



***Player Development Meeting
January 23, 2012
Queen Bees, Paynesville***

1. **All Coaches Meeting:** Discussion focused on a review of the coaches meeting from December. All members were in agreement to continue this annually and that it was successful. Many coaches were present at the meeting and the information was useful.
 2. **Practice Issues:** Discussion centered on ice time, kids attendance, and ½ ice. Everyone agreed that practice amounts have been adequate for the year and that the biggest issue was player attendance due to illness.
 3. **Player Issue:** Discussion regarding a player issue with a Pee Wee Team. Currently the player is under suspension for a variety of issues and a meeting is scheduled for this week with the family and coaches. PDC will need to make a recommendation on the player following the discussion with all parties.
 4. **Skills Night:** As has been done in previous years, skills night will be concluded in January for all travelling teams. Regular practices will resume in February on Mondays for travelling teams as they prepare for the season ending district tournament playoffs. A second issue was raised regarding a small group of parents that have “opted” out of coming to skills practices when they are held in Richmond. PDC discussed that skills night is a mandatory practice and coaches should be imposing the attendance policy regarding “skipping” skills night. I have copied the language from the coaches manual and it is also in the association’s handbook.
14. Skills night every Monday. Attendance is mandatory. Coaches required to assist or regular rotation.

River Lakes Hockey Team Rules

1. **Attendance Policy** - Each player is allowed 4 excused absences throughout the season. Player must contact the coach or team representative prior to missing a practice for it to be an excused absence. After the fourth excused absence, the player will serve a one period suspension for each missed practice thereafter. If the player does not notify the coach or team representative of absence before practice, this is an unexcused absence, and he/she will serve a one period suspension. The suspension is cumulative and the player will serve a suspension for each practice missed between games. If the player should miss 2 practices between games, this will result in a 2 period suspension. The player must serve the suspension before playing in a game.
5. **Summer Ice:** Discussion was held regarding the options of summer ice for the Paynesville arena. John Pulsifer was present to discuss Elite Hockey’s plans for the spring/summer/fall and was seeking PDC’s commitment to explore other options to provide ice for players and provide enough financial support to keep the arena running. It was agreed that a sub-committee will be formed to explore options for each level. Chris

Stanley, Mark Jenson, Dave Johnson, Mike Tangen, and John Pulsifer will meet in the next few weeks to explore and create opportunities for players during the summer for ice.

6. **Goalie Practices:** Everyone was pleased with the goalie coaches at skills night and with the addition of another coach in Paynesville. Goalie attendance has been sporadic at best with the goalie practices when they are on their own. Continued monitoring will take place as the season concludes and PDC will evaluate for next year.
7. **Mite Updates:** Noah was present at the meeting to go over some questions regarding the mite program. Noah expressed that the kids were having a lot of fun and that they are progressing nicely in development. A few parents are not happy with the new system and Noah is feeling the pressure. Several district teams are not following the recommendation for ½ ice games. Again, it was discussed at PDC about the importance of retaining ½ ice game play for the overall development of the players. Full ice, at this level, is a detriment to the skill development of any player. Mark will be contacting Doug Kephart to discuss the district's perspective and enforcement and Tami has contact Richmond and Paynesville Ice Schedulers to have more Sunday inter-squad half ice games.
8. **Locker Room Issues:** There has been several reports regarding locker room issues across the association as well as the district. It was again reminded that coaches NEED to be present in the locker room when their players are present. This is a potential litigation issue and mandated by USA and Minnesota Hockey. If you cannot be in the locker room or feel uncomfortable (girls team) then you need to have a parent in the locker room instead.