

Champlain Valley Skating Club
Board Meeting, 4 February 2014

Present: Lisa Segear (President): Melody Benson; Erin Gravelle ; Laurie Marnell;
Michelle Straw; Tom Kalamacs; Susan Harrington, Michelle Gianni, Lenora Nelson,
Nick Bond

Guest: Melissa Cate (Leddy Arena)

Meeting called to order by Lisa Segear at 6:37 pm

Announcements from Melissa Cate:

Kathy Knauer's last date at Leddy is February 19 (although she is employed until July and cannot be replaced until then). Sarah Jennings will do Kathy's her job on an interim basis, and starting in July on a permanent basis (full-time). In July, Sarah's position will be filled. Net gain of Leddy staff, although spring staffing will be slim.

New face at Leddy: Alex, former campground manager, moved here from the Midwest to work as part-time campground manager. He is now summer campground manager (April-September) and assistant manager at Leddy (Nov-March). He has lots of rink experience.

Treasurer's Report

Lisa reviewed the documents which had been distributed before the meeting. We are still waiting on one last payment from USFS for regionals. Lisa will check back in with USFS next week.

Some skaters' ice contracts still have outstanding balances. Balance due must be paid by March 1. UVM spring ice contracts are in negotiation; should be signed shortly. Lisa will communicate with coaches regarding spring ice.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report (Laurie, Tom). Passed unanimously.

Old Business

CVO Date: USFS turned down our request for the July date because it conflicts with the Nutmeg Games. There are problems with the other available dates (conflicts with other competitions or with lack of ice at Leddy). Last weekend in June is a possibility but that would conflict with the Lake Placid competition; earlier in June would conflict with Theatre nationals. Vicki Hildibrand is trying to negotiate with USFS on the date. We are hopeful for either July 11 or 25.

Fundraising ideas: Laurie Marnell reported about a jackpot raffle done at her school. 100 tickets sold for \$25.00 each, with jackpot of \$1000 and 4 \$100 winners; \$1500 profit. An easy, flexible fundraiser. We could do the drawing around the

time of the spring ice show at Leddy. Discussion: perhaps have a table at the Theatre festival. Lower jackpot to \$500. How to distribute tickets and confirm which ones have been sold? Via ice monitors. We will check with OTI/VCTI about tabling at the Theatre festival. Laurie will work on the ticket printing and communication. The board thanked Laurie for her work.

Fall plan: some kind of fundraising breakfast.

Non-USFS skaters on club ice: Susan Harrington drafted language to modify the walk-on policy to permit walk-on skaters who are not members of USFS. Tom suggested replacing “for a single day or session” to “on a limited basis.” Moved (Erin, Laurie) to accept the revised language. Passed unanimously. (Final version appears at the end of these minutes; language should be added to the ice monitor binders and included in next set of ice contracts)

National Skating Month: Lisa reported that our events were a success: that lots of children got lots of skating loot. We had 3 exhibition skates. Gabrielle Kalinen, Lindsey Kalamacz and Brooke Barrett represented us in the exhibition skates. Melissa suggested that next year we could partner with Leddy on promoting skating. Lisa and Sydney spent a Saturday tabling during group lessons and Lisa talked with several parents about what comes next after the most advanced group class. Those are good opportunities for conversations about bridging from Leddy classes/ice to CVSC ice/private lessons.

Professionals: No report.

Officials: No report.

Test session: January session made money. Deadline for the March 14 test is next Tuesday. Next tests are scheduled for April 18 and May 2. Still unclear who the officials are for March 14. We are expecting some higher-level tests at the March testing panel. Board discussion: we should cancel the April 18 date and hold the May 2 test. Lisa will communicate those decisions to Donna Zarro (testing chair) and the club membership.

VCTI: Routines progressing well. Prop planning to begin in earnest soon. Tom reports that the judges will be placed back in the audience for this year’s competition season.

OTI: Working out the long program. Eliminated/minimized props to reduce work needed. 3 people will be testing so they can compete. Fundraiser (seeking sponsors) has been successful and is coming to a close.

Theatre festival report: 5 Michigan teams aren’t coming this year. We will seek a report from Sharron Scott.

Melissa Cate/Leddy: Leddy will start scheduling ice time for next fall in the next month or so.

Oversight with ice time for the weekend of Feb 8; the date got left out of the scheduled contracts through an error. We can have the ice if we want it (but would need to pay for it). Melissa offered an adjustment in the ice rate to make up for their error; Melissa and Lisa will check in afterward, and Lisa will blast the club (she has already communicated with the professionals).

The board expressed appreciation for Melissa and Leddy. Melissa reported that the City did a building assessment in the fall, and Leddy is the #1 city building in need of capital improvement (in terms of both emergent and long-term needs). One big project in the next few years is replacement of the refrigeration system (which is original to the building). The city is looking into geothermal systems. This spring will see a large electrical project. Plans are to fix what we have, not to add on. Leddy will replace the Zamboni next summer. The city also plans to establish reserve funds for Leddy in case of unanticipated needs.

Question: Will the summer ice schedule similar to last year? Probably, but details to be released soon. Parks and Rec camp guide just got released; Cool Camps are in place.

NEICC (New England Interclub Council) next meeting on 8 February in the Boston area. No one was able to attend on such short notice.

USFS Governing Council is in Colorado Springs, May 2-3. If we are not going to send delegates (or do not have delegates willing to go on their own dime), we have until April 10 to set up proxies. Delegates must be appointed by March 2. Last year we decided we did not have the money to send anyone and gave our delegate proxies (and voting instructions) to Ian McAdam. Moved (Susan, Laurie) that the President and VP be appointed our governing council delegates. Passed unanimously. Melody will collect feedback on issues from the professionals, and Lisa will forward voting instructions to whomever we delegate the proxies to.

New Business

Coaches: Pat Stokowski is getting ready to be reinstated as a coach. She needs one more continuing education credit. Once she gets her application together.

Next meeting: On March 3, date of the next scheduled board meeting, several members have conflicts. Motion to cancel March meeting (Laurie, Erin) unanimously passes. Pressing business can be dealt with by email if needed.

Next meeting will be first Wednesday in April: April 1. Discussion item for the April meeting: ice costs for next year. We project a \$5 increase in cost of big ice, effective July 1. Tom will have report on skater averages.

Michelle will circulate last month's minutes by email.

The board expressed thanks to Melissa for coming and encouraged her to come back from time to time. Melissa encouraged us to contact Sarah with programming suggestions.

Motion to adjourn (Tom, Erin). Unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrington

WALK-ON SKATERS:

Any skater not contracted for a particular session is considered a walk-on skater. Walk-on skaters are welcome on a space available basis. When there are too many skaters wanting to "walk-on," priority is given to full CVSC members. In addition, full CVSC members may register for walk-on sessions in advance with the ice monitor.

Walk-on skaters must be members of US Figure Skating or Basic Skills members of US Figure Skating. USFS/Basic Skills members can do unlimited walk-on sessions on club ice. Skaters who are not members of CVSC should present their USFS membership card or membership number to the ice monitor and should complete a waiver form before getting on the ice. Membership numbers and waivers will be kept on file for the rest of the skating year.

Ice monitors can make exceptions for non-USFS members on a limited basis (if, for example, a walk-on skater is a member of another national figure skating association). Any skater who is not a member of USFS who expects to skate on club ice more than once should check with the CVSC membership chair regarding associate membership. Any skater who takes the ice must have completed a waiver.