



The NSPAHA Board of Directors has been working on updating and publishing the various rules that govern our Association. Prior to this year, our Association Handbook had not been updated since 1999 and had never been posted on our web site where it would be readily available to all members. The Board is now nearing the end of the updating process. Changes have been made to the Rules and Guidelines, and the Handbook has been posted on our web site for several months. All that remains is to finish updating the NSPAHA Constitution and Bylaws. To bring the Constitution and Bylaws in line with existing NSPAHA customs and practices (and to address some issues concerning the annual elections) the Board of Directors has unanimously voted to make a handful of recommended changes. The recommended changes are as follows:

That the statement of purpose contained in both the Constitution and the Bylaws be amended to more correctly refer to the boundaries of the Association;

That all references to the “legal counsel” position be removed from the Constitution and the Bylaws, since that position has not been recognized or filled for several years;

That the Bylaws be amended to permit the Association to continue to utilize the services of a financial professional to assist the Treasurer;

That the Bylaws be amended to cut down on the cost of annual elections by authorizing notices to be published on the NSPAHA website and at Polar Arena and/or sent via e-mail (rather than requiring that all notices be sent by mail); and

That the Bylaws be amended to follow the lead of other associations by requiring anyone interested in running for an NSPAHA Board position to have their name placed on the ballot before the election (thereby eliminating the possibility of secret, last minute campaigns by unannounced candidates).

The Board does not believe that the recommended changes are controversial, but no change to the Association’s governing documents (no matter how trivial) can be made without the approval of two-thirds of the membership in attendance at a meeting for which notice has been properly provided. Accordingly, a membership “meeting” has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2006, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM, at Polar Arena, for the sole purpose of giving members an opportunity to vote on the recommended changes.

All members will be receiving a written communication that explains the recommended changes and that provides formal notice of the membership meeting. Please plan to stop by Polar Arena at any time between 6:30 and 8:00 on the evening of February 21 to cast your vote. It should only take you a few minutes to do so.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT A MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2006, FROM 6:30 - 8:00 PM, AT POLAR ARENA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING ON SEVERAL RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO THE NSPAHA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.





Advanced Mites & Polar Boys Hockey 2006

NSPAHA NEEDS YOU

Our association depends on the volunteer leadership of numerous members. We have been fortunate to have capable individuals step forward each year to do their part to help promote and facilitate youth hockey in the greater North Saint Paul area by serving on the NSPAHA Board. These individuals come from a wide variety of backgrounds and bring diverse talents and viewpoints to our Board, but they share a common love for hockey and a common goal of serving the youth in our area.

This coming year (like most years), we will need to replace several Board members who will be stepping down. Our elections will be held in April. In the coming months, current Board members will be soliciting potential replacements. Regardless of whether you are directly solicited, please consider running for the Board. If you are unable to serve, think about encouraging someone you know to run for the Board. No special qualifications are needed. Our election process is open to all members.

A Managers meeting has been scheduled for this Saturday 02-11-06 for Noon at Polar Arena.

Managers please note the www.nsp hockey.org web-site will now hold photos up to 95K.



Spaghetti Dinner Sunday March 12th.



The Original Spring League '06

The 2006 Spring League [registration form](http://www.nspahockey.org/SpringLeague.html) is now available. <http://www.nspahockey.org/SpringLeague.html>

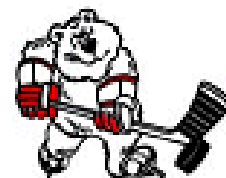
For those not familiar with the "Original Spring League", it is a fun league for Mites, Squirts, Pee Wees, 10U, and 12U. The season begins with 1 practice followed by 11 games.

The League starts the week of March 20th and will end somewhere between May 7th and May 13th. The end date will depend on how many teams register.

Does your child have any friends or relatives that play at the same level in a different association? If so, this is a great opportunity for them to play on the same team. This league is not limited to NSPAHA players.

Additional details about the league can be found on the [registration form](#). Questions regarding the league can be sent to springhockey@nspahockey.org.

Space is limited so register early. Registration will be on a "First come, first play" basis.



PURPOSE

Skaters Keep Achieving through Education (S.K.A.T.E.) was established to encourage, support and reward youth hockey players who commit themselves to their schoolwork while enjoying the sport of hockey.

GOALS

it is the goal of the Skaters Keep Achieving Through Education (S.K.A.T.E.) program to significantly increase awareness among youth hockey players that performance in the classroom is more important in life than performance on the ice. It is also a stated goal of S.K.A.T.E. to generate a lasting, measurable impact on higher achievement in the classroom.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - MANAGERS

1. Who can participate in the program?

S.K.A.T.E. is available to all Minnesota Youth Hockey Associations and their youth hockey players.

2. What are the criteria for qualification?

A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above during the academic period(s) which coincides with the youth hockey season.

- Student athletes must have a Grade Point Average of 3.0 or above.
- Grades will be utilized from the time period that closely aligns with the hockey season.

3. Please show your report card to your Team Manger this week.

- Managers please e-mail the list of your qualifying players to NSPAHA@comcast.net by Saturday February 18th.



Do you have ideas on how to improve and strengthen our Association? Would you like to become more involved in the decisions that affect our Association? If so, we are now taking nominations/self-nominations from parents within the NSPAHA to fill several board positions for next year. Please contact Vice President David Epland at (651) 773-9350 or David.Epland@Qwest.com with your nominations.



North St. Paul Area Hockey Association

January 11, 2006 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 8:15 p.m., Wednesday January 11, 2006 @ the North St. Paul American Legion

Officers' Reports:

Secretary (Jeff Dick)

- A motion was made/seconded (Rick Kranz/David Epland) to approve the December meeting minutes as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

President (Peter Koller)

- Peter reminded us that we should be trying to find candidates for the 2006-2007 Board. Elections are in April.

1st Vice President (vacant)

- N/A

2nd Vice President/D2 Representative (Tim Cole)

- Tim provided some details on the D2 tournament games for which NSPAHA is required to provide volunteers. We must fill 27 2-game shifts for duties such as working the penalty box, cleaning locker rooms, etc. Games are February 26th, March 3rd and March 4th at Tartan and St. Croix Valley. Tim will email details to the Board. The association will be fined \$150 for every shift not covered.
- D2 will be holding a meeting with association presidents in July or August regarding Jr. Gold waiver issues.

Treasurer (Gary Stadler/Frank Helseth)

- Gary:
 - Gary presented the financial statements.
 - A Motion was made/seconded (Rick Kranz/Dennis Greeley) to approve the December treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.
- Frank:
 - No report

Membership Forum:

- Kevin Snell attended the meeting for the purpose of resolving a registration fee refund issue. Since this was a financial matter, Kevin met with Gary Stadler and Frank Helseth.
- Jim Engen attended the meeting to provide an update on the annual spaghetti dinner and solicit help cleaning up after the dinner. The dinner will be on Sunday, March 12th at the American Legion. Jim obtained the necessary permit from Ramsey County. He is looking for 10 people for the clean up duty.

Directors' reports:

Ice Scheduler (Tony Giunta)

- Tony is looking for someone to take some extra ice that is available on 2/12.
- Tony will post the schedule through 2/12 on 1/20.

Registration (Deb Helseth)

- Registration tasks are almost done. There are 2 more requirements:
 - Deb needs a letter from Peter Koller stating that the necessary background checks were done.
 - Some reports need to be sent to USA Hockey.

- There are some Mites that want to register but USA Hockey doesn't accept registrations after 12/31. Deb will call USA Hockey to see if anything can be done.

Initiation - Mite 1-2 (Rick Kranz)

- The 2nd year mites skated with the boys High School team on 1/10.
- Due to the warm weather, the City of North St. Paul will not have any outdoor ice until 1/23 at the earliest. They will not be flooding or staffing the warming house or turning on the lights.
- All Mites will have their end of season jamboree on 2/25 & 2/26.

Equipment (Steve Koliass)

- There are still issues with the Squirt A jerseys. Steve is working on a resolution.
- Steve hasn't had a chance to look into coaches' bags.

Pee Wee/12U (Gary Glaus)

- Gary provided an update on the Pee Wee and 12U teams.

Player/Coach Development (Steve Czech)

- Steve informed us that Acceleration Minnesota offered NSPAHA a deal for goalie sessions. The normal cost is \$90/hr but they will charge \$45/hr. The sessions will take place on Saturdays and Sundays.
- A motion was made/seconded (Steve Czech/Rick Kranz) to approve \$2000 to cover up to 4 sessions per goalie for Squirt/10U through Bantam/14U. The motion passed unanimously.

Tournaments (Pete Donovan)

- Absent

Publicity/ACE/HEP/SKATE (David Epland)

- No report

Squirt/10U (Jim Krings)

- Jim stated that the 10U teams are doing pretty well.
- Jim raised a concern about an ice scheduler for 2006-2007 since Tony Giunta is stepping down from that role.

Volunteer (Denay DeMars)

- Things are going well.
- Denay asked if she is responsible for coordinating volunteers for the D2 tournament. Peter stated that she may need to help find volunteers but the Board is typically responsible for this.
- Denay is concerned about concession stand coverage the last couple weeks in February – especially the weekend of the Mite jamboree.
- There are still issues with concession stand volunteers not wearing hats. David Epland will send an email regarding this issue to all email addresses registered on nsphockey.org.

Ways & Means (Kristine Slagle)

- No report

Bantam/14U (Jerry Cassidy)

- Jerry will remind the 14U parents to pay their team fees.

Advanced Mites/Jr. Gold (Dennis Greeley)

- Advanced Mites:
 - Things are going well.
 - The Advanced Mites will be having a “Skate with the Polars” event on January 31st at 4:45 followed by a pizza party.
 - Dennis is looking into trophies. He plans to place an order within a week.
 - The jamboree will be a round-robin format this year. The conclusion will be the weekend of 2/25 & 2/26.
- Jr. Gold:
 - No report.

Old Business

- Updating Constitution and Bylaws:
 - The Rules Committee’s recommended modifications to the Constitution and Bylaws were discussed at length.
 - Separate motions were made to approve each change. Each motion passed unanimously. A listing of the affected Sections and who made/seconded the motions is below. The specific changes can be found in Appendix A.
 - Article II, Section 1 of both the Constitution and Bylaws: Tim Cole/Rick Kranz
 - Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution: Tim Cole/Jim Krings
 - Article VI, Section 5 of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Denay DeMars
 - Article VI, Section 7 of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Rick Kranz
 - Article VII, Section 3 of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Jim Krings
 - Article VII, Section 6 of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Denay DeMars
 - Article VII, Section 7 (new Section) of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Denay DeMars
 - Article VIII, Section 3 of the Bylaws: Tim Cole/Rick Kranz
- Spring League:
 - Jeff provided a status report on Spring League:
 - Enough ice has been obtained from Polar to support 28 teams. More ice may be available at Tartan and/or St. Croix Rec. Center if necessary.
 - The flyers/registration forms will be printed soon.
 - A special email address has been set up for Spring League. It is springhockey@nspockey.org.

New Business

- Senior Advisor Rich Hellquist asked Peter Koller to nominate David Epland to take over the 1st Vice President position vacated by Chad Tylka. Rich cited the issue of the near inability to hold the 1/11 meeting due to lack of a quorum. Frank Helseth was home ill but came to the meeting so there would be a quorum. Rich also cited Article V, Section 5 of the Bylaws which reads: “Vacancies in any office of this organization shall be appointed and filled for the duration of the term by vote of the Board of Directors. Peter nominated David Epland as 1st Vice President. The nomination was approved/seconded (Rich Hellquist/Jim Krings). A vote was taken and David was unanimously approved.
- Rich Hellquist provided an update on the spaghetti dinner:
 - Rich has acquired a raffle license.
 - Prizes planned for the primary raffles are:
 - 4 firearms (cost of \$1130)
 - 2 TVs
 - Cash prizes

- There will also be a silent auction and raffles throughout the day.
- A motion was made/seconded (Rich Hellquist/Denay DeMars) to approve expenditures up to \$4000 to purchase prizes for the spaghetti dinner. The motion passed unanimously.

February's Board meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on Wednesday, February 8th at the NSP American Legion.

A motion was made/seconded (Rich Hellquist/David Epland) to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeff Dick
Secretary, NSPAHA

NSPAHA
PO BOX 9004
NO ST PAUL, MN 55109

To the family of -

www.nsp hockey.org NSPAHA North St. Paul Hockey Polar Pride is a monthly news publication serving the needs of North St. Paul and the surrounding communities.

TO: All NSPAHA Members

FROM: NSPAHA Board of Directors

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