

## Raleigh Youth Board Meeting

### Board Meeting Minutes January 8, 2012

**Attendees:** David Wright Steve Henley  
Lori Parro Jean Rogers  
Jenny Kosnik Clay Cotie  
Colin Muldoon Andy Haldane  
David Laszlo Richard Shulmistra  
Rick Daniel Tom Keefer  
Anne Jones Steve Stephenson  
Andrew Barron

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** David Wright at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken to confirm appropriate quorum. Quorum was established.
- II. **Board Positions:** Anne Jones has been named VP of Fundraising and introduced to Board.
- III. **Open Session:** Andrew Barron invited U8 Coaches: Don Licty Intermediate Predators Coach Chad Farmer Intermediate Thrasher Coach and John DeHaro Intermediate Predators Team Manager.

Concern of USA Hockey mandates for the ADM U8 Program.

- Wants permission to have Cross ice for Beginners, Cross ice with some full ice for intermediate and 8 full ice for Advanced at the end of the season. USA Hockey is mandating Cross ice for all U8 ADM teams.
- Not developing top kids at cross ice, would be remiss to move to have only cross ice at U8 Advanced especially.
- Andrew has over 200 signatures from parents to be sent to Kevin Universal not to have cross ice in Intermediate and Advanced Levels.
- Comment David L.: could we roster change to Squirt of U8 Advanced teams?
- Comment Colin M.: What are other big cities doing i.e. Detroit, Pittsburgh, Philly. What are the best teams doing? Check on these groups. If they are complying then we should as well.
- Advanced ADM players are too skilled for cross ice. Ice is too crowded
- Comment David W.: Beginner & Intermediate cross ice is good. USA Hockey drew a hard line and CAHA will enforce it.
- Comment Colin M.: USA Hockey teamed with the NHL, not enough good American players coming out of the US. They completed a world survey and want to develop more in USA Hockey. Sweden turns out more players overall at the elite levels as compared to the US.
- Comment Andrew B.: On cross ice, there is no room to play or pass. 99% of our customers/parents here love the current program structure. Players 7-8 years old need to be put on the big ice to play.
- If RYHA is not compliant, USA Hockey will refuse to roster travel teams for National bound teams.
- Recommendation: Take petition and feedback to CAHA; compare different cities and what they are doing. Build your case and address USA Hockey and CAHA. Scott

Paluch and Kevin Universal are our representatives. Get Scott in contact with Andrew to watch the ADM games here.

**IV. Drug/Alcohol Abuse Problem**

- USA Hockey has a Zero Tolerance Policy – any situation is a violation of Code of Conduct and Suspension issued.
- We can have a policy; 30 day suspension for drug/alcohol abuse. Applies to offenses at team event or non-team event. Automatic 30 day suspension with a review hearing.
- If player gets caught, other players and parents will not be comfortable being around that player. How can they be confident player is clean and bad role model for others?
- Can we enforce?
- Draft policy:
  - First offense:
    - Automatic 30 Day Suspension and 1 Year Probation with
    - Option of Appeal and or Hearing
    - Require proof of Counseling before being allowed to return
- Drug Testing Monthly – can we require for minors?
  - Second Offense:
    - Dismissal from Team and unable to participate in future.
- **Action: Steve H. to check on testing and counseling requirements with Doug Hanna**
- **Action: David W. to send out policy once we have feedback from Doug/Steve.**
- Should this apply to Coaches as well – all agreed it should apply to coaches as well.

**V. Director of Marketing Selection:**

- We had 3 candidates interested in the position, all with very good backgrounds.
- Board reviewed and discussed information provided by candidates.
- Motion was made by Andy Haldane for David Jones to become Director of Marketing. Lori Parro seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimous.
- Action: David W. to notify 3 candidates of board decision.

**VI. Sponsorships:**

- 1) OSNC – we have a 3 year sponsorship commitment OSNC will offer free baselines on players for concussions. They will host baseline testing at their Wake Forest office and then will setup an area at the IcePlex for players to be evaluated in the event of an injury during practices. This may expand to other rinks and events over time. They are willing to conduct training on First Aid/CPR/Concussion education for coaches and other team officials.
- 2) Rex Express – working on sponsorship
- 3) Eye Care Associates – working on sponsorship

**VII. Spring Program: (see attached program summary)**

- Traditional Model – 5 on 5, all Non-Checking
- A survey was conducted with PW and Bantam parents. The survey was very good information back to us for spring.

- Evaluations will be March 11 & 12 for U8 through Bantam. No evaluation for High School.
- Regular season will begin March 16-18 with the Canes Cup May 19 & 20 to end the season.
- U8 – 8 practices 8 games plus Canes Cup. Keep 3 Levels
- U10 – 8/practices 8 games. Keep upper and lower
- PW – 4 practices 12 games
- Bant – 4 practices 12 games
- HS – 16 games plus Canes Cup
- Discussed ice commitments for spring. Discussed ice usage for each rink that we need to fill. David emphasized using ice per contract and not purchasing additional ice. This may mean careful planning and some possible exceptions to rink preferences.
- Discussed ice hours on possible player/parent tournament, CHL tournament and tryouts.
  - Parent/Player tournament to be held in conjunction with the RYHA Carnival the weekend of April 21-22. Board agreed to move forward with planning for the tournament.
- Discussed possible skills for player levels in the spring. Agreed to provide some discount for players registered for both Spring program and skills.
  - **ACTION: David W. to work with Finance committee to determine pricing and discounts.**
- Discussed travel tryouts and dates. Tier I AAA tentatively set for April 26-29 with May 4-6 as backup. Tier II AA to be held May 31-June 3, and A/B/Girls June 14-17.
- Discussed format and sessions needed for tryouts:
  - Tier I AAA will be 4 sessions plus goalie session. Combine goalie sessions for PW and Bantam, and all Midgets together in their own session. All sessions will be scrimmage with cut after 3<sup>rd</sup> session. Final session is Red/White game. Eliminating practices between cuts and final game.
  - Tier II AA and A/B/Girls will follow same format as last season.
  - No Girls House evaluation, just travel tryouts/evaluation.
- **Action: David W. to request approval from CAHA to hold Tier I AAA tryouts April 26-29 and request that we be permitted to start Tier II AA tryouts on Thursday May 31.**

#### **VIII. VP of Fundraising:**

- The RYHA Carnival will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Everything needs to be sponsored for the carnival.
- Later discussed having an equipment swap possibly before the spring season starts. Need to find location.

A motion was made by Clay Cotie at 9:00p.m. to dismiss the Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Anne Jones, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Jean Rogers, Administrator, RYHA