Coaches should meet beforehand so they are a united front and they can present information to the parents and players.
- Question was posed as to why are the Squirt C's the only group the ones that are not playing games until January. Is this going to be something that is going to carry through all through MAHA. These players will have developed their skills and will be better skaters as they move through the association.
- Will we have developmental teams at every level? No, this is a mite transition to Squirts which will help the skaters become stronger and more skilled. This will help them move up to A and B teams in the future. Our goal for the Squirt C players is to have them at the peak of their skill level so they can compete on an even playing field.
- Edward Jones is also the Sponsor of the Squirt C team, and is disappointed at the exposure that he is getting for his sponsorship fee. We understand the reasoning so we are willing to make an adjustment regarding the sponsorship fee.
- Any other issues regarding the Squirt C team should be directed to Chad Lebert, Grievance Chair for MAHA in writing.
- Mike Steindl will contact Kenny Klooster and work out the reduction of the sponsorship fee.
- Derek is doing a great job, some additional mentoring may help.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

Next Regular Meeting

Monday, January 11, 2010

Location NMFD at 7:00pm

Adjournment: 9:40

Motion to adjourn

M/S/P: Tresa/Kirk