

Date: June 6th, 2018

Time: 6:30p.m.

Location: Otter Community
Room, KSS

Fergus Falls Hockey Association

Official June 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present Regular Mtg.: Sarah Casey, Scott DeBrito, Darren Krein, Tim Lill, Eric Nelson, Nikki Richter, Cory Reinertson, Scott Samuelson, Mike Welde, Niki Welde, Ryan Welle, Jeff Young

Absent: Mike Donaghue, Todd Hershner, Curt Proffit, Cyndi Young

Staff/Committee: Sarah Duffy, Jessica Karsnia, Kevin Sonstebo

Other:

- I. **Call Meeting to order-** Cory Reinertson 6:32pm.
- II. **General membership open forum-** None
- III. **Approve June 2018 Agenda-** Darren Krein made a motion to accept the agenda, Ryan Welle seconded, motion passed.
- IV. **Approve May 2018 Meeting Minutes** - Scott DeBrito made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting Ryan Welle seconded, motion passed.
- V. **Approve May 2018 Gambling Report-** An update on the Hillbillies fund loss. A police report has been filed. We will need to look at amending past minutes to include the dollar amount lost. Update on the Z as a location for pull tabs, they are looking into possible hours and the construction of a booth. Darren Krein made a motion to accept the May gambling report, Nikki Richter seconded, motion passed.
- VI. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **City Update-** emailed update from Pam Muxfeldt - The dasher boards in the North Rink are being replaced. Bert Overland has been seen in the boiler rooms this week. Not sure that it was for the chiller but he was there. Eric Nelson shared that he had talked with Bert and there were a few leaks in the machinery needed for the chiller, and it still needs more flushing to clean it out, but progress is being made.
 - b. **Safe Sport Coordinator-** Nikki Richter- No report
 - c. **Discipline Committee-** Kevin Sonstebo - The team is working on creating goals for the committee and will share these in the near future. Kevin is needing a bit more time to complete aligning the Rules and Regs and the Bylaws with this committee. That will be shared by our August meeting.
 - d. **Concessions-** Pam Muxfeldt- No Report
 - e. **Promotions-** Sarah Casey- Cyndi will be sharing her portfolio of information with Sarah soon. The parade is this Saturday evening at Summerfest. Still need more kids to sign on. Considering not doing this next year unless we get more kids and families to take part.
 - f. **Fundraising-** This committee is still in need of a chair. Discussion was held on how to handle this. Time is running out to have something in place for this coming Fall. We may need to consider going back to just raffle tickets to meet our needs for the upcoming season. Sarah Casey, Darren Krein, and Nikki Richter will meet to talk about this Fall and consider putting together a 5 year plan. Sarah Duffy and Niki Welde said they would be willing to help.
 - g. **Equipment-** Ryan Welle - Practice and tryout jerseys have arrived. The tear away goalie equipment that was ordered is expected to arrive in August. We need to look at selling some of our old jerseys that have been replaced by the new practice jerseys. We will plan to sell or give away old mite jerseys, old house league jerseys and extra USA hockey jerseys at registration.
 - h. **Sponsorship-** Nikki Richter- There are a few boards or banners that will need new sponsors, as the past ones have decided not to take part anymore. Jeff Young is contacting a few to complete their sponsorship obligations from this past season.
 - i. **Registration-** Curt Proffit- Registration Committee Report:

In response to the May meeting, the committee met and discussed the considerations of making changes to our registration process etc. We reached out to District 15 & 16 associations and asked the questions below in red. We received back several responses and what we found is that FFHA is right in line with all the other associations. In fact we are a step ahead in many cases. Below is the general response to those questions:

1. When does your registration open for the 2018-2019 season?

Most open up their registration in July/August and all were open in September. WE OPEN AUGUST 1 AND LAST YEAR WE HAD 8 REGISTRATIONS OUT OF 230 BEFORE SEPTEMBER. THERE WERE A NUMBER WHO WERE VOCAL ABOUT "PUSHING HOCKEY REGISTRATION SO EARLY WHEN FALL SPORTS AND SCHOOL HADN'T EVEN STARTED.

All offer payment plans that range from pay in full to only 2 months or up to six months. WE OFFER 4 MONTHS AND TRANSACTIONS ARE HANDLED ONLINE.

2. Do you have an early discount rate? If so what is the difference between rates?

Only 1 association that responded offers an early bird discount of \$50 and another is considering offering a discount this year, but acknowledged that it would have to be significant enough to matter. WE DO NOT OFFER A DISCOUNT IF REGISTERING EARLY; HOWEVER, REGISTERING IN AUG INSTEAD OF SEPTEMBER PROVIDES FAMILIES WITH AN ADDITIONAL MONTH IN THE PAYMENT PLAN.

3. When does your registration close?

This was all over the place with the latest registration closing being in early October. OUR REGISTRATION CLOSES ON THE SECOND KICK OFF NIGHT (SEPT 18, 2018). LIKE ALL ASSOCIATIONS, REGISTRATION NEVER TRULY "CLOSES" AS WE WILL TAKE PLAYERS ANY TIME UNTIL ROSTERS ARE FINALIZED. NEW PLAYERS TO THE ASSOCIATION CAN STILL REGISTER AFTER ROSTERS ARE FINAL.

4. Do you implement any late fees?

Most do charge a small fee of \$25. OUR LATE FEE HAS BEEN BETWEEN \$50-\$150 WHICH IS THE FUNDRAISING FEE. AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NEVER CHARGED A LATE FEE.

After reviewing the responses and feedback and discussing the fees that would have to be recovered if offering early bird discounts etc, we are recommending leaving registration the same as last year. The need to know player numbers to determine the number of teams and coaches is completely understandable. We do not feel it would benefit FFHA to make any changes for the 2018-2019 season. However, if needed, we can provide the contact information of skaters from any level to the board or hockey directors if they would like to make phone calls or send emails to inquire about their interest in registering for the upcoming season. If the board strongly feels the registration process should be changed for the 2019-2020 season, the process should be determined and shared with members during the 2018-2019 season so that they can plan for it.

-Scott DeBrito inquired about a budget to look at what we need to consider for fee changes and fundraising. Currently there is not a budget.

- j. Arena Scheduling- Pam Muxfeldt- No report. She is planning to work with Mike Welde on scheduling, in order to avoid conflicts with High School games and tournaments weekends.
- k. Game Scheduling- Mike Welde- Looking for team designations to start scheduling. Squirt internationals have opened and he intends to enter our teams. He is talking with schedulers to see who is new and who is ready to start.
- l. Tournaments- Darren Krein- The idea of looking into 4 game tournaments is being considered. This will possibly help to bring in teams. Discussion was held on possibly trying this for the Squirt As to help bring in teams. There is work being done to schedule a new date for our Squirt A tournament, keeping away from Squirt Internationals and Districts.
- m. Rookie Program/ 2 and 2 Challenge- Niki Welde- Our association officially reached Gold status in the 2 and 2 challenge. We have \$250 to spend at Pure Hockey as a result of this. We will be purchasing a speed, agility kit.
- n. Website- Curt Proffit- No Report
- o. Hockey Treadmill- Pam Muxfeldt -We had no one sign up for the first session and so far I have 3 for the second session. Concerns I have are that the room has no air conditioning and could be very uncomfortable come July. Also, not sure on the future of that room if the school makes changes so Plan "B" should be thought about sooner than later. Will plan to schedule treadmill again come fall as part of their regular season - will possibly try to find trainers for a Sept/Oct fall session prior to the season starting. Will need to find trainers for fall and in-season too as not sure who will be available to come back. Discussion was held on what is the reason our numbers are so low for the treadmill this summer. Some felt that we need to look at the protocol that is used to help develop skills desired.
- p. Summer Ice- Mike Donaghue, Laurissa Stigen, Niki Welde, Dave Stigen- Corey Reinertson reported that if the new chiller is installed in time, we will look at adding September and April ice. We are waiting to hear back from the city on the actual rate. One consideration is staff.

- q. HMI Camp - Cory Reinertson. Work is being done. October 6th is the date, and there is planning for an off site event again this year. New Beginnings volunteered to help with dryland.
- r. Girlz Rock - Tim Lill and Todd Hershner- No report

VII. Approve Treasurer's April 2018 Report- Scott DeBrito made a motion to accept the May Treasurer's report, Darren Krein seconded, motion passed. Jeff Young shared that Mike Smith is our accountant who does our financial year ends and taxes. They will be completed this summer.

VIII. Hockey Directors Report- Mike Donaghue, Tim Lill & Todd Hershner

a. Boys Hockey

- Mike Donaghue made a motion from the hockey committee to have a Bantam A and B this coming season. (projected numbers are 22 skaters and 2 goalies). Ryan Welle seconded. Discussion was held on the previous idea to invite Breck/Wahpeton players to join us. They declined the offer due to a numbers need there. Jeff Young asked about the desire for 2 skinny teams as opposed to one large team. The committee felt it was better to work with 2 teams as opposed to one large. The motion passed.
- Mike Donaghue made a motion from the hockey committee to have a Pee Wee A team, B and B2 this coming season. Jeff Young seconded. Discussion was held on the reason for changing this from last year having an A team and 2 equal Bs. Ryan Welle stated concern for development of players, considering the players not performing at their level. The hockey committee stood with USA Hockey recommendations on utilizing a top third, middle third, bottom third division. The concern for scheduling was answered by Mike Welde. We will be able to schedule B2 games. The motion passed.
- Mike Donaghue made a motion from the hockey committee to have Squirt A, B, C teams this coming season. Tim Lill seconded. Discussion was held on availability of games for the C level. There is a Squirt C league out of Fargo that we would be able to take part in. Cory Reinertson expressed a concern that there is no Squirt C District, so we would need to consider scheduling a second tournament for this level. Discussion was held on the connotation that a C versus a B2 level brings. The motion passed.
- Coaches - Mike Donaghue brought the following names up for coaching positions this coming season. Bantam A: Devin Johnson and Cole Heifort. Pee Wee: Ryan Polzin and Greg Buckmeier. Squirt: Eddie Hanson (Director), Troy Stenstrom, Dustin Wynn, Matt Kennedy. Nikki Richter seconded. Motion passed.

b. Girls Hockey

- Tim Lill made a motion to have a 10U A and B this coming season. Scott DeBrito seconded. Motion passed.
- Coaching names are coming. The search is going well. Will be bringing names soon.
- Tim Lill has been looking for a hockey director to take his spot. Scott DeBrito is willing to take this on for the next 3 years. He has Tim's endorsement. Scott would look to keep the 2 committees as one, and represent the girls. Darren Krein made a motion to accept Tim Lill's resignation and nominate Scott DeBrito as the new girl's hockey director. Eric Nelson seconded. Motion was passed. Scott DeBrito abstained. Discussion was held about the possibility of the a conflict with the hockey director being a voting member of the board.

IX. New Business -

- Wounded Warrior Game - We are looking at Friday, November 16th. Louis Karsnia will get back to us on this. Cory Reinertson shared that we are looking to partner with Bill Butters to bring in some of the NHL Alumni team to coordinate with our local alumni.
- District Report - Cyndi Young - At the District meeting we decided tournaments for the upcoming season. I will have all this information at the next board meeting to share from the District as well. I am still the District 15 Tournament Director for this coming season and will have Niki add me to the agenda. All the District information will be updated on the District 15 website on the Tournaments Page. This is where you would look each season after the May meeting to see who is hosting which tournament.

Please add these into your schedules as well. **NEW THIS SEASON:** The tournament hosts are responsible for booking hotel rooms for 8 teams and share that information with me before the next district meeting on October

7th. You may need more rooms for the 12U, but we won't know all numbers until the teams are declared. Please still block rooms ASAP. We will also be letting team managers know NOT to block their own blocks for the District tournaments this season. Tournament hosts are now responsible. We can decide at the board meeting who can be taking care of this.

Feb. 7-10th, 2019- FFHA will be hosting the Squirt A District Tournament

Feb. 15-17th, 2019- FFHA will be hosting the 12U A & B Tournaments (depending on # of teams)

Yes we will be hosting 2 this season because we have extra tournaments for the district with hosting the Regional and State tournaments.

District Tournaments hosts for teams:

Feb. 7-10th, 2019-

Squirt A- Fergus Falls

Squirt B North- Park Rapids

Squirt B South- Long Prairie (Fergus Falls should be South)

(FYI- Squirt International Tournaments are A level- Feb. 21st-24th, 2019, B1 level- Feb. 14th-17th, 2019, and B2/C level is Feb. 7th-10th, 2019). Fergus teams should be going to the Squirt International tournament this coming season.

Feb/ 15-17th, 2019-

Bantam A- Little Falls

Bantam B- Benson

PeeWee A- Wadena

PeeWee B1 (Upper Bracket)- Morris

PeeWee B2 (Consolation Bracket)- Sauk Centre

12U A & B- Fergus Falls

10U A & B- Detroit Lakes

District 15 is also hosting:

Bantam B Regional Tournament- Mar. 3-5, 2019- Alexandria

PeeWee B Regional Tournament- Mar. 3-5, 2019- Walker

Bantam A/ AA State Tournament- Mar. 15-17, 2019- Moorhead

PeeWee A/AA State Tournament- Mar. 15-17, 2019- Brainerd

Bantam A VFW District Tournament- Feb. 22-24, 2019 at TBD

Bantam A team has a unique schedule each season and VFW District games need to be scheduled first. 1 season is a high travel season and then the next season has more home games. This upcoming season has the high travel. Here is how it works for your scheduling. Scheduling for Bantam A VFW needs to start in the summer as soon as possible. Once you have some of these things booked, contact a bantam parent to help with booking motels so they are done and the team can find a spot. Roseau/ Warroad overnight is usually the HARDEST to book because they have so many tournaments.

VFW District teams are:

Roseau AA

Warroad

Bemidji AA

Fergus Falls

Detroit Lakes

Thief River Falls

East Grand Forks

Moorhead AA

Crookston (if they have an A team)

18-19 Season:

1. 4pt. game away in Roseau and in Warroad. Play 1 game Saturday and the other Sunday. 1 overnight stay
2. 2 games in Thief River Falls- 1 Saturday and 1 Sunday – 1 overnight stay
3. Bemidji- 1 home and 1 away game
4. Moorhead- 1 home and 1 away game or just 1- 4pt. game home or away
5. East Grand Forks- 1 home and 1 away game (schedule EGF 1 day and then Crookston the next day)- 1 overnight stay
6. Detroit Lakes- 1 home and 1 away game
7. Crookston- 1 home and 1 away game (if they have an A team- past 3 season they have been a B team)

19-20 Season:

1. 4pt. game at home vs. Roseau
2. 4pt. game at home vs. Warroad
3. 2 games at home vs Thief River Falls
4. Bemidji- 1 home/ 1 away game
5. Moorhead- 1 home/ 1 away game or just 1- 4pt game home or away
6. East Grand Forks- 1 home/ 1 away game
7. Detroit Lakes- 1 home/ 1 away game
8. Crookston- 1 home/ 1 away

20-21 season is the same as the 18-19 season set up.

Don't forget to add the VFW District tournament to your schedule, for some reason this has been forgotten for the past 3 seasons. This tournament is ALWAYS the weekend after District 15 tournaments and before the Regional Tournaments.

- We need to look at the possibility of needing more jerseys for our traveling teams with increased numbers.

X. Old Business

XI. President's report- Cory Reinertson- Club Excellence. Cory will be sharing more information on this. It will help to give guidance to our committees.

XIV. Next Board Meeting June 27th, 2018 at 6:30pm at Otter Community Room at KSS to avoid the 4th of July.

XV. Adjourn- Darren Krein made a motion to adjourn, Tim Lill seconded, meeting was adjourned.