

**Casper Amateur Hockey
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 6, 2014** **Uranerz Offices**

Attendance: Angie Donelan, Diane Burg, James Bargett, James Ewald, Jolene Whitley, Kevin Taheri, Kevin Whitman, Marvin Rone, Stephanie Means, Ti Brooks
Guests: members of the Lady Oilers/ parents & coach, Roger Burns, Blu McGrath, Dave Solko

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for Nov, Dec, Jan and Feb were all redistributed.

Marvin Rone made a motion to approve the November minutes with correction, Diane Burg seconded the motion, it passed.

Mike Thomas made a motion to approve the December minutes, Marvin Rone seconded the motion, it passed.

Marvin Rone made a motion to approve the January minutes, Kevin Taheri seconded the motion, it passed.

Marvin Rone made a motion to approve the February minutes, Angie Donelan seconded the motion, it passed.

I. President's Report:

1) Girls presentation: Members of the Lady Oilers came to the board asking for permission to do more team building activities. They presented a list of ideas they would like to get started on, the earliest event would be in June. The ladies would like to have an open skate night for future Lady Oilers on June 28th in hopes of encouraging other girls to try out for hockey. The Lady Oilers have also written a letter to USA Hockey asking for support to help raise awareness of girl's hockey in Casper. Attached is the presentation the girls gave to the board. The board did visit with the team at length regarding their request for assistance on paying for the ice time on June 28th. Several suggestions were made to the girls on how to improve their letter to USA Hockey and other avenues to explore to gain community support.

Marvin Rone made a motion for the CAHC Board to pay for 2 hours of ice time for the Lady Oilers to use at their desertion or up to \$250 in advertising expenses for the June 28th event. James Bargett seconded the motion and it passed.

2) **Congrats State Champs:** Congratulations to the Peewee's and Midget A teams for winning their State Tournaments.

3) **Fun Night date change:** Due to conflicts at the Ice Arena, the annual Fun Night has to be moved. The new date is Tuesday, March 18th from 5:30pm -7:30pm.

4) **Blu – New junior team (Q & A session):** Please see attached info at end of minutes

5) **Leisure Board meeting:** Jolene was called 2 days ago and informed about the upcoming Leisure Board meeting, which is Thursday March 13th @ 4:30pm. This is during Spring Break and several board members will be out of town. CAHC did request for the meeting to be postponed until April, but we were informed that it would be better if we could attend the March Meeting. Debi Collins is able to attend the meeting and will report back.

6) **Annual meeting & board nominations:** Annual board meeting and election of new board members will be Sunday April 6th, beginning at 1pm @ the Casper Country Club.

7) **Gillette skater update:** The Midget A player from Gillette who was injured at the State Tournament was reported to be in good health. He received a concussion and has a sore back, but no broken bones. He was up walking around when Jolene stopped by the hospital to check on him.

8) **Dashers:** Details in the Q & A with Blu

9) **WAHL:** In Gillette at the Peewee state tournament, it was reported that the age rep for that division was not on site during the tournament and there were some issues. There was an altercation at the end of a game between a Casper and Gillette Player. No penalties were called, and after the game the Casper Coaches were called and informed that both the Casper and Gillette players were being suspended from the next game. The “acting” age rep made the decision and when she was questioned, she refused to talk to anyone. Also when the players were reported to WAHL as being suspended, the wrong Casper player was named. Debi is looking in to WAHL rules/regs on how to avoid this in the future.

10) **Midget Names on Silver Stick Banner:** An inquiry was made by a Midget parent on whether or not the Midget A players names would be added to the Silver Stick banner. This was done for the Bantam team last year. A short discussion was held regarding who would do the work. The names on the Bantam banner are already coming off.

Angie Donelan made a motion for the Midget players names to be added to the banner, with a preference given to Superior Signs. Marvin Rone seconded the motion and it passed.

Ti Brooks will check with Superior Signs to get a cost estimate and will provide details at the next board meeting.

II. Treasurer’s Report: See Attached

Marvin Rone moved to accept the Treasure’s report as given, Kevin Taheri seconded the motion and it passed.

III. Standing Committee Reports:

A. **Finance:** The finance committee has been working on a proposed fee increase and revised payment schedule. Several key issues were discussed at length which include but not limited to the following:

- 1) Why increase fee’s when CAHC has money in the bank?
- 2) Isn’t the goal to keep people in hockey, not price them out?
- 3) Without any current sponsors, football frenzy & other fund raising monies, the club would be in the hole with every skater.
- 4) What are we (CAHC) worried about, what do we fear is around the corner that means we should raise registration fees?
- 5) We currently have a cushion in the bank to weather storms (increased ice fees, fewer skaters to pay bills etc.) but we need to have a budget for the year to spend on incidentals (helping teams with awards, ice times, cover unexpected costs that come up etc.)

Kevin Taheri made a motion to accept the first 4 items from the proposal (which include the early registration deadline, a \$75 late fee for those who miss that deadline, the date for open registration/hockey swap and redoing the current payment policy) Item 5, which was the registration fee increase, was tabled. James Bargett seconded the motion and it passed.

It was also proposed that we include the Squirt age group in the new registration deadline. The original motion from January only included Midget, Bantam & Pee wee's.

Marvin Rone made a motion to include Squirt age division in the new registration deadline of July 1. Kevin Taheri seconded the motion and it passed with one member voting no.

- B. **Advertising:** Hockey helps the Hungry update: James Bargett reported that things are in place for the annual Hockey Helps the Hungry event planned for March 22. There will be a meet n greet starting at 5:30 for the U8's and the firemen, with that game beginning at 6pm, and the NC vs. KW game at 7pm.. There will be a puck toss and a 50/50 raffle during each game. The NC/KW jerseys have been ordered and they are \$35 each, high school players will be able to keep the jerseys. Volunteers are needed to help collect the food for the Salvation Army, run the clock, scoreboard and penalty boxes. A meeting will be held a few days before the event to finalize volunteers and stations. Organizers of the event are trying to get the ice time donated, but haven't received confirmation of that yet.

Kevin Taheri made a motion to pay the ice fees and printing costs for the flyers, up to \$450. Marvin Rone seconded the motion and it passed.

- C. **Scholarship:** It was reported there will not be funds for the Staffalino Scholarship this year, no indication as to why. A reminder was emailed to all seniors that the deadline for the Playmaker and Bill Ryan Memorial Scholarships are due March 15th.
- D. **Coaching:** It was reported that only 28 coaching evaluations were turned in this year. Some question what purpose of the evaluations serve. The majority of the membership do not return them, so we are not collecting any type of meaningful data. It was suggested that the paper/pencil coaching evaluations be replaced with team meetings held at least twice a season to get meaning full input from parents. Some feel that parents only use the evaluations to complain about a coach, not judging them on what skills they are teaching. As a board we will discuss this again in the future. Coaching Coordinator evaluation is due before the end of April. It was suggested that this position be split into a 2-man job. This will be explored when the committee meets. The following people volunteered to be on the evaluation committee: James Bargett- he will set up the meeting, Jim Wetzel, Ti Brooks, Jolene Whiltey
- E. **Bylaws/Policies:** Items this committee are working on are: the Parent Code of Conduct that was brought up last year, but never voted on, changing the U8 amount they receive from the Jamboree. When the amount was decided on years ago, CAHC did not have 80 skaters in program.
- F. **Scheduling and Special Events:** Angie Donelan reported that she is working on auction items for the Extravaganza, advertising will begin next week on the radio and there will be some advertising done in the paper. (we still have some space to use) There are a few 4 wheeler tickets left, but that fundraiser is about to finish up, the drawing will be at the Extravaganza. Hall of Fame nominations should be sent to Angie and the winners will be announced at the Extravaganza. The Pee wee Sportsmanship trophy needs to be engraved and Jamie Rupp needs more pictures for the slide show.

- G. **Member Relations:** There was not a great turnout for the U8 parent meeting. This meeting was for the U8 skaters moving on to squirts. It was simply to discuss the changes that happen as the kids move into other age brackets.
- H. **Communications:** Nothing to report
- I. **Discipline:** There is a midget player who has struggled this season with code of conduct infractions. He has agreed that he should not play in the NC/KW game on March 22.
- IV. **Goalkeepers:** It was reported that Goalkeepers has ordered 60 basic jerseys with Casper Hockey printed for our 1st time skaters. Also, kids participating in Hockey Helps the Hungry were notified that their equipment could be turned in on March 26th from 5:30-6:30. Next Goalkeepers meeting is Wednesday March 26th @ 6:30.
- V. **Referee-in-Chief:** Roger Burns reported that the Midget State Tournament went well in regards to refs. There were compliments from the Gillette coaches regarding the fairness of the calls. Roger is concerned that there we only had 5 refs to use during that tournament and our referee numbers need to increase. Some of our regulars are getting older and may not do as much in the coming years.
- VI. **Registration:** No report
- VII. **Unfinished Business:** Trophy Case topic is tabled till the regular April meeting
- VIII. **Old Business:** Code of Conduct review for tobacco policy will be discussed at the next board meeting. The Midget A fundraising efforts have been completed and there will still be an assessment for the team. The exact figure was not available.
- IX. **New Business:** A concern was raised over using email to discuss/vote on business for the club. In the past few weeks there has been 4 incidents where emails have been used to take care of business that needed dealt in between regular meetings. There was a short discussion held and it appeared that the majority of the board agreed that there is times when business needs to be take care of electronically and that we elect a president to help guide our organization, we need to trust that person to do what is in the best interest of the club.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm, our next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 3rd @ 6:30 at the ice arena.

Question & Answer with Blu McGrath regarding
Junior team coming to Casper Spring of 2014

- Blu has been trying to get a juniors team to Casper for several years
- Casper has been looked at by several owners to bring a team here, this year everything finally matched up
- Owner of the Coyotes is Chad Perish, from Texas- He will be in Casper with a few players sometime in April
- John Ambrefe from Philadelphia PA. will be the head coach
- This team will sanctioned with AAU
- Tryout camp is scheduled from May, age of players range from 16-20 with 28 on a roster
- Coach/owner would like to have some local kids (from Casper and Wyoming)
- Invitations were given out to some players during the Midget A State Tournament
- Blu feels the intent of the Coyotes owner is to work with CAHC, not against. He would like to collaborate on fundraising, working with CAHC teams and building community support for all hockey
- Blu wants to keep the lines of communication open between the ice arena, the new team and CAHC regarding advertising and sponsors
- Blu stated "CAHC has a history in Casper, I don't want to that change"
- The junior team will need 8 weekends for tournaments here in Casper. Games are generally played on Friday & Saturday evening with a Sunday mid morning game.
- Going to try and use weekend that CAHC usually don't use: Thanksgiving, Presidents Day, MLK and possibly a couple October weekends.
- CAHC should know the schedule by the time we meet with WAHL.
- Practice times for the Junior Team are tentatively scheduled for Monday-Friday from 9-11
 - This should not interfere with CAHC times or public skating
 - Ice arena would like to find some time for a power skating class, but will have to see how things work out.
- Some CAHC dasher boards will need to be moved (a total of 8)
- The dashers in front of the team benches/clock area will stay
- The boards in questions are from in front of locker room 2 and locker room 5
- CAHC would like them moved to behind the goal on the south end of the rink- right under the score board
- CAHC dasher space will not shrink, but open slots may be offered to the Junior Team
- The city will pay to have them moved
- Banner space on the east wall will remain CAHC
- There are still discussions being held with city manager about a 2nd sheet of ice.
- Seating in the arena will be redone seating renumbered.
- Price for tickets has not been set
- There will probably be beer sales in the upper area, but nothing is confirmed yet.
- Blu thinks that locker rooms 3/4 will be the visitor rooms and extra space will either be build or a trailer type room will be brought in for the Coyotes.
- The CAHC trophy case in the skybox is still OK with Blu
- More details will be shared as things get finalized