Kraft Hockey Goes On

$100,000 Plan
Our Community Hero!!

DIRK WOLTERBEEK

You won't find DIRK WOLTERBEEK at home evenings & weekends during hockey season. You'll have to check out the local rink where he's been coaching since 1971.

In fact, during the week-long world-famous Goderich Lions' Pee Wee Young Canada Week (YCW), you can assume that Dirk & his wife, Mary have taken up almost 24-hour residence at the arena – where they've prepared meals for Pee-Wee hockey players from across Canada – for the last thirty years!

That's over 35,000 meals to date!

Dirk's connection with YCW goes back to 1962 as a young tournament winner.

Yes, Dirk was a 'wannabe NHLer' like other young players, but after a stint as a minor-aged Jr. 'B', & on a couple of 'A' teams, he returned home to start his life-long coaching traditions.

Oh, & he married his best friend Mary O'Brien in 1970 – after which, he did get a chance to play briefly at a Maple Leaf Jr. Camp, but soon returned home to resume family & coaching roles.

Dirk & Mary met the challenge to nurture the very special needs of their first child, Bridget, handicapped with Spina Bifida; & raising one hockey-playing son, Dirk!

It was Bridget's needs, and that early connection to Lions' Easter Seals that connected the Wolterbeeks to their lifelong service to YCW.

Dirk supported the local Goalie School starting in the '80s: 3 years as assistant & 12 more as head coach, - all the while coaching another team as well.

In recent years, Dirk has been coaching his grandsons, interrupted, regrettfully by kidney failure, which put him on to a rigorous dialysis routine for half a year.

Not to be waylaid, by 2010-2011, he re-joined his son to coach that namesake grandson again - this time in the very Lions Club Goderich YCW tourney where Dirk found himself on the winning team back in 1962.

Dirk & Mary have become "a tournament tradition", receiving local & widespread recognition.

As far as Dirk is concerned, "Hockey is our passion & our lifestyle!"

For the Wolterbeeks, home, hockey & community are tightly bound!
HGO Committee

• A Sub Committee has been formed to give suggestions to GMHA on how to allocate the prize money from Kraft

• Committee Members
  – Janis McEwen
  – Bill Brown
  – Dave Brown
  – Todd Larkin
  – Tag Sowerby, Shawn Johnson & Bill Patterson (in kind)
  – Lynette Gerber
  – Ryan Shelton
  – Doug Cruickshank
  – Steve Hewitt
Committee Findings

- Committee approach was to first gather information by via an online survey that was sent to each registered family in GMHA.
- Response rate was “Ok” - 60% of families responded.
- Survey results determined 2 major requests of the families:
  1. Improve skating skill in the players
  2. Improve our Coaches and Coaching Aids
Committee Findings

• HGO Committee Information
  – We had 4 meetings where we gathered the information and then discussed our feelings on where the money could be used
  – We taken into account Dirk’s wishes for where the money is to go
  – We all understand the importance of spending it properly for the sake of Dirk and GMHA
Committee Findings

• HGO Committee Information
  – We all talked with different people in the “hockey circles” in Goderich to get their opinion
  – Gathered information on skill development from an outside company for the benefit of the players and Coaches
  – We all understand that we have a “great problem” on our hands in where to allocate the money
  – Lastly, the Committee is a dedicated group of Volunteers whose primary focus is to improve the hockey experience for the players!
Committee Suggestions

• We have 5 things that we would like to advise the Executive in regards to money allocation

1. **We request that the money be spent over the next 6-8 years**
   i) We believe that spending $10,000-$15,000 each year will be of more benefit to the players than all at once or over the next 2-3 years
   ii) This will also give GMHA time to analyze the needs of the future and make proper decisions.
   iii) We did not want to spend the money for the sake of spending the money. Our Committee timelines were very short and we did not want to make any quick decisions in funds allocations
   iv) We would like the money put into separate account so that funds can be tracked and proven if asked.
Committee Suggestion

• 5 Suggestions for GMHA

2. Power Skating for all Players ($7,000)

i) This was the #1 thing requested by the families on the survey

ii) 1 hour of professional training for each player every other week. Therefore each player in GMHA will receive an extra ½ of ice each week of specialized training

iii) Where do we get the ice from?

iv) Who do we get to lead the sessions?

v) Parent Commitment for the extra trip to the rink every other week?
5 Suggestions for GMHA

3. “Kids Shinny” ($1,000)

i) We suggest to create a “Kids Shinny” where for 1 hour every other week, kids who can’t afford hockey can play and love the game

ii) Look at the early afternoon time slot for ice time

iii) Players would be required to wear a minimum of Helmet, skates and gloves

iv) Possibly help to outfit players with hockey gear with used equipment

v) Advertise and have players register for free shinny, to keep it organized

vi) Have each Coach take a turn in leading the ice time

vii) This is totally designed to get more kids into hockey in our area!
Committee Suggestions

- 5 Suggestions for GMHA

4. *Purchase Goaltending Equipment* ($5,000)
   
i) It is our understanding that our Goaltending equipment is in very poor repair and needs replaced.

   ii) Look at purchasing higher quality equipment to ensure many years of use

   iii) The old equipment could possibly be used for Kids Shinny
Committee Suggestions

5 Suggestions for GMHA

5. “Dirk’s Requests” ($25,000)
   i) This money will be one of Dirk’s legacy here in Goderich and with GMHA and we feel that we need to take a hard look at any and all requests that Dirk and Mary have for allocation
   ii) Dirk would like to see $20,000 put into a secured investment account where it can be used for a “rainy day” in the future. That amount is roughly 10% of GMHA’s operating costs.
   iii) To allocate $5,000 to the Kerry Fraser Fund to help under privileged children play the game
   iv) Lastly, to be wise with how we are going to spend the money!!
Recap

• Recap of the 5 Suggestions to GMHA
  – 1. Allocate the money to GMHA over the next 6-8 years
  – 2. Power Skating for all players $7,000
  – 3. Kids Shinny $1,000
  – 4. Purchase Goaltending Equipment $5,000
  – 5. Dirk’s Requests $5,000
  – Total for year one $18,000