

**Bismarck Hockey Boosters Board Minutes**  
**Monday, Jul 10, 2023 @ 5:30 PM**  
**Capital Ice Complex**

**Board Members Present:**

Brad Thompson  
Ian McDonald  
Kyle Leftwich  
Joe Gusaas  
Layne Sedevie  
Joel Roloff  
Jackie Ressler

**Other Members Present:**

Mikayla Jablonski-Jahner  
Jamie Nelson  
Mike Dora

Call to Order

1. Parks and Rec Update – Dylan Thiem
  - a. Schedules were given to Mikayla for Fall and Season Ice
  - b. VFW3
    - i. No Updates
  - c. Working to get equipment updated
2. Old Business
  - a. June Meeting minutes were approved and published to the website.
3. Public Comment:
  - a. Update/Background: Kyle has spent several hours talking to coaches and parents on the AA/A team declaration. In May, Kaine announced the teams, and a discussion was had. It was determined that we would not have AA teams. Mikayla double checked the following day and did not hear anything different. Kaine registered for all tournaments as A teams and no AA teams. In the June meeting it seemed as though Kaine had changed his mind. We now need to declare for the state and scheduling. For the girls we have lost 2 15U girls last night and we only have 1 goalie. A decision needs to be made to leave the teams as 12UA, 12UB, 15UA and 15Ub or not.
    - i. We will plan to leave the girls teams alone, but may need to make changes after all the registrations are in. (Only 4 have registered)
    - ii. Bantams – Kyle – have AA, A and no B1. However, there is a lack of tournaments as Kaine registered us for A team tournaments. So, we may not have as many tournaments as prior years. Mikayla is working to find more or get our teams switched to AA if that decision is made.
    - iii. Squirts – Kyle – A, 2 B1, 3-4 B (these teams will play east side of the state – more competitive), 3-4 B (these teams will play western/smaller teams – not rec, but less competitive)

- iv. PeeWee – survey and conversations went all over the board. Coach of the AA said we couldn't go wrong going either AA or A.
1. Parent – We have done two A teams before, and it doesn't work. We split the top talent and have little success.
  2. Parent – We need to support 3 high school teams, so we need more A teams. We have a 20% attrition (national average) in this sport. If we need to fill these high school teams, we need 4 PeeWee A teams to make that work. There are 5-7 guys in this community who would come work for BHB for free.
  3. Parent – can you explain the history on “declaring”
    - a. Kyle – In May we talked through numbers and Kaine didn't think we had the players to fill a AA team.
    - b. Parent – maybe you should step back, this was brought up by the Hockey Director and should be decided by the Hockey Director, not the board.
    - c. The board agrees this is a Hockey Director decision.
  4. Parent – We are not focusing on Youth Hockey. Whether they play A or AA is not what matters. They will get exposure one way or the other. If we are fielding three high school teams, we need to start younger and work on keeping kids in the program. This is not what the board of directors, of one of the biggest programs in the state, should spend hours discussing.
  5. Parent – we are not angry parents, we think we can compete at AA, so we are here to voice our opinions.
  6. Joel – when I was on the state board, the rule was that you needed to have as many A teams as you do high schools. That is still in the bylaws. Last year we lost 2 games to every 1 we won. We are looking to make change and to make it better. If we do decide to have AA then we need to set metrics, so that next year we have data to measure what is the right decision to make.
  7. Parent – I want the skilled kids playing with like skilled kids at a competitive level. We have seen kids get bumped up to A from B1 or A to AA and it didn't benefit the child. They touched the puck less. We also need smaller teams.
  8. Kyle – the discussion we had in May was to determine do we have kids that will fill the AA team based on skill, not just to fill a team.
  9. Parent – the only tournament we didn't succeed in was Moorhead.
  10. Parent – Tournament registrations, what if we don't have enough girl teams, can we get our money back?
    - a. Mikayla – it depends on the tournament. Each year I have scheduled we have had to make changes after registration.
  11. Parent – kids leaving the game is the nature of kids, not a reflection on the program.
  12. Parent – have we looked into Canada for tournaments

- a. Mikayla – yes, we used to go up there and then COVID happened. They also start everything much later than us. They won't open their tournaments until October.
- 13. Parent – we are not angry; we are advocating for our children. Iron sharpens Iron. If we want our kids to play better, they need to be challenged. If we do 2 A teams, they will get shuffled and reshuffled each year and won't consistently play with the same kids and build strength as a team.
- 14. Parent – the skill level between AA and A are different. In A you can have 1-2 kids who are really good, and they will win games. In AA everyone is that good and you must pass the puck or else they won't succeed. Team play is necessary in AA.
- 15. Parent – I would like to stick with what we did last year. Slot our kids in the levels offered in ND.
- 16. Mikayla – something that Quinn said last month stuck with me. We need to focus on depth. We need to focus on the youth. Let's decide and move forward.
- 17. Parent – I think a decision should be made sooner rather than later, as the top couple may leave/move if we don't decide.
- 18. Brad – there are many second-year kids that would make a great team.
- 19. Parent – I can think of 10 kids right now that I could fill a AA team with.
- 20. Parent – every team has a 3<sup>rd</sup> line that maybe shouldn't be there.
- 21. Parent – I read the meeting minutes from June, and it says Kaine wanted a AA team. This is not a decision to be made by the board, it should be made by the hockey director.
  - a. Mikayla – we came to the June meeting and found out he had changed his mind from the May meeting.
- b. Other Public Comment Topics:
  - i. Parent – what happens if kids are gone during tryouts for Team ND?
    - 1. Mikayla – this has happened before, and the players are evaluated on the time they are at tryouts.
  - ii. Parent – Every board is political; it has always been like that. Some boards have driven people out of the program and out of town. We have gaming now and our registration we bring in is \$10K. If we have all this gaming money, why are we still paying \$900 with no extra ice time? We are not gaining out of gaming. We are paying people a lot of money and we are not seeing the results. We need to hit the reset button. This winning stuff doesn't matter either, we need to develop the kids. We need to go out to the community and get those people and listen to them and their expertise. This gaming money needs to be put towards the kid's tuition.
    - 1. Laine – I think the gaming is great. I got on this board because I was told that the board doesn't talk about hockey. The last 3 meetings I have been at, we talk a lot about hockey. We are reaching out to get level coordinators and my assistant coach is coming to teach powerskating.

This board is here to make hockey decisions for the entire community, not just one kid.

2. Parent – no offense, its too late for Peewees and Bantams. We need to focus on the youth.
3. Joe – we also have resurrected the Hockey Committee, which brings in all the coaches from the high schools’ girls and boys, U Mary, coaches within BHB, the hockey director and board members.
4. Mikayla – regarding your comments on gaming money, we can only use 60% of it. We contribute to this rink and VFW3 with our gaming money.
5. Parent – we got ripped off on the price of VFW3. \$22 million dollars for one new rink.
6. Kyle – for the two new rinks up north the quote was \$12-14 million. Rinks lose money, so to offset it there is a plan to have storefronts (restaurant, pro shop, and PT space). Also, we had a great meeting with the Figure Skating Club, they want to help fundraise for this. Gymnastics has come forward and would love space too. Possible adding lacrosse and soccer to make it a multisport complex. This would also add another gaming site, as we lost our biggest gaming site last month. Also, we gained 1,000 hours of ice though the meeting with the Figure Skating club too.
7. Mikayla – we have also never hit fundraising hard and that is where my focus has shifted.
8. Joe – we need to rebuild the culture we had when we were kids. Revive the student section. Have the band stay past warmups. Have the mites and termites play at intermission.
9. Joel – when I was on the board, we didn’t have a pot to piss in. Now that we have money, it feels like we lost the community feel. So, we need to rebuild the community.
10. Parent – there are a lot of people in the community that would come back to the club for free.

iii. Hockey Director

1. Parent – I hope we don’t settle on someone that doesn’t have the skills. Do we have a plan B?
  - a. Mike has stepped up to take it on while we look for the right fit. Also, will have the level coordinators as well to help fill the void.

4. Agenda Items:

- a. 2023-24 Team Level Placement Board Discussion:
  - i. Layne – AA for both Bantam and PeeWee. The changes that need to happen start at the mite level.
  - ii. Joel – this is a one-time deal (making this decision) as the hockey director will make this decision going forward.
  - iii. Mike – For the bantams we should keep AA. I think we should wait until tryouts to decide if we have A or B1. Based on last year, I think we could field an A team, but maybe not a B1. If we don’t do the AA, then I would like to have a 2<sup>nd</sup>

year A team and a 1<sup>st</sup> year A team. It would get both teams ready for the next level. I always lean towards pushing the kids, so AA makes sense to me. I like that Squirts will only have 1 A team. For Peewees I am worried that if we don't do AA and A, then we will have so many B teams and that is hard to map out for the league. It will shake out in tryouts too. Not opposed to have AA in Peewee as well. I support the Hockey Director should make this decision. I like the idea of putting metrics on the season. We should reevaluate after each season.

- iv. Brad – its way easier to find Peewee A tournaments later. So, let's get some AA tournaments scheduled now.
- v. Joel – If we use last year as a discussion, was this a successful season?
- vi. Mike – Peewee AA was 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5<sup>th</sup> place for the overall season. The games I watched were close. I didn't see where they were outclassed in many games. The kids and coaches got better as the season went on.
- vii. Kyle – Peewee A was 8<sup>th</sup> out of 8.
- viii. Mike – Bantam AA played really well and had a positive score differential. I was impressed with the team.
- ix. Layne makes a motion to keep Bantam AA and Peewee AA teams.
  - 1. Brad seconds the motion
    - a. Discussion: Can it be changed if the Hockey Director decides?
      - i. Parent – Can I get refund if the hockey director changes the plan?
      - ii. We highly doubt that would happen for Bantam AA.
      - iii. Note the Refund Policy
    - 2. Motion passes
  - b. Request for a Level Coordinator for Girls
    - i. The girls' teams need their own.
    - ii. Joel motions to add a Girls Program Level Coordinator with the same incentives as other Level Coordinators
      - 1. Brad seconds the motion.
        - a. Discussion – Would we consider paying them?
          - i. They are considered a coach, so they would get paid.
        - 2. Motion passes.

## 5. Program Updates:

- a. Executive Director:
  - i. Survey Results:
    - 1. Based on our code of conduct, one comment was out of line, and we needed to be addressed.
      - a. BHB is filling the pockets of the current President and that Trench money goes directly back to the president
        - i. Kyle is a 25% owner of 3130 E Broadway (the location Trench Training rents). The investment group is called Divide Apartments LLC.
        - ii. There were two cash offers for the building when Trench approached the group with the idea of having dryland there.

1. Kyle stated the cash offers were declined to help build dryland for BHB.
    - iii. Trench Training leases the building from Divide Apartments LLC and BHB contracts Trench Training.
    - iv. Last year the investment group lost \$10,000 on the building.
  - b. It was said that Paramount Builders would be the only company that could bid on the new rink.
    - i. The new rink is no where near looking for bids currently.
    - ii. Kyle has no ownership in Paramount Builders.
    - iii. Kyle has paid out of his pocket for the architect and grant writer to keep the project moving forward.
    - iv. Brad stated that this rink will be privately owned, and those owners will decide who builds the rink, not BHB.
  - c. The comment stated that BHB lost \$800,000 in gaming and the board hid it from the membership.
    - i. It was stated in the May meeting minutes that we lost the gaming site. The board was notified during the board meeting in May about the loss.
    - ii. It was stated that we lost \$600,000 with that loss in the minutes, however it has since been determined the appropriate amount was \$500,000.
- ii. Ice Contract:
  1. We received the ice contract from Parks and Rec, and it has gone up 5% since last year.
    - a. These costs will be incurred by our gaming funds, not increased registration fees.
- iii. Hiring:
  1. We received:
    - a. 3 resumes for the Hockey Director
      - i. Hiring committed discussion – Executive director, board member and membership should be on the committee.
      - ii. Joel motions to have Mikayla, Mike Dora, Laine, Kyle, and Quinn Fyelling on for the hiring committee of the Hockey Director.
        1. Joe seconds the motion
        2. No discussion
        3. Motion Passes
    - b. 3 applicants for the Gaming Liaison
    - c. 0 for the Concessions Manager
    - d. A couple applicants for concession supervisors
- iv. Golf Scramble:
  1. First International will help with the food.



2022-2023  
(Actuals as of 4.30.2023)

**Income**

Charitable Gaming Proceeds	\$	-
Bank Error	\$	(1,087.37)
Concession Sales	\$	122,244.36
Advertising Sales	\$	50.00
Direct & Indirect Public Support	\$	31,681.91
Fundraising Meltdown	\$	-
Foundation Income Received		
Government Grants	\$	8,750.00
Total Investments	\$	12,003.04
Merchandise Sales	\$	4,544.25
Program Fees	\$	380,844.35
Home Tournaments	\$	38,027.00
Special Events	\$	13,407.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>590,464.54</b>

**Material Expenditures**

Cost of Goods Sold (Concessions)	\$	63,208.62
Casualty Loss & Theft	\$	5,984.96
Business Expenses	\$	21,092.84
Community Support (CIC Pledge)	\$	1,164,972.80
Charitable Gaming Payouts	\$	-
Commissions Paid (Concessions Profit Sharing)	\$	15,879.34
Accounting Fees	\$	16,292.04
Artwork/Design Services	\$	37.46
Coaching Fees	\$	188,246.00
Communication Fees	\$	-
Entertainment	\$	-
IT Support	\$	6,000.00
Legal Fees	\$	-
Athletic Training/Baseline Testing	\$	3,280.00
Officiating Fees	\$	49,210.00
Outside Contract Services	\$	8,900.00
Donated Facilities and Equipment	\$	-
Equip Rental and Maintenance	\$	(23.42)
Golf Tournament - Green Fees	\$	7,500.00
Rent, Parking, Utilities (Rink Rent)	\$	164,150.00
Meals and Entertainment (Coach Travel)	\$	3,573.32
Advertising and Promotion	\$	-
Coaching Education Program (USA Hockey)	\$	1,700.00
Continuing Professional Education	\$	-
Printing and Copying	\$	4,650.23
Processing Fees	\$	271.62
Registration, Entry Fees (Out of Town Tournaments)	\$	63,755.00
Supplies	\$	3,351.81
Telephone, Telecommunications (Phone, Ipads)	\$	849.09
Trophies, Awards, Medals	\$	7,201.54
Video Streaming Service	\$	17,852.00
Uniforms	\$	9,250.00
Fines and Penalties	\$	9,385.73
Malpractice Insurance	\$	-
Insurance - Liability, D and O	\$	3,803.00
Surcharge	\$	14,626.76
Memberships	\$	148.00
Worker's Comp	\$	3,101.07
Payroll Expenses	\$	284,954.34
Travel	\$	11,564.89
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,156,826.64</b>
Total Other Income	\$	2,926.88
<b><u>Regular Operations Net Income (Loss)</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(1,563,435.22)</b>

**Charitable Gaming Net Income (as of 3.31.23)**      \$      986,198.62

**Net Income (Loss) w/ Charitable Gaming**      \$      (577,236.60)

\*2022-2023 Financials will show \$1,000,000 donation to VFW 3; this is a non-cash expense and \$100,000 is our annual contribution but must be recorded this way for accounting purposes. Future years will not reflect the \$100,000 annual contribution.