

## RUSTIN ICE HOCKEY CLUB

[www.rustin-ice.org](http://www.rustin-ice.org)

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

#### I. President

- Welcome/Board introductions

Current Board members introduced by President, Joe Burke

Sten Schwandt-Vice President, Rick Clark-Treasurer, Karen Young-Secretary

Nick Russo-Hockey Director (also Varsity and Elementary B Head Coach)

- New Middle School Structure

With low player numbers last year our club combined with East Hockey and formed two Bulldogs Teams. This year although Rustin had enough players in order to have 3 pure teams, both East and Henderson were low. In order to have a place for all players to play we have again combined in order to form Bulldogs teams. We will have:

- Henderson/East Check team (to be run by Henderson)
- Pure Rustin Hockey Check team-(to wear gold jerseys)
- NO Check A team-Bulldogs
- Two NO Check B teams-Bulldogs

The middle school league structure has been changed this year and will now have 3 divisions: Check, No check A and No check B (Developmental). There will no longer be designations of A, AA and AAA divisions.

- Mentor Program

Each year we have this program where our Middle School and High School players are offered the opportunity to mentor a lower level team. Teams will have 2-3 mentors that will help with both practices and games. This is an opportunity for our players to be role models and participate in Community service. All players are required to fill out a mentor application in order to participate. This program is a benefit to all players.

- Community Service

We have three events so far and they will address the homeless, cancer and children with special needs. These programs will be instituted throughout our entire club. The first event will be for our Varsity team which will participate in the upcoming Hicks Tournament at Ice Line. ([www.andrewhicksjrfoundation.org](http://www.andrewhicksjrfoundation.org)). Community Service events being discussed are Safe Harbor lunches, Unite for Her breast cancer ([www.Uniteforher.org](http://www.Uniteforher.org)), ARC ([www.arcofchestercounty.org](http://www.arcofchestercounty.org)) and Rustin Parent, Sue Jeziorski, is looking in to our participation in helping with a local food bank.

Our goal in participating in Community Service is to have the players see the benefit of their time and energy in helping others. We want to see more awareness.

- **Team Representatives**

All teams will have a Team Rep put in place. Details of the role for this position can be found on our website under the link for ByLaws.

- **Review of Summer Clinic and Tournaments**

Our Summer Clinic program was very successful with incredible interest shown at all levels. Player interest in our club has grown since this program. Players were on the ice twice per week for 5 weeks. Counselors who participated in the Summer Clinic were former Rustin Hockey Varsity captains.

Varsity Tournament Team-This was a huge success. The team went 500 over the summer. The team participated in 3 tournaments: Ice Line, Brewster New York and Hatfield.

More talk needs to be done for all level tournament teams. We would like to see all players given the opportunity to play in tournaments over the upcoming summer. Rustin Hockey is trying to expand opportunities within the club so that players will not feel the need to join other travel teams in order to get more game/ice time. We are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest club at Ice Line behind the JR. Flyers and the Quakers with the largest # of players and the amount of \$ paid to Ice Line.

Varsity/Elementary weekend-We would like to do this twice in the upcoming season. This weekend includes inviting the Elementary players to a Friday night game where the Elementary players will be given a pizza party prior to the game. At this party they will decorate signs and will be given noise makers for the game. All of the Elementary players are then escorted together in their Gold Rustin Hockey jerseys to the game together. They will sit across from the Varsity bench during the game and then after the game will be escorted together to the Varsity locker room. In the locker room all Elementary players will be given a Varsity team picture that can be signed by the Varsity players. The next morning all Varsity players are then invited to a Rustin Elementary practice and will have breakfast together after at Ice Line.

Teams for this year: Varsity, Junior Varsity, Middle School check, Middle School A no check, 2 Middle School B no check teams and 2 (possibly 3) Elementary teams.

## **II. Vice President**

- **Discipline Committee**

This committee is formed each year and has never been called together. We will need volunteers to participate for this year. Our club adheres fully to the WCASD and PIAA disciplinary and academic policies.

- **USA Hockey Rosters**

All players and coaches must have their USA Hockey registration done in order to participate on the ice. Teams are then formed and rostered with USA Hockey.

### **III. Treasurer**

- **Financial Report/Dues payment schedule**

Our budget was locked and finalized on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Our fiscal year begins on May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The budget is based on player numbers and this is why it can't be finalized until this date. The budgeted player numbers that were used on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> were: HS 34, MS 40 and Elementary 33 for a total of 107 players. For any specific questions related to our budget families are encouraged to contact our treasurer, Rick Clark. The link for Rick can be found on our website under Board Members.

### **IV. Secretary**

- **Committees**

We would like to see committees formed that will help with activities such as the banquet, alumni game, fundraising-Beef and Beer, and other Social events. All interested people are encouraged to contact Karen Young. Ideas and suggestions are always appreciated as well.

- **Spiritwear**

Sandy Schwandt is our Spiritwear representative and is busy finalizing our upcoming sale. We have new additions such as mittens, hats and pinnies. Sandy is looking for assistants to help her in distributing merchandise. We do have some items in stock at this time such as Rustin Hockey magnets and a few kid t-shirts.

- **Season Passes**

Each year the ICSHL offers these passes to all of our families. The cost for a Varsity Hockey season pass is \$50 which will offer a savings from purchasing tickets at the gate for each game. Each ICSHL game is \$4 at the door with children under 12 years old free. Passes do not work for the Flyers Cup tournament. All high school players will receive a player pass from the league.

- **Registration paperwork**

There are a few players who are missing some paperwork and will be contacted by Karen to complete the necessary paperwork. All registration paperwork can be found on the Rustin Hockey website.

- **Website**

Our website has been updated and will continue to have updates throughout the season as rosters and schedules, events are planned. Many thanks to Joe Tagle for doing such a great job. Members are encouraged to take a look at the website and send in suggestions/comments in regard to our website. Parents/Guardians of our players are encouraged to contact Karen Young if you don't want your player to have photographs on the website.

- **Team Pictures**

Once all schedules are finalized we will have our team and individual pictures dates scheduled. All members will be receiving a memory mate with a team and individual picture included in club dues. Families will have the opportunity to purchase additional pictures and will be given contact information for the photographer.

- **Hockey Bags**

New this year, all HS players will receive a Rustin Hockey bag. Each year in the future all players new to HS will receive a bag as well. This is a new benefit which has been included in our budget. This is something for all players to look forward to as they move up to High School.

- **Mites on Ice**

On Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> our 18 of our Elementary hockey players will participate in the Philadelphia Flyers Mites on Ice at the Wells Fargo Center. Players will participate in this 3 minute game during the first intermission. To date, we have 140 Rustin Hockey players, families and friends going to the game. When more details are finalized, our entire club will be informed of the game and given the opportunity to purchase a ticket for \$55. With our overwhelming interest in this event, tickets will be limited.

## **V. Director of Hockey**

Just last night there was a meeting for all coaches in the program with 20 coaches in attendance. Our first 5 years of the Rustin Hockey program have been very successful. We are now entering the next 5 years and Nick Russo has many things planned. In our first 5 years we have 14 championships and 12 Runners up titles. We are the winningest club in the building.

Our Varsity hockey team played Conestoga earlier today in a nonleague game and won 6-0. This is a great start to our season.

- **Team Rosters**

All rosters are in the process of being finalized. There is always room left for players to move up. JV and Varsity rosters will be posted soon. The middle school A check and A NO check rosters have been posted. We will be dividing all of the B no check players in to two equal teams. The Elementary will likely have 3 teams with a single A team and 2 B teams.

- **Practice Schedules/Calendar**

We are looking to purchase approx 130 ice slots this season for the use of practicing and nonleague games. Practice slots are: Wednesday at 3:30pm, Thursday at 3:30pm and two slots at 5:00pm, Friday at 4:00pm, Saturday at 9:15 am and Sundays at approx 6:00pm. We will not purchase all Friday and Sunday slots, these slots will be determined once game schedules for all teams are finalized. Although these slots will eventually have a routine schedule, the schedule can change based upon league games and other activities. A monthly calendar will be distributed in order to keep families up to date on our practice schedule. This calendar will be posted on the website.

- **Coaching Staff**

- Varsity-Nick Russo, Rick Knodel, Jeff Cameron, Jason Myrtetus, Bryan Rogers and Joe Tagle
- JV-Mike Giduck, John Garahan, Joe Tagle, Tom Millichap
- Middle School A check-Bill Mullin and Ken Sheriko
- Middle School A NO check-Sten Schwandt, Gus Zarelli, Ray DeMarco

- Middle School B NO check AMERICAN-Dave Aurillo
- Middle School B NO check NATIONAL-Mike McCullough

Elementary-We have a solid list of coaches that will be put in place. To date we have 7 coaches who have volunteered to help with the Elementary.

- **Uniforms**

All uniforms have been ordered. It is unknown when they will be in. Players/teams will be notified when all uniforms arrive. All players who are waiting for a uniform will be provided with a uniform to use as we wait for new jerseys to come in.

When the blue jerseys arrive Nick will be able to print these jerseys so they will be available sooner.

Varsity helmets-these were donated to the club last year. We are in the process of fitting our new Varsity players with helmets for the upcoming season.

Gold socks-This year all high school players will be given a trial pair of gold socks in addition to our regular blue socks. We want to see how the socks look and if will be liked before expanding to all players in the club.

- **THL-Tristate Hockey League**

Next season our club is looking to participate in this new league. Although our club has purchased more practice ice this year to get players on the ice more, we are still looking for more opportunities for our players to expand on the number of games. In season, our club can participate in this league and be able to offer our players the opportunity to play for just Rustin and be able to participate in 2 leagues. This will be an alternative to the DVHL. The THL league will offer 20 games total with 10 home and 10 away games. This will be limited travel and will cost an approx additional \$200 per player.