



## **Minutes    Speed Skate PEI Board of Directors Meeting**

29 October 2008    Royalty Center Room 236

Present:

Glenn Homes

Edith Peacock

James Monthony

Gordon Rogers

Alban Moran

Scott Beamish

Phil Byrne

Rebecca Doiron

Pamela Large-Moran

Meeting called to order at 6:40 with a welcome to Rebecca and Phil (coaching) and Scott Beamish on behalf of the skaters and Pamela Large-Moran on behalf of the Public Relations Committee.

Approval of agenda moved JM and seconded GR.

Approval of minutes moved GR and seconded JM.

Practice schedule-James presented the overall financial situation for Speed Skate PEI and handed out a proposed budget. In summary, there has been a 12 percent increase in the cost of the ice time, registration is down by 25 percent and there was a deficit of \$1000.00 from the Atlantic Cup. There are 240 hours of ice time booked at the Civic Center. We have budgeted for 200 hours of ice time there are no major events at the Civic Center that will be reducing our ice time.

James reviewed Gordon's budget which estimates at \$5800.00 deficit but was based on registration fees projections which are down so the projected deficit is now \$7800.00. James indicated that deficit could be cut to about \$2500.00 if you cut ice time by three

hours per week all year and recommends that this level of reduction be instituted at least until Christmas now to prevent an even larger deficit.

All the attendees were asked to provide two minute comments with suggestions as to how to deal with financial situation.

Pamela Large-Moran suggested that there are other alternative for cutting the ice time including seeking sponsorship etc. and that it would be helpful to have a brainstorming session to come up with ideas to assist with the deficit.

Phil, in terms of coaching, indicated that such a cut in ice time will change practices. He asked the question if we cut ice time this season will we lose the ice time for next season?

James mentioned that it had been suggested by Gordon that perhaps some club ice could be sub-let, allowing the club to hold on to the time.

Rebecca indicated that there are issues with respect to combining groups for practices including concern of there being too many kids on the ice, noise, safety (keeping skaters in their area). She also indicated that some parents have a suggestion that some of the monies be used from the GIC-Reserve Fund.

Glen pointed out the need to keep the focus on keeping the coaches and skaters happy. Phil also indicated that many kids attend the practices also for social reasons. Glen also suggested that there is a process of getting funding from Canada Games (2011 Canada Games).

Scott indicated that top skaters do not like the idea of combining classes; they would be willing to fund raise further.

Glen suggested that the coaches set the schedule (in other words let the coaches choose the combinations and the schedules).

James indicated that parents need some certainty of the schedule and like a set schedule.

Gordon suggested that, from a financial point of view, the club could accept a \$2500.00 deficit for the year, the equipment budget could be reduced from \$2500.00 down to \$1000.00, a competition fee could be instituted which could raise approximately \$1500.00, which would alleviate \$5500.00 of the expected deficit leaving a \$2500.00 shortfall.

James then suggested that we take a couple of hours per week out of the schedule now and Gordon suggested that we give the coaches a goal of reducing ice time by 10 -12 hours from the NOV and Dec schedule. There are 74 hours booked of ice for

November 3 to December 20. James proposes that there be 12-14 hours reduction in ice time for this period.

#### Motion 1

James brought a motion that Scott Beamish be the skater representative on the board. Seconded by Gordon. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Motion 2

A motion was brought by Gordon to introduce a competition fee of \$30 per skater or \$50 per family, seconded by Glen. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion 3 James suggested the following motion to reduce ice time, which was seconded by Gordon.

“We respectfully direct the coaching staff to reduce 12 to 14 hours of ice time during the period Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 to Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. 2008. We would prefer that this reduction be largely achieved by sharing ice time for practices.”

Motion was carried 4 to 1.

There was discussion that next fall a SS fundraiser be held at Breamish's apple farm for kids to sell apples etc.

Pam will take the competition registration fee back to the PR Committee for discussion of strategy to raise additional funds for the club. They will investigate club sponsorship issue and other fundraising ideas.

Gordon indicated that the GIC/Reserve fund is about \$7300.00. Alban suggested using approx 1/3 of it or \$2400.00.

James commented that with respect to the photographer at the Atlantic Cup that we should have some revenue from his work. [Subsequently received \$65.00]

James discuss a grant proposal (True Sport grant). James indicated that the grant can be up to \$5000.00. James has submitted an application for the grant.

Gordon suggested that we should start looking for a successor for Tom Cullen for the Atlantic Cup as Tom has held this position for a long time. We need to recruit a chairman in training for the Atlantic Cup or to recruit in conjunction with Tom.

There was an overall view expressed that we need to develop our officials for the future health of the club.

James asked Edith if we can update the registration forms.

There are still some tee shirts from the Atlantic Cup (26) and 20-30 green tee shirts used for Sobey's buying groceries.

The Skate-a-thon is scheduled for November 8.

The board suggests that the coaches consider November 20 as a date for the fun meet.

Gordon proposed that the next board meeting be December 10 at 6:30 in Room 236.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 moved by JM Seconded by GR

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alban Moran on behalf of Deanne Burnett.

#### UPDATE TO OCT 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 MINUTES REGARDING 2008/2009 REGISTRATION LEVEL REDUCTIONS:

Accounting for late registrations our current number is 58 vs. 63 last year so that our registration number has reduced somewhat less (in the 10% range) than the 25% discussed and reported in the Oct. 29, 2008 meeting minutes. Our registration mix, however, has shifted toward younger skaters whose fees are lower with registration fee revenue estimated to be about 83% of last year's revenues. This reduced revenue projection does not include increased revenues that will be generated from the Competition Fee implemented this year.