

RIVER FALLS YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

October 2015 *MINUTES*



DATE: Wednesday, October 14th, 2015

LOCATION: Wildcat Centre, River Falls

Frank Linn, President__Yes__	Mike Marsollek, VP__Yes__	Neil Accola, Treasurer__Yes__	Janell Rasmussen, Secretary__Yes__
Kathy Bennett__Yes__	Steve Magnuson__No__	Jody Christensen__Yes__	Paul Wilson__Yes__
Josh Cleveland__Yes__	Tim LaVold__Yes__	Kevin Hare__Yes__(first hour)__	Andrew Thomas__Yes__

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Intro, Agenda Review Linn
2. Consent Items(All can be approved in one motion, unless an items is removed by a board member for further discussion) Linn
 - A. Agenda Approval
Action Item: Approve Agenda and any supplementary materials
 - B. Approval of Minutes
Action Item: Approve meeting minutes from past month.

Motion to approve consent items by Thomas, second by Bennett, All in favor.

3. Guest Comments Guests
Guests were Ted Olson and Ace Coordinator Jim Joseph.

Ted Olson wanted to express concerns on squirt team make up. Also wanted to observe board meeting and is considering becoming more involved.

Jim Joseph – Kudos on LTS program. Saw pictures on facebook and commented that the LTS program will impact the association and hockey for a long time.

Frank made comments about the board standing behind decisions that are made and being supportive of those. Bantam coaches list was sent out to Board.

4. Building Events Linn
Nothing new to report. Variety show contract was approved by Board. They seek donations and we get a percentage back, usually about 1500. Kathy Bennett sent Welcome Back Event final report. Very nice report. If we do the event next year it was discussed that it might be a good idea for the Fusion to serve food instead of the Board.
5. Hockey Operations – Off Ice Christensen

Sent out tournament spreadsheet. Filling up nicely. Bantam A team will play A tournament and the Board agreed no to Bantam A's playing in the Bantam B tournament.

Picture schedule is complete. Jody sent to Magnuson for the calendar and to the Team Manager Coordinator to share with the team Managers once selected.

Magnuson and Linn will take care of jerseys for tryouts.

Christensen discussed the numbers and said she and Accola have the same count for number of kids registered. Accola provided a list via email with the first name, Rasmussen asked for the last name of the skaters and Accola said he would not provide those. Linn said the executive team will meet separately about his.

Linn mentioned that it would be good to look into Online registration. It would give us the ability to have more accurate numbers and be easier for our membership. Accola advised it would be costly and difficult to do.

6. Hockey Operations – On Ice

LaVold
Cleveland

a. Utilizing Steve Payne in our Program

Could be a good resource but would need good direction. Philosophy is completely opposite of ours. Have him work with coaches. Skills and drills with coaches would be good. Ted Olson added he was there last year and he could help with skating skills edges, etc.

b. Bantam Coaches

Preseason camp is winding down finishing Saturday. 89 total registrations. Tryouts are next week. Coach Joseph will be running evaluations. Recommendations on coaches will come from coach Joseph.

Steve will send the webmaster (Kevin) the names for the website following tryouts. Rasmussen will give Kevin a heads up.

Jim Joseph and the ACE Committee recommended the Bantam Coaches as Mike Kealy(head); Mike Klechfski(asst); Tim Lavold(asst); Jon Gert(asst). Hare made the motion to approve the Bantam Coaches, Wilson second, Tim LaVold abstained, all others in favor.

7. Building Operations

Wilson/Linn

a. Update on Control System in in November?

In Progress.

b. Update on Women's restroom repairs

Accola made a motion to replace two toilets for \$800, Marsollek second, all in favor.

Bleacher heaters are fixed. Compressors are all good. The ice went in fine. Locker rooms heaters will be running end of this week. Will be getting c02 monitoring systems throughout the building. Water heaters issue – all exhaust systems are full of barn swallows. Accola advised that there was no need for a motion to spend money to fix them as the funds would just come from the maintenance account and they don't need approval.

8. External Relations/Recruitment/Advertising

Rasmussen

Rasmussen attended the WAHA Regional meeting and presented on the RFYHA recruitment efforts at the meeting. Have been contacted by multiple Associations since the meeting and have shared recruitment items. There was a roundtable discussion on each other's registration. WAHA emphasized SafeSport compliance and locker rooms supervision.

The LTS equipment distribution night was a huge success. Rasmussen reminded everyone that they received hours for their work with LTS (regular or tournament).

The Association Apparel for this season is finalized and online ordering of the apparel will be new this year. St. Croix Sports will be here during Try Outs with apparel samples to try on.

Facebook followers have increased to 406. Last year at this time we were at 140 followers. This is a significant help in our promotions, member engagement and recruitment ability. It is critical that it is managed with the right amount and right type of posts.

Recruitment: With the stats that I have seen, it appears that new member recruitment looks similar to last years. Retention of existing members needs further analysis given the final numbers. We recruited 9 LTS skaters who were on the waitlist to sign up directly for Mites. Fielded a lot of prospective family questions over the last month. We are seeing more questions from families with kid's ages 8-10 interested in skating for the first time. LTS is at capacity with 30 girls/30 boys. (First day October 28th.)

Sponsorships: Had a very successful last month. We have enough verbal pledges from businesses who are renewing their sponsorships to meet last year's earnings with enough additional to cover the costs for the digital displays. The new business sponsor signs are on order.

The digital displays have been on back order. They shipped last week and were just received. We will be training Kevin and Jody and anyone else interested in the locker room assignments. The new numbered locker rooms signs are done.

It's been a very busy moth with LTS, recruitment, sponsorships, communications, promotions, etc and Rasmussen thanked everyone who has helped.

a. Website Review/Updates

Rasmussen

Rasmussen said that the website was very outdated and asked everyone to review their areas and get Kevin their updates.

9. Financial Operations

Accola

We are moving in the direction of online volunteer hours with Dibbs. Bennett has done the research and Nicole Frieman is looking into it.

Provided a proposal to purchase season tickets for Coaches as a thank you. We would sell some of the tickets to break even on costs. Christensen made a motion for Accola to move forward with the process. Marsollek second, all in favor. Questions on how and who were tabled and will be discusses when/if the purchase is made.

10. Fundraising Operations

Shelly Thompson provided a letter to go out to the Association for the Amazon and Schwan's Fundraisers.

11. Other Business

Team Liaisons for this year will be:

Bantam – Jody Christensen

Pee Wee A – Josh Cleveland

Pee Wee B – Steve Magnuson

Squirt A – Tim LaVold

Squirt B – Kathy Bennett

Squirt C – Andrew Thomas

12. Adjourn

Christensen motion to adjourn, Bennett second. All in favor.

Additional Votes Outside of Board Meeting:

On September 16th, Neil Accola sent an email requesting the Facility Lease Rental agreement with the UWRF for the Preseason camp be approved. The Board voted in favor.

On October 5th, Frank Linn sent the Variety Show contract to the Board for approval. The Contract was approved by the Board via email.

2015 – 2016 Calendar - Key Dates

May 13th - 6 pm - 8 pm - Spring Registration
August 8th – RFYHA Golf Fundraiser Clifton Highlands Golf Club
September 9th – St. Croix Sports RFYHA Appreciation Event
September 16th – Fall Registration
September 19th – Welcome Back Event
September 27 - Preseason Camp Starts
October 1st, 2015 - Compressors Started
October 11th, - Ice-in finished (*tentative*)
October 13th - LTS Equipment Distribution
October 17th - Preseason Camp Ends
October 19th, 20th, 22nd - Try Outs
October 28th - LTS Starts
TBD – Girls Hockey Weekend
TBD – Team/Individual Pictures
November 7th – Try Hockey for Free
November 18th - LTS Finishes, **Winter Registration 6 pm - 7 pm**
December 4th, 5th, 6th - Squirt Tournament
December 12th, 13th - Mites Holiday Extravaganza
December 13th – Calendar Raffle due
January 8th, 9th, 10th - Pony Tail Classic Tournament
January 15th – Pizza order forms/money due
January 15th, 16th, 17th - PeeWee Tournament
January 29th, 30th, 31st - Blackcat Classic Tournament
February 3rd – Pizza's delivered
February 5th-7th, 2016 Playdowns
February 12, 13th, 14th - Bantam B Tournament
February 20th, Try Hockey for Free
February 19th, 20th, 21st - Bantam A Tournament
March 18th, 19th, 20th - Fat Boy Tournament
March 25th, 26th, 27th - Midget JV Jr Gold Tournament