

**Demons Youth Hockey Association  
January 10, 2012 – Board Meeting Minutes  
Holliston Fire Department  
Holliston, MA**

**Executive Board of Directors ("BOD") Members in Attendance:**

Jack Bloomer	President	Present
Dave Franco	First VP	Present
Debbie Amorelli	Second VP	Present
Harry Keates	Program Director	Present
Carolyn Kirk	Registrar	Present
Al Maillet	Coaching Director	Absent
Kevin Schlicke	Treasurer	Present
Mike Murphy	Secretary	Present
Lynn McCluskey	Rink Coordinator	Present
Bernie Mitchell	Skills and Development Director	Present
Bill Douglas	Transition Director	Present

**10 present – quorum**

Sean Neil, a parent of 7-year old twins in the Natick program, attended.

Rick LeBlanc, Holliston HS Varsity Hockey coach, attended.

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**Open Meeting Items**

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**Board Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm**

1. The November and December 2011 minutes were approved.
2. Action Items were reviewed:
  - a. Aug11-04: Open, need feedback from BoD members. Have received inputs from Debbie and Dave.
  - b. Oct11-08: Open, Harry preparing grant requests, will be addressed in the Program Director's report.
3. Board Member Reports
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report
    - i. Dave Franco reported on coaches' recertification. Several coaches have not yet begun the process. We need to determine the impact and how to enforce it. There may be a relaxation in the requirements to only require one age-appropriate module.
    - ii. Dave will be ordering pins for tournaments.

- b. Program Director's Report
  - i. Harry Keates discussed the status of the grant requests. Two have been prepared – one for reimbursement of the feasibility study costs for submittal to the Royal Bank of Canada, and one for purchase of equipment to be loaned to new skaters. Additionally, Al Maillet may have prepared an additional proposal.
  - ii. Kevin Schlicke was notified that the Association is required to submit annual filings with the State Attorney General office, in addition to the IRS and the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office. To his knowledge, the Demons have never done this. He will dig deeper into the requirement.
- c. Registrar's Report
  - i. Carolyn Kirk forwarded the coaches recertification information to Al and Dave.
- d. Coaching Director's report
  - i. Al Maillet wrote that the "pond hockey" skates over Christmas vacation were a huge success. The children loved it, and worked hard.
  - ii. Al reported that there was not much interest from the coaches in acquiring Flexx Coach for practice and game planning.
- e. Ice Coordinator's report
  - i. Lynn McCluskey is starting to plan for tryouts. The Westboro playoffs may be pushed out a bit, but there should be fewer conflicts from NESC since there is only one open team this year. Al is looking at a March timeframe.
  - ii. Lynn reported that Westboro received approval to put up the 3<sup>rd</sup> rink, and is planned to be online by December. They hope to extend the season by ~4 games next year, which would increase our costs.
- f. Skills and Development Director's report
  - i. Bernie Mitchell reported that he has still been unable to get a commitment from another association to combine efforts. Currently, the mites are joining the LTS/LTH group.
- g. Transition Director
  - i. Bill Douglas reported that his team had collected tons of prizes.
  - ii. Jack Bloomer asked Bill how the parents like the program. There are some who feel that the travel is too far.
  - iii. Bill is looking to contact LTS/LTH players from our towns that are currently enrolled in the Framingham program to see if they are going to join the Demons next year.
  - iv. Bill is also looking at the possibility of organizing a girls U10 team next season.
- h. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP report
  - i. Debbie Amorelli reported that she has sold 4 tables plus 12 tickets to date for Demons Comedy night. It was noted that there are conflicts on that night due to the High School games, which may affect attendance.
  - ii. Debbie is looking at alternative suppliers for Demonsware, such as Embroidery Unlimited.
  - iii. Debbie reported that 5-6 Upton children have registered in the LTS/LTH program, and that our publicity efforts are starting to pay off.
- i. President's report
  - i. Jack Bloomer reported on the status of the rink proposals.

1. Jack is talking to someone at Hopping Brook Park in Holliston who has a parcel available
  2. Al Maillet is looking into the Gamewell Building in Ashland
  3. The Hopkinton parcel is still being pursued, but progress is slow.
  4. Sean Neil suggested looking into the other building adjacent to the Natick rink.
4. Rick LeBlanc Skills Discussion
- a. Rick LeBlanc, head coach of the Holliston HS Varsity Hockey team addressed the board on three interrelated topics:
    - i. Skills and Habits: Rick would like to get involved with skills nights, and show the players what the HS coaches are looking for in players. This may also help reduce the cost to the Demons.
    - ii. Rick would also like to help define and set expectations as players progress through age brackets
    - iii. Rick feels that the coaches from the three towns should work together to help improve the Demons organization. He explained the history of our three towns in the Tri-Valley league, and that our teams currently occupy the bottom three positions in the standings.
  - b. The Board was very supportive of Rick's suggestions and Lynn McCluskey will look at the availability of ice time in February to hold these sessions. Jack will reach out to Mike (Ashland) and Chris (Hopkinton) to gauge their interest and how to implement.
  - c. Jack Bloomer also suggested that we restart the head coaches meetings with the organization – this was done in the past but had been dropped.
5. Developmental Update
- a. Currently we have 50 skaters in LTS, and 25 in LTH for session 2. Overall, feedback has been positive, with only one withdrawal of a very young child.
6. Free Skate Day
- a. The Demons will host a free skate day on February 18 at 2:00pm in conjunction with USA Hockey. Volunteers are needed for the registration table. USA Hockey will provide some merchandise to hand out
7. Tryouts
- a. Al is beginning to organize the tryouts. The Board should be forwarding to him any proposals to change the current format. Board also wants to continue the mock tryout process which was used last year.
8. Coaches Game
- a. Lynn to look for available ice time at NESO. Mike Murphy will organize.

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### **Executive Session**

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Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 pm