

## Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association

### Board of Directors Meeting

November 10, 2021 6:30pm

Sanford Conference Room – SCHEELS IcePlex

President Adam Gorra called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Adam Gorra (President), Sam Everson (Vice-President), Lindsay Erickson (Treasurer), Ed Davis (Secretary), Dave Carlson (City League Director), Chad Dykstra (Member at Large), Derek Berg (Development Director) and Amanda Smith (Director of Tournaments). Quorum was present. Dan Houck (Director of Hockey) and Cherry Hunter (Executive Assistant) were also in attendance. Mark Bukovich (Travel League Director) was absent.

Secretary's Report – Lindsay Erickson made a motion to approve the October 13, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurers Report – Lindsay Erickson – Lindsay presented Balance Sheet as of November 9. Lindsay noted reports are looking good and on target. SFYHA needs to focus on retention in order to begin major projects.

#### Director of Hockey – Dan Houck

- helped w/ ICL evals/practice for team splits
- did all Mite City League evals
- did all initial Group Placement for Mite Travel
- created Mite City League teams
- evaluated Atoms for tier placement/movement
- helped secure coaches for goalie session on Wed. w/ Brandon and set up online registration for shooters/goalies w/ Cherry
- worked w/ Squirt White Coaches on practice plans for large group
- helped secure more Atom Tier 3 and Mite Tier 3B coaches where we were short w/ parent help
- attended several team parent meetings
- conference call w/ Andy Gillham on Coaching Observations
- finalized contracts w/ Adam for a few additional coaches
- secured additional ice to maximize practice time for Squirt Travel and began creation of 4v4 schedule
- met w/ Riley to add additional hours to her schedule to assist w/ Mite Tier 3 and Tier 4
- worked w/ Stampede Coach Murray and Jim Olander to secure player assistance at Mite/Atom practices
- did all planning for Coaching Clinic On-Ice Content and ran Coaching Clinic
- created weekly schedule for ADOH
- did all planning and organization for Monday SQ and PW Skills
- set up coaching staff for Tier I-IV for Mites after player placements (Tier IV needs support)
- did several practice observations -held Tier 3 and 4 Mite Parent Meeting on 11/7

#### Admin Report – Cherry Hunter

- Educate Me Sessions were held October 30. Not a super attendance, but quality attendance. Lots of great questions and good guidance. Thanks, Chad Dykstra, for his assistance!
- Jerseys, breezer covers, bags – some issues and working to resolve for over 120 players.
- Squirt Half Ice Event – November 20 – SFYHA is hosting for associations wanting to participate. Recommend continuing as annual event. Tis a great way to start the season for Squirts.
- **Registration Updates**
  - Registration Today – 757 Players
  - Registration Nov 10, 2020 – 669 Players
  - Increase to Date – 88 Players!!

League	New	Returns	Totals
Mini-Atoms	47		47
Atom SS	15		15
Atoms	31	67	98
Mite City	20	49	69
Mite Travel		59	59
Squirt Travel		74	74
Girls 10U		16	16
ICL	22	57	79
PeeWee		66	66
Bantam		57	57
Girls 14U		20	20
Lady Flyers		19	19
High School		75	75
ACL	6	57	63

### Presidents Report – Adam Gorra

- Augustana Ice Facility – Joe Zueger and Adam met with the Facility Use Consultants doing a Feasibility Study for ice. Adam noted Curt Soehl, SF City Councilor, supports Augustana ice project.
- Sanford Contract – Derek Berg and Adam met with Sanford regarding our contract with them. Sanford noted if space is made available, trainers would come to the IP for training. Adam noted Sanford contribution to SFYHA will increase over the next 3 years.

### Agenda Items:

- Office/Storage/Dryland Space Plans – Adam Gorra reported offices, storage and dryland space are all included in Phase 2 for the IcePlex. Another ice sheet and curling sheet are also on the wish list.
- Puck Club / Sponsorships / Raffle Updates / Game Day – Derek Berg – Derek reported 10 players are qualified Puck Shooters! Derek presented board members with SFYHA Financial Partner Summary. \$65,000 was budgeted for sponsorship
  - Game Day The goal is to secure Game Day sponsors from businesses other than our Flyers parents. Suggested Complimentary Student Passes. Current admission for Student is \$1.00.
  - Separate Club – Derek would like to see a separate club created to raise funds for bussing the high school players. Estimated bussing cost for Youth JV or Varsity player is \$600 each.
- Tournament Updates – Amanda Smith – For the PeeWee team increase for participation, Amanda cycled thru the teams on the waiting list. Many had chosen other tournaments or were no longer available. PeeWee Tournaments will remain at 8 teams per division. Mites currently show 23 teams for the Falls Freeze event in February. Hotel rebate revenue will increase this season. SFYHA begins earning rebates at the 101<sup>st</sup> night per tournament. Concessions at 10% and vendors at 10% rebate will provide revenue. During the Mite Falls Freeze, it will be Mite Night at the Stampede game. Group seating and \$1 back to the Flyers for tickets sold is planned. Members noted for next season, we need to focus on our own SF teams who cannot participate in our hosted tournaments.

- Locker Room Monitor Policy – At least one screened and SafeSport trained adult needs to be present or within arm’s length of the locker room door. Male coaches, girl’s locker rooms and 2 adults in locker room, were discussed. Locker room supervision does fall to coach responsibilities. Further policy review tabled until December meeting.
- General Process of how tournaments are scheduled – Mark Bukovich presented document showing the process for tournament scheduling.
  - We have a group of coaches: Aaron Debates, Matt Carlson, Houck, and Mark Bukovich who evaluate all available tournaments posted starting in April/May.
  - Once tournaments are selected for each age group/level we review again with a bit more focus of skill level for each group with Houck. Houck has great knowledge of skill level of each age or birth year and how they will match up at specific level/skill.
  - After the committee approves the selected tournaments, the list on spreadsheet is sent to the league managers to book. We try to have this ready for May - June at latest or we miss out. We have to book Fargo immediately as it opens literally at 0900 and it is full by 1000 am.
  - Any adjustments due to full, blocks, or cancelation come back to the committee for a new option. Once all are booked, we send the list to Todd Mescher our scheduler to block weekends with SDAHA. Todd is the last stop gap to make sure we comply with SDAHA scheduling rules and don't mess up.
  - Once the SDAHA schedule is posted and finalized, we have teams try to fill open weekends with more tournaments or friendlies. This selection is usually completed by the team itself - hopefully driven by the coach.

Board members reviewed the current SFYHA Travel Game & Tournament Limit Policy. Sam Everson noted the policy does affect the Squirt Blue teams as they do not participate in SDAHA Squirt League play. Each added tournament is most likely to increase player tournament fees by \$100, most teams are going to get “spanked” in MN/ND, most younger players are burned out by mid-February and early in the season everyone thinks they want to play and travel forever (which changes near season’s end).

- Requests for 7<sup>th</sup> Tournament - After season tournament in Omaha March 4-6 for Squirt Blue teams. Lindsay Erickson made a motion to deny requests for Squirt Blue 2 and Squirt Blue 1 seventh tournament for 2021-2022 season. Motion seconded and carried.

### **Between Meetings:**

SDAHA Meeting Summary – Adam submitted the following report from Oct 13 SDAHA Meeting.

This evening, the SDAHA Board voted unanimously to adopt all the new USAH recommendations for penalty lengths as follows:

\*\*12 minute periods (10U/Squirts): 1 minute MINOR, 3 minute MAJOR, 6 minute Misconduct, 3 minute MAJOR to accompany every MATCH Penalty

\*\*15 minute periods (12U/PW/14U/Bantam): 1:30 MINOR, 4 minute MAJOR, 8 minute Misconduct, 4 minute MAJOR to accompany every MATCH Penalty

\*\*17 minute periods (JV and Varsity Youth and Girls): 2 minute MINOR, 5 minute MAJOR, 10 minute Misconduct, 5 minute MAJOR to accompany every MATCH Penalty

In addition, there was a discussion about the new icing and off-sides rules specifically as it relates to Girls Hockey.

The new rules state that there will be immediate off-sides and no icing allowed on man-down in the YOUTH and GIRLS classifications, but the old rules apply for the HIGH SCHOOL classification. What

is still not clear is how USAH classifies the SDAHA Girls Varsity/JV league. Some believe that SDAHA girls V/JV is a GIRLS classification which would fall under the new rules. Others would say that SDAHA Girls V/JV is a HIGH SCHOOL classification which would fall under the old rules. Our SDAHA Referee-in-Chief was on the call, and he stated that he still does not know the answer and he has asked for a ruling from higher up in USAH. A final ruling is to come. In my opinion, it would be hard to believe that USAH would intend to discriminate between Boys and Girls Varsity/JV. Stay tuned for a final ruling on that.

Bantam Orange 1 and Bantam Orange 2 Tournament Request – Sam Everson made a motion to approve Bantam Orange 1 and Bantam Orange 2 to participate in the post season Omaha Tournament March 4-6. The tournament will not exceed their game or tournament limit. Any ice utilized for practice after season end (Feb 27) would be expense for the team. Motion seconded and carried. Oct 18, 2021

PeeWee Blue 1 Tournament Request – Adam Gorra made a motion to approve PeeWee Blue 1 participation in the post season Omaha tournament March 4-6. This would be their 5<sup>th</sup> tournament and within the limits for games and tournaments. Any ice utilized for practice after season end would be expense for the team. Motion seconded and carried. Oct 29, 2021

Squirt Orange 2 Tournament Request – Amanda Smith made a motion to approve Squirt Orange 2 participation in the post season Omaha Tournament March 4-6. This would be their 4<sup>th</sup> tournament and within the limits for games and tournaments. Any ice utilized for practice after season end would be expense for the team. Motion seconded and carried. Nov 1, 2021

Squirt Blue 2 Tournament Request – Adam Gorra made a motion to approve 6<sup>th</sup> tournament for Squirt Blue 2 in Bloomington (Squirt Shoot Out) January 6-9, 2021. This would be one more than the 5 tournament limit. Motion seconded and carried. Nov 2, 2021

Squirt Blue 1 Tournament Request – Amanda Smith made a motion to approve 6<sup>th</sup> tournament for Squirt Blue 1 in Blaine (Squirtacular). This would be one more than the 5 tournament limit. Motion seconded and carried. Nov 9, 2021

***Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Mission:***

***To Motivate, Inspire and Encourage Athletic Participation and Good Health through Ice Sports***

Meeting adjourned 9:35pm

**NEXT MEETING**

December 8, 2021                      6:30 pm  
Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherry Hunter  
SFYHA Executive Assistant

Adopted December 8, 2021 by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence  
(Date) (Circle one)