**Vernon Speed Skating Club**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, Sept 13, 2017 @ 5:15pm at Boston Pizza, Vernon, BC**

In Attendance: Board Members – Diana Hall, Tony Benn, Ian Stewart, Eric Miller

Motion to call the meeting to order at 5:25pm

Review of previous minutes – read and discussed

Adoption of Agenda

Open Discussion:

Subsidy Skaters: Ian asked for cost totals based on the number of competitions the elite skaters would be doing this year. Subsidy only covers four events as listed on the subsidy form: BCLT, BCST, Canadian Age Class Long Track, and Canada West Short Track; so there is a maximum limit of four applications per skater who qualifies for the subsidy listed events. Potential skaters include: Nate, Nathan, Laura, Daniel, Mattias, Charlie. A total of 6 skater’s times four competitions, times $75.00 times 2 days of events == total potential subsidy money paid out would be $3600.

New Mats: Diana has contacted two parties: Shoreline Canvas and BFF Foam. Shoreline mentioned contacting BFF Foam first as the original makers of the mats. BFF Foam has yet to respond. Shoreline will act as a back up should BFF Foam not work out, or if the cost is higher in comparison to Shoreline.

Skates Purchased: We still have two pairs of skates owed to us from a previous purchase and therefore need sizes to complete the order. We also have $2000 gaming money to spend on more skates. Nate is in need of a pair and two new skaters require sizes as well. We will call Tova and Russell’s skates the final skates owing to us. We will deduct Nate’s skate size and add three new sizes to a new order for this season. Sizes discussed to be ordered were: a 43 for Nate, and sizes 5, 7, 8. These will need to be translated into European size for ordering. With money left over, the Board, in full agreement has decided to purchase a new club jig for skate sharpening, which can be borrowed by members at competitions. This new jig will become the replacement for the old jig that has been missing since BCST.

Ability Groups: The Board has decided, in full agreement, to allow a skater to adjust to a different group practice for which they qualify based on ability/skill, but with only the same number of days paid for in registration, and without any extra fee. The example was Mattias skating in Competitive and paid for Competitive which is two times per week, but ability/skill dictates that he should be skating Elite practices. Mattias does not want to participate in the full Elite (three day a week ) program and pay the increased fee. Therefore it makes sense to keep him at two days a week, but allowing those two sessions to be with Elite level of competency.

Corporate Funding: Ian is meeting with Gorman Brothers to ask for sponsorship. Ian will ask them for their Logo to be posted on our new website, and with the option to get added to our skin suits next year.

Club Email for E-transfers: This is a work in progress between Ian and Karen. We will know results once this has been confirmed to work.

Interest on Volunteer Fee: Trina has asked about getting interest on her $100 volunteer fee. The Board has decided, in full agreement, there is no interest to be given on this money.

Incentives: Diana suggested introducing a rebate of $50.00 for skaters who attend a summer speed skating camp. This would be deducted from the upcoming registration season after the summer, and would require proof of participation with a receipt. The Board likes the idea, however, Tony feels that skaters who do other activities in the summer and train in different ways are being punished. Ian and Diana disagree. They feel that this is a speed skating club and that developing the sport and the return of skaters means providing incentives for speed skating events. This debate has been tabled and a vote on this matter will ensue after Ian crunches some numbers to determine its feasibility. Second, Ian suggested that we also provide a one time per season subsidy for recreation and competitive skaters at the same rate as outlined on the subsidy application ($75.00/day of event skated) to encourage these groups of skaters to participate in competitions outside the Okanagan region. This was voted on and all members were in favour.

Gaming Money: Ian is moving all the gaming money to general operating and calling it spent. He will pay for ice and skates upon invoices. All members were in favour.

Time and Cost: The Board has agreed to allow a skater who participates in speed skating and another extra curricular activity that conflicts with the speed skating schedule to afford them the opportunity to participate for half the time, and half the cost of their regular membership. This would equate to a competitive skater who typically skates two days a week, to be allowed to skate only one day a week, and to pay half of the registration fee for the competitive group. However, full fees for BCSSA and SSC, as well as skate rental and volunteer fees must be paid in full. This was brought to a vote and all members were in favour.

Purchase Equipment: Learn to skate needs new equipment to run an effective program. Required items: pool noodles, hula hoops, cones. All members were in favour. Diana is going to purchase the equipment of hula hoops and pool noodles. Tony has agreed to give the club his sport cones that he has at home.

Pizza Cards: These are already in the works. Diana has purchased 100 cards. This translates to 10 cards per skater to sell. The total money raised will be $1500. Diana will hand out the cards during skate sessions next week with instructions on their sales and return.

ORTC: Okanagan Regional Training Centre started by Nancy Goplen several years ago is asking for a $50.00 commitment to the program from elite skaters wishing to participate. This program for our club has been a huge life saver because Nancy and Mike have negotiated a great opportunity for our kids. For $50.00, Nancy has agreed to allow our Elite skaters to skate every Thursday during their ice time for the entire season. This means a third ice time for Elite skaters where Kaltire Place is not able to accommodate us. We will still have our 8 Friday Elite ice times, and the Kelowna club will join us in Vernon on those days. In trade, Mike has agreed to coach the Kelowna skaters at competitions outside the Okanagan region, as Nancy does not like to travel in the winter. This is a great opportunity for both clubs elite skaters to push the speed limit and practice in groups with larger numbers.

Black out Dates: This means NO SKATE DAYS

Sept 13, 15

Oct 27

Nov 15, 17, 24

Feb 2, 16

Mar 2

Elite Fridays: This means Elite skate on these Fridays only, all other Fridays are travel days to competitions.

Oct 6, 13

Nov 3

Dec 8, 15, 22

Jan 5, 26

AGM – April 4th to avoid conflict with spring break.

Open Floor – no new items

Date of Next Meeting – Monday, October 16 @ 5:15pm @ Kaltire Place; upstairs by the elevators.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:40pm

Fundraise events: Dates to come:

Pizza Cards – September sell Try It Day Sept 20

Meat Orders – October & February Skate-a-thon Dec 4

Skate-a-thon – November sell Family Skate Dec 20

Fundscrip – November sell Last Day X-mas Dec 22

Funale Family Basket raffle -- January First Day back Jan 3

50/50 Funale – February Funale Feb 10

Last skate day of season Mar 14

AGM – April 4