

Essex Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting
July 20, 2006

Attendees: Maurice Roesales

Board Member Attendees: Craig Benson, Jeff Cabanaw, Rich Connolly, Al Foice, Scott Godin, Will Gonyeau, John Laliberte, Pat Lancour, Estelle LeClair, Kay Maloney, Paul Murray, Kevin Norris, Jill Vespa

Agenda Items:

1. June Meeting Minutes – Already reviewed and approved by board via email vote.
2. Committee Reports –
 - Treasurer – Chair Kay Maloney reported – Some of the budget will need to be finalized. Waiting on completed ice schedule and the survey of players. Discussion took place regarding the pizza sale fundraiser. This was a great fundraiser – in terms of the budget, motion was made to include the \$25 opt out fee in everyone's registration fee with a refund made on the 3rd travel payment if the player participated in the fundraiser and was able to sell 5 or more items. With every bundle of 5 items sold, there would be an additional kick back with the total kick back not to exceed \$25 for house participants and \$50 for travel participants. All approved.
 - Registrar – Chair not present – On line registration will be an option. USA Hockey would like all USA registrations to go through them directly. Paul and Kib will work this out but do not feel this will be an issue. Registration tentatively scheduled for 9/7 and 9/9. Kib Horsford to confirm dates and set times and location.
 - House – Chair John Laliberte present – no report. Will commented that the purposed budget looked good. Hoping to have 60 to 70 kids in the house program.
 - Travel – Chair Paul Murray reported – new web site is running and will be switched over within 48 hours. Hard copy samples of the different screens were viewed. The new site / system will allow for

reporting for things such as usage, unique people, days of week, pages viewed, etc. Maurice will be following up on the reporting and how to use it to its fullest. The schedule software has been installed but not yet looked at.

- Ice Coordinator – Chair not present – Tomi forwarded a detailed report with questions for the board. There was a great deal of time and energy spent on the concern surrounding ice time. Due to limited ice time, conversation took place regarding more Kick Ice time, outdoor rink options, early and later hours at UVM, Morrisville ice, CVSA ice and Norwich ice time. Kick Ice – Coaches would need to be trained on how to use the Kick Ice in order to get the most out of practice. It can be very useful if used properly but in return can be a waste if not used properly. Successful examples were given as proof that this can be a useful tool. Motion to negotiate more Kick Ice time not to exceed 6 hours per week, mid November to mid February. All approved. There continues to be a 30-day cxl option. UVM Ice – Later ice time concern is that it will not be cleaned for a 2 hour block of time with Glades on prior to our teams (is this safe and/or quality ice). It would need to be older teams using this time. Per Tomi, EHYA still has this time reserved. Early ice time, 6am Friday, will potentially create a problem getting kids to school on time and on a day before weekend games. Outdoor Ice – Al and Will to investigate. Kay will look into obtaining the boards from the Nordic Center. Morrisville Ice – Motion made to explore practice ice in Morrisville. Discussion – Not viewed well as practice ice but would be considered for home game ice. Not approved, would like more interest. Norwich and Montpelier Ice – Motion made to pursue ice time in Norwich, CVSA and Morrisville to fill in gaps. Discussion – further concern that we need to get some ice time in where we can get it. Time is running out. All approved. Tomi suggested creative ice scheduling with an outline of how this might work. Head Coach Scott Godin like the suggestion. Board asked for a Coaches Committee recommendation reported back at the next meeting. More conversation regarding a larger issue we have concerning ice time

- and is the above simply a bandaid for a larger problem. Additional conversation regarding EYHA ice time at the Essex Facility vs. other groups. It was determined that EYHA does utilize over 50% of the ice time in Essex. Kevin will begin communication with the Essex Facility Board to share our concerns and see what we may be able to do to obtain more ice time.
- Tournament Director – Chair Jeff Cabanaw reported – Due to the Essex Skating Facility being out of commission during the New England Yankee Festival, we are in charge of any games being played at the UVM facility (March 22 weekend). Current ice being used for this tournament is UVM, both Cairns rinks, Waterbury and waiting to hear back regarding Leddy.
 - Fundraising / sponsorships – Estelle LeClair reported – Currently half of the teams have 2 sponsors. Golf Tournament – Jeff, Estelle and John are working on it. Pizza Sale Coordinator – Lau Almeida. Discussion regarding pizza fundraiser within Treasurer’s report. Clothing Sales Coordinator – Gail Lamos. Family Skate Coordinator – Craig Benson. Team Photo Coordinator – Leslie Larson.
 - Head Coach – Scott Godin Reported – Met with Tom Frank regarding the player and coaches’ evaluations. People were very responsive to the evaluations. Coaches’ meeting is TBD. A coaches committee needs to be put together followed by discussion regarding their mission and skill sets. Tom will represent outcomes at the August meeting. Question of how to become a head coach was addressed – all interested parties should submit their interest directly to Scott Godin, preferably via written form. USA Hockey has specific certifications which will be a determining factor. In addition, Scott will look at the individual’s criteria, previous years evaluation and what team a potential coach’s kid is on. The coaches clinic is not scheduled yet. We should budget for 3 coaches per team to attend this clinic.
 - Head Referee – Chair not present – Bruce Garrapy Reported via email – email lists dates and times for the referee seminars. Seminar dates and times are as follows: Sunday, 10/1 at St. Michaels College, ice at Essex. Saturday, 10/14 at Hartford High

School, ice at school also. Sunday, 11/5 at Rutland High School, ice at Rutland Fieldhouse. All seminars start at 8am and run until 4 ish. Level 1, 2 and 3 officials are welcome. Applicants must meet / complete specific requirements: 1. Attend USA Hockey approved and conducted seminar. 2. Proper application and fee to be paid to USA Hockey, Inc. 3. Complete open book test with acceptable score for level requested. 4. Pass the closed book examination for the level applied for. 5. If applying for level 4, you will be required to pass a skating test. 6. Above to be completed by the last day of November.

- Equipment Manager – Chair Rich Connolly reported – We need to look at goalie equipment for next year. Still missing one teams coaches bag.
- State Representative – Chair Kevin Norris reported – Reviewed BAHA’s proposal from the last meeting and would like EYHA’s position. St. Albans declined the proposal; Rutland found Pros and Cons to the proposal. Within the EYHA Board members – some felt that there are possibilities with modifications where others agreed with St. Albans to decline the proposal. Scheduling was a concern. Some felt that instead of energy spent on this issue, we should be focusing our attention to the AB challenges we all face. Ended conversations noting that we would be interested in hearing how this can be modified and would like more information in general.
- Women’s Director – Chair Pat Lancour reported – Concerns surrounding the program. Numbers are showing that with those eligible to play for their high school teams and those making the glades we have potentially two very small teams (U14 = 8 skaters / 2 goalies and U12 = 6 skaters / 1 goalie). Different suggestions were made with an outcome of concern regarding the program. Pat, Paul, Kay and Kevin will create a sub committee to evaluate options to maintain a strong program.

3. Old Business –

- By-Laws revisions – Jill Vespa will have the lawyer amend by-laws to the following: 1. Voting can be done by email (tracking will take

- place and recorded in the following months minutes). 2. Adding a clause that the financial records of the Association should be subject to an annual audit will be added to the budget. Item one allows flexibility to conduct general business using modern technology and conforms to Robert's Rules of Order. Item two is intended to protect the officers and board from risk associated with the responsibility of managing the finances of the Association. Both are considered "best practices".
- ❑ Mission Statement – Motion made to approve the presented draft version of the revised mission statement. All approved.
 - ❑ President's message reviewed by Board.
 - ❑ Proposed calendar of events for 2006/2007 reviewed and adjustments made. The approved calendar of events will be posted on the web site.
 - ❑ Midget Program – Pat and Rich committed to being more involved and handle challenges associated with this level.
 - ❑ Kick ice Rental – Discussed above
 - ❑ UVM ice availability – Discussed above
4. New Business –
- ❑ Grievance Process Draft – Discussed, still in draft form.
 - ❑ Selection Process Draft – Discussed, confirm draft to USA Hockey Standards.
 - ❑ New EYHA Policy and Procedure Draft – Discussed – still in process
5. Next Meeting Date – August 17th, Location: Essex Fire Department – Sandhill Station near Foster Road. Park in the rear and on Foster Road – please leave side parking open for emergency responder parking.
6. Motion to Adjourn – Motion approved at 10:50pm

Jill Vespa
Secretary