

Bismarck Figure Skating Club Board Meeting
Capital Ice Complex
Thursday April 4, 2019 6:30pm

Members Present

Mikel Ystaas, Julie Fedorchak, Calvin Kingsley, Jen Rambur, Kiki Schatz, Jenny Renton, Becky Gallion, Mike Wald, Patty Schock, Michael Gill, Suzanne Fuchs, Chad Teske, Mandy Gill

The meeting was called to order by President Julie at 6:33pm.

Approval of amended March minutes, Jen made a motion to approve the minutes. Calvin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion approved. Minutes to be sent out to club members.

Treasurer's Report

Mikel gave the Treasurer's Report. For the month ending March 31st, the Club had cash totaling \$225,079.48 and accounts receivable of \$3,356.86. The monthly profit for all programs was \$15,365.96 and the combined year to date profit is \$103,357.94. Roughly \$30,000 of this profit is from the Duck Race which will be carried forward to use next season. The club is still waiting for the proceeds from the joint advertising venture with Bismarck Hockey Boosters. This will hopefully come in April.

The March cash disbursements from the operating account came to \$36,734.57 which covered the last Parks and Rec ice fee installment for the season, payroll and ice show expenses. The duck race account disbursed an additional \$12,175.01 to cover the remaining travel expenses for Nationals in Detroit. The club will make the yearly Capital Ice Complex pledge of \$25,000 prior to the fiscal year end. Additional expenses to be incurred prior to year-end will include expenses related to the LTS competition, advanced test session, and banquets. Julie suggested to start looking to budget for next year.

Motion to approve the Treasurer report made by Jen and seconded by Calvin. All in favor. Motion approved.

Directors' Reports

Synchro Report:

Finishing up the last few days of clinics and try outs along with a new parent meeting will begin on Thursday, April 11th at 6:15pm in the Curling room. Currently we have 130 skaters signed up for clinics which is on par with previous seasons. Try outs will be held April 11, 15, and 16. We plan to send out team placement letters the week after Easter.

End of season Celebration will be held Sunday, April 7th from 12:30-2:30pm at Liberty Elementary. Outgrown many places due to the size of our celebration so thankful to Roberta Nyhus for helping secure location! Normally around 240-260 people attended. Julie had a question about a skating banquet. Becky said for years they did this but has not been successful in the past.

The Connection guest skated at the Minot Ice Show – March 23 and 24. Thank you to Barb Kohlman for inviting them and to Jessica Rakness for hosting the girls and some of the moms at her house for the night. The team skated great and had a fun time being the stars of the show.

Our other teams had their final skates at our ice show in Bismarck. They all skated great and ended the season proud of all they had accomplished as teams.

Alissa Knudson has been filling in for Rachel Schuehle this month at clinics as she is on maternity leave.

Learn to Skate report:

Ice Show went great for the LTS skaters. All the groups did great and the kids were wonderful in the locker rooms.

LTS group classes and private lessons started on March 24th. Classes are going well. We have 160 skaters registered.

LTS Competition registration will close on April 6th. We are currently up to 42 skaters in the competition. I am currently looking for a few more judges for the competition, Emily has three but would like to find 2 more.

Julie questioned when Emily will have the meeting for individuals transferring from LTS to Advanced.

Advanced report:

Our Spring session started on March 19th.

We now have a functioning jump belt at VFW rink 1. Thank you to Mike and his staff for working to get this done.

The Spring test session will be held on May 10, 11, 12 at the Capital Ice Complex. We will be having the Canadian judges for this test session. Logan's flight is now booked, he will be coming in late Tuesday night and will be leaving on Sunday morning.

Emily spoke with Mike this week and it sounds like we will be moving down to Capital Ice Complex the week of April 29th. An email will go out to all skaters to let them know we will be switching rinks.

Per Julie, the Advanced banquet is scheduled for May 5th down at Capital Ice Complex.

President's Report

Update on Bookkeeper and Treasure applicants: Julie reported several applicants for Bookkeeper position. A mix from in and out of the club. After deadline, Mikel and Julie to go through the applications to see who will be interviewed. Calvin would like to see the question asked, "if not selected would they consider running for treasurer." Julie reported she has been asking the applicants if they would be interested in Treasurer report. Bookkeeping interviews are planned for early May.

Duck Race Committee: no new business to discuss

Unfinished Business:

Jen reported on End of Survey report. She reported on LTS survey result. The report was favorable. Though the report was favorable, here are some areas that can be improved upon in LTS, Advanced and Synchro:

- *Lack of communication between private lessons coach and parents
- *More flexibility
- *Some mentoring from older skaters when struggling
- *There is little to no interaction with instructor due to class size

Testing: LTS and Advanced

- *More volunteers: maybe have high schoolers help
- *More continuity, seems to be dependent on person doing the testing
- *Have same person testing each level during sessions for LTS
- *Volunteer and hospitality chair for advanced testing to lighten the load for test chairs
- *Ensure that flights for judges/dance partner are booked well in advanced. This is difficult if dance partner books own flights and if testing dates are changed last minute
- *For higher level tests, do not have testing times back to back
- *Change fee is excessive some feel
- *For advanced, no testing during the weekdays
- *Separate rooms for judges and test chairs

Other areas that can be improved:

- *High school coaches during LTS are messing around too much and not coaching
- *Have a handbook that explains advanced/private LTS lessons
- *Parent buddy for synchro parents in their first year
- *Not having low skaters and high skaters on the same session
- *Consistent testing
- *To stop any bullying, have parents in the locker room
- *Smaller groups for LTS
- *More notice for signing up for sessions
- *Expect all coaches to be fair
- *Young coaches do not seem to pay attention to young skaters that need help
- *Push skaters harder when struggling
- *Better distribution of skills being taught
- *Coaching seems to be lacking in LTS portion due to older skaters goofing off
- *Communication from the club about upcoming competitions rather than individual coaches
- *Like to see a monthly payment option
- *Like to see more transparency for synchro fees
- *Coaches need to be more approachable
- *More communication from coaches on child's progress and when to move to advanced
- *Conditioning at the rink
- *Require all families to volunteer or pay a fee

Positives from the survey:

- *Making friends

- *Love the coaches
- *Learning new skills
- *Positive role models
- *Family atmosphere of synchro program
- *Synchro sisters and brothers
- *Being a part of a team
- *Overall happy with program
- *Feel all are doing a great job
- *Amazing program and feel lucky to be a part of it

Julie reported survey results will be discussed again next month if needed.

Bid for Sectionals:

Becky and Jenny met with the Event Center and at this time they are not equipped to install and maintain the sheet of ice needed for sectionals as the pipes to keep the ice frozen are not equipped to do so.

The event center will continue look into the possibility of hosting and getting the facility ready to do so if possible.

Club Apparel Store:

Michael G visited with them again. He would like to see the store up and running before LTS competition the end of the month and will continue to follow up with them.

New Business:

Nothing to discuss at this meeting.

Safe Sport:

Kareen was gone so nothing to report.

Other Business:

None to discuss at this meeting.

Next board meeting scheduled for May 14, 2019, 6:30pm at Capital Ice Complex.

Julie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kiki seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.