

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2018, immediately after annual meeting

President Misi Watters called the meeting to order at 5:53 pm. Carrie Biggins and Jason Ledford noted as absent. Paula Austad arrived late.

Audience: Paisley Hoffman, Ryan Smith, Beau Bingham, Jeff Wilcenski, William Sutton, John Hansen, Ryan Hoffmann, Jason Hintz, Nichelle Veldkamp, Carrie Baez, LeAnne Brinkmeier, Marcie Rauls, Jerry O’Gara, John Morgan, Steve Scherer, Carolyn Kreitlow, Ellen Breunig, Brandy Lea, Guillermo Baez, Mark Lea, Tim Davis, Lori Tubbs, Casey Rufener, and Kathy Stoffregen

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Morgan asked about blue line patches. Some teams did not receive them, and the patches coordinator has not responded to inquiries. Betsy noted that it appeared that the patches weren’t ordered, and instead left over patches were used, which left some teams short of blue line patches, which are something unique to Region 4, and only available through Region 4. She is trying to work with Region 4 to get the needed blue line patches. The Squirt Red and Squirt White teams should have their patches.

An audience member raised the question about how volunteer needs are communicated. Usually, they come out as a newsletter or email blast to the association, which is also posted to Facebook. Some of the recent needs were also included in the letter that was sent to membership.

Another person wanted to know when evaluations/starting times are discussed, what the timing is, etc. This information is included on the board agendas and reported in meeting minutes. Betsy reiterated information from February’s meeting, which is when dates were determined. The policy manual outlines the number of tryouts. There is some variability in the area – some association have September evaluations but don’t start practices until mid-October. There is a perception that Sun Prairie starts late, but we are balancing players who also are in fall sports with hockey season kick-off. Some associations start after SPYHA, but have one weekend of tryouts and are “done” therefore earlier than SPYHA, or just have shorter/fewer evaluations overall. The evaluation policy with its minimum four session tryout set-up was done to allow some flexibility with fall sports conflicts or player illness. The concern expressed is that the first game is often a bit rough. The board acknowledged that can happen, but it tends to be most apparent at the youngest level (older players don’t have as steep of a learning curve). The whole season isn’t defined by one game. In addition, Betsy reminded the audience that some associations have no choice – Beloit doesn’t even put ice in until mid-October, so the idea that EVERYONE starts earlier is a fallacy.

There was a request to consider having additional pre-season practices for players to get ready, something sponsored by SPYHA instead of run by various coaches. SPYHA has not historically done this, except for the season that we started with no home rink, when some pre-season practices were scheduled at other rinks just to give players an opportunity to skate. Given that there are opportunities and SPYHA tends to be short on volunteers, it is unlikely this is something that would be offered.

Misi shared that last year SPYHA was a bit behind scheduling games, but it was because we held to Region 4’s requirements even though others in the area didn’t, and the Region 4 scheduling meeting was late, such that several other associations had little to no ice to give for “league” games at the scheduling meeting. Region 4 is hosting a league planning meeting every third Wednesday during the summer. Anyone interested can contact Region 4.

The board also received feedback that some teams struggled finding tournaments, and found them full because teams were formed so late. The board did try to find and select at least one tournament for most teams; however, it also depended on board level rep and historical coaches agreeing on “good” selections. In addition, the board has also fielded numerous complaints that the board is deciding something that should be determined by team: some families don’t want to travel, some families do. Also, some teams complain that the level of a tournament was too hard, for example, based on the team, but if the board picks early on, there is no foresight into how a team will perform. It’s a damned if you do, damned if you don’t conundrum. The board will try to

find at least one tournament for every team. Team reps from 2017-2018 are **STRONGLY** encouraged to provide some feedback as far as what tournaments were good, what ones weren't etc.

Further discussion can be had during the 2018-2019 scheduling agenda item.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Secretary – Betsy McCrary

Minutes from the April meeting were distributed to the Board. There were no email votes since the last meeting. Nichole made a motion to approve April meeting minutes. Kristie seconded the motion. Everyone approved. Motion passed.

b. Treasurer – Nichole Jesberger

Nichole apologized for the errors some people experienced with their volunteer invoices. She missed reconciling one of the spreadsheets. She appreciates those who sent nice, understanding emails. She is working to correct the errors.

Nichole reviewed account balances. At this point, in the year, she needed to transfer some funds from savings to checking. Dues paid by PayPal go into savings, and aren't used until it is necessary, which allows our balances to grow. With monthly payments for ice to the rink and little income, the transfer was necessary. Stacy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Suzanne seconded. All approved.

c. President Elect – Brian Sullivan

Nothing that isn't already on the agenda. Ryan Smith asked Brian if someone who texted could be considered for president-elect; however, since the membership meeting was adjourned, the person would need to go through a special election process. He can email nominations@spyha.com.

d. Past President – Stacy Hollfelder

– SP Ice Update

Stacy noted that new officers were elected May 15. Dave Batterman is president, and one of SPYHA's appointments to the board. Zach Weber is vice president and the city's representative. Gary Brendemuehl is treasurer and an at-large member. Other members of the board include Chris Armagost as the Bank of Sun Prairie rep (non-voting), Jeff Thornton as an at-large member, and Paul Swalve, PAC representative, who will serve as secretary starting in July. SPYHA's other board appointment is Jen Kurtz, who is currently secretary and who will be replaced by Betsy McCrary in July. SPYHA's past-president also serves as a director on the board.

Skate sharpener is ordered, and Spence, who used to own the pro shop at Hartmeyer, is on board for training. SP Ice does not want to train volunteers at this time, they are focusing on having paid staff. The meeting room where the annual meeting was held will remain as meeting space. It's nice because it is warm due to zone heating. (The furnace is in the SPYHA equipment room and feeds that space, plus the dance studio and the old pro shop "meeting room.")

Willie Ty's will pay to have the stairwell professionally cleaned and then special paint will be applied to make the space more cleanable.

• Region 4 Women's Hockey Meeting (inaugural meeting)

Region 4 is interested in starting a girls' hockey council. Currently, only Region 5 has one. The goal is to boost girls playing hockey. Region 4 and 5 are seen as leaders in the state. The person running the Region 4 group is Kay Heimich, who is a level 5 coach.

There is a women coaching girls clinic series. Sauk City is having a girls team – the Sauk Monkeys (sock mockeys). There is some concern about Sun Prairie's girls numbers being at 18, versus Polar Caps 78. How do we get more? The situation with DC Diamonds is unique. With folding of the Ice Spirit, they are on the only independent girls only association in the state.

Jeremy Giesecki, a Region 4 WAHA Director, noted that starting next season, there will be a two year pilot where girls who want to double roster would NOT be required to play up. For example. A PeeWee aged player could now play U12 girls, instead of having to play U14 girls.

Also, at state, they would have two levels instead of just one “A” level.

The next meeting is planned for August, and Stacy will keep going. She will also check to see if Sun Prairie can donate some ice for some of the initiatives.

It was noted that no one from Ice Spirit or DC Diamonds was in attendance.

- e. President – Misi Watters
Nothing that isn’t already on the agenda.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Volunteer Committee – Paisley Hoffman shared that they are working hard on reconciling DIBS. Both she and Traci Logothesis are interested in continuing their roles on the volunteer committee.
- b. Annual Fundraising Committee – It was shared that Angie Hadley is interested in continuing as fundraising chair.
- c. Communications Committee – The additional webmaster position is under new business. Work on the website mobile app is underway.
- d. Cardinal Cup Committee – Still looking for a Cardinal Cup chair. This is the tournament director, and is very important! These are an important source of income for the association. The mini-mite and mite jamboree is in November, and Nichole knows of two people willing to help with that.
- e. Concession Stand Committee – There are opportunities for this summer posted, including games in July. A second family has resigned from the committee, just announced today, and therefore that position will need to be replaced as well.
- f. Locker Room Behavior Committee – Nichole is looking for parents to join. Beau Bingham, the ACE Directors, and Jason Hintz are already on board. The idea is to improve behavior and follow all the rules from USA Hockey. Email Nichole if interested.
- g. ACE Director(s) – Suzanne is excited to work with Beau finding coaches. Jerry didn’t have anything that wasn’t on the agenda, and will report more under old business.
- h. Region 4 Meeting
Betsy attended the April Region 4 Meeting, and Brenda joined her. It was a marathon meeting, running past 9:30 pm. Betsy emailed the board, and will post her notes (below). Important items to highlight include the WAHA annual meeting in August, which she strongly encouraged for new and continuing board members, as well as the only Level 4 seminar for coaches being Father’s Day weekend in Des Moines.

4. LEVEL REP REPORTS

- a. Mini-Mite – Kristie Tennie – Nothing
- b. Mite – Paula Austad – Nothing
- c. Squirt – Carrie Rose – Absent
- d. PeeWee – Chris LaRowe – Nothing
- e. Bantam – Brenda Egli – Nothing
- f. Midget – Suzanne Doody – Nothing
- g. Coaches’ rep. – Jason Ledford – Absent.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Evaluation Policy
Jerry took the opportunity to review with the larger than usual audience the evaluation information that had been presented to the board in March.

The coaches training in the “Breakout & Beverages” format were very well received, with coaches of all levels, from mini-mite and mite to varsity, WEHL, and even some Badger assistant coaches.

Jerry indicated that after review, there are no plans to change the evaluation policy itself. There are plans for a simplified evaluation form. Also, last year the jersey numbers were pre-assigned, and that worked very well, so that the evaluators could start evaluating right away, without waiting to get information on

numbers, and the numbers on jerseys were easy to read. He stressed that there was NOTHING to be read into the number assignments. They were just randomly assigned.

He recommended goalie evaluators at every level, with criteria and a scoresheet for goalies. He has commitments from people willing to do this.

There will be a letter in advance to squirt parents explaining how the evaluation process works.

In addition, evaluation information will be requested from coaches at the end of the year, particularly for mites and squirts. This would only be used in cases of a "tie."

Evaluations will be posted AFTER everyone (evaluators) leave the building, to avoid them being put on the spot.

About 50% of the time is scrimmaging, and 50% skating drills for squirts. Goalie information for squirts will be explained, as they may not be dedicated to the position, especially as first year.

It was suggested that at least the first year, the letter explaining the process be sent to everyone.

Jerry also noted that in cases where parents are evaluating, they cannot score their own kid.

One consideration Jerry is considering is requesting that parents wait 48 hours after teams are posted to approach him regarding placement concerns. He hopes it would lead to more productive conversations, so that people don't say something they might later regret.

b. Share Nights

Paula reviewed upcoming events:

- Sonic, Wed., Aug. 8, 4 to 7 pm – would like skaters on roller blades, could potentially also earn tips. This might be something squirts could help with.
- Mod Pizza, Wed., Sept 26, all day. SPYHA would earn 20% for everyone who turns in a flyer. We can hand out flyers there. This may be something mites could help with.
- Chick-Fil-A, Mon. Oct. 15, 5 to 7 pm, will give 15% of sales, request 4 volunteers to bus tables. Since it is a try-out evening, it might be a good opportunity for midgets.

Paula wondered if it would be possible to earmark amounts earned for a specific level (e.g., offset tournament fees). This may be something to discuss, as it could be complicated.

c. 2018-2019 Scheduling

Betsy is waiting to hear back from Tony on the status of scheduling. It is promised by June 15.

At that point, she should have an idea of what weekends would be open for tournaments. Board level reps should approach team reps to get tournament feedback, with the consensus that the board select some tournaments, likely at the July meeting.

d. Equipment needs

Brenda reported that the helmets are in. The equipment managers emailed Betsy with some additional requests for shin pads and gloves. Betsy will forward to Brenda who will work on quotes from Mary Suter, which can subsequently be incorporated into next year's budget. Betsy will follow up with concerns on goalie equipment condition, especially to see if mite equipment was returned.

It was suggested that SPYHA provide more goalie equipment for squirts, as not everyone at squirts was able to be loaned new equipment. Brenda noted that typically by second year squirts, families start providing it, and Betsy noted that her family had personally inspected all of the loaner goalie equipment and there was ample suitable equipment for squirts between what we had and what was ordered that there was serviceable equipment for all: it was just that some of it was older than others.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Membership Changes (release and admittance requests)

None

b. Appointments (committee)

- Webmaster
- Concessions committee

Ecomm recommended Mark Lea for the webmaster role (an addition) and Carrie Baez for concessions. Paula made a motion to appoint Mark Lea a webmaster and Carrie Baez to concessions committee. Suzanne seconded. All approved.

c. Additional fundraising suggestions (Paula)

Paula shared that she has been able to make arrangements for SPYHA to hold 50/50 raffles at Angell Park. The big upcoming events are Thurs., July 26, when Tony Steward comes, as well as Sun, Aug. 19 for Cornfest. These are the biggest races, and need people who are engaging and boisterous to be successful. Four to five families would be ideal. Just sitting on a picnic table and watching the races isn't going to work. Hockey sticks are encouraged. The volunteers get free admission. Anyone interested should contact Paula if interested.

Culver's is booked for Share Nights, but offered calendar sales as an option. The board agreed that a polite no thank you was appropriate, as we already sell raffle tickets.

d. Other Business

e. Closed session

None

Stacy made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Suzanne seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at ~8:00 pm.

Region 4 Meeting Notes – April 25, 2018 (rescheduled from April 18)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm. Previous meeting minutes approved (attached).

President's Report – Mike noted there was no executive committee meeting prior to the Region 4 meeting because of availability. There will be summer meetings the third Wednesday of each month in May June, and July to change the league structure. There are five people interested in working on this. Please sign up if interested. The same league structure has been in place for a while, and they feel it is time for a change. It was also noted that the Fenton Kelsey Scholarship is available to any player in Region 4. Jingles O'Brien Scholarship is only for those who reside in Dane County. Applications are accepted in November, payments in December. Last year Fenton Kelsey checks were cut later last year, but they hope to get back on schedule this year. There was a question if the scholarships were only for Tier 2 players or if Tier 1 players were eligible. Jingles is a family run scholarship, so Mike did not have information on the parameters for that one.

ALD Reports – there were no actual reports, and apparently, they essentially went with an "appointment" style selection for each ALD. Erik Lemke is returning as peewee ALD. Stephanie Statz did not indicate if she is willing to return for squirts. Someone named Annie is taking over from Andy as the RWB (Red, White, Blue) ALD. Girls and Bantam levels are still open.

Treasurer indicated that they have about \$20k in the bank at the end of the season, and all invoices have been paid. He is willing to work with anyone who will take over, as he is not returning.

Webmaster report – none (absent)

WAHA – covered in their meeting

Officials report – WiHOA seminar schedule will be out by May 15. DCHOA will require all associations to have president and treasurer log ins before team reps can get theirs.

Hearings – chair absent, no report

New/Old Business – Elections

There are four officer positions, each one year terms. Secretary Kristie is returning. Treasurer – Matt Goetzke expressed interest but was not present. Sabrina Frey from Madison Capitols was interested and was elected. Vice President Sherry will not be able to return, Sheila, the previous girls ALD agreed to serve and was elected. Mike Pagni is not running for president. Ed Chaddy from Janesville was elected president.

WAHA Annual Meeting

Registration information – New portal opens in July, summer teams use same registration process; however, since Tom doesn't check in as much in spring and summer, please contact him if rosters are needed. There are still a LOT of unclaimed players. No one really knows why. Half are adults, which is fine, but please do continue to check for players. Tom thanked associations who did this. (Note: Sun Prairie was one of the associations who combed through the list.)

WAHA Annual Meeting – Sat., Aug. 4, 2018 – Jefferson Inn, Wausau

Same format as the past, voting on bylaw change proposals, one Region 4 director needs to be elected. Jerry Kennedy is running for re-election, someone is running against him (lady from Beloit).

Local hockey association board & officer workshop is also Sat., Aug. 4, 2018 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Jefferson Inn, Wausau. Registration will be through the WAHA website (available soon), \$25 fee which is returned when you complete the session. There is a block of rooms. Friday night will again offer some workshops and the SafeSport recertification.

WAHA Grants - Grass Roots hockey grants being offer for divider boards (lottery) and \$1000 grants as well. Applications will be finalized this weekend and put out. They are given out by category, not region.

Classification Report – Nothing for Region 4 at this time, they will know more after this weekend. Status of Kenosha as division 2 was questioned, WAHA directors will follow up with Region 5.

WAHA Playoff weekend: Feb. 1-3, 2019, seeding will be first week in January.

State tournaments – List of 2020 hosts will be submitted for approval this weekend. There are three openings, and no bantam 1C bids. Plan is to cancel until further notice. Midgets will likely be the same as well. There are few teams and no one wants to host.

2 + 2 Challenge & Try Hockey for Free – WI is a leader in the program, and Region 4 within that, lead by Sun Prairie and Janesville. Dates are Nov. 10 and Feb. 23. Welcome back week Sept. 17-23. 2 + 2 challenge for 2018 lead every registration. Jeremy will check into this. It was noted that they do offer some exceptions to dates and allow use of the portal with waiver. Sanctioning requests go through Tom Hansen. Tom and Jerry are happy to help out. It was suggested the USA Hockey open portals sooner.

Level 4 CEP clinic – June. 16-17 in Des Moines, IA – registration now open, expected to be only clinic in Central District.

Officials – Hoping to get seminar schedule out in mid to late May. National Tier II tournament in GB had 13 WI officials, 5 from Region 4, and 4 worked the championship. Extensive discussion about officials scheduling issues, especially for under 16. They are rolling out a special exemption if association presidents make a written commitment to take responsibility. They believe it will not be an issue until someone gets hurt (not sure if that is a young official or a player).

Proposed rule changes (with consensus of group):

2018R-1: No

2019R-2: Yes (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-3: Yes (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-4: Yes

2018R-5: Yes

2018R-6: Yes (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-7: Yes (this is one where our association had said no)

2018R-8: Yes (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-9: No (this was one where our association said no)

2018R-10: No (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-11: Yes

2018R-12: No (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2018R-13: Unsure – agreed to send to girls' committee

2018R-14: Yes (subsequently accepted by WAHA Directors)

2019R-15: No (violates USA Hockey rules)

2019R-16: No

Proposed bylaw changes

Committee on bylaws working to finalize/submit for approval in August, will discuss with board and let associations see before that.

Association reports – Janseville is looking at a feasibility study for a two-sheet arena and looking for recommendations for a feasibly consultant. Dubuque's representative was commended for 90 miles each way consistently for the last two years to attend meetings. Sauk Prairie has a golf outing coming up with a great silent auction, featuring 10 cords of fire wood

Region 4 Hockey Council General Meeting Agenda

Called to Order- 7:03

Approval of Previous Minutes- Janesville/nd by McFarland

Presidents Report- League Structure Meetings this Summer. Looking for Treasurer.

ALD Reports- Girls- No Report

RWB- Successful Meeting- Andy will be stepping down.

Squirt- No Report

PeeWee- No Report\

Bantam- No Report

Treasurers Report- No Report

Webmaster- No Report

WAHA- Spring Meeting April 18 @ 7:30. Jerry Asked that someone come forward to fill Treasurer Position (CPA)

Official Report- 615 Game Requests, 61 Canceled, 1 Late Request, 2 Officials miss and were fined.\

Hearings- 1 Kicking, Coaches, Organizations.

New/Old Business- Summer League Structure Meeting. How did the Fun Round Work?

Club News- 2nd weekend of August Dodgeville Golf Outing

Adjourn 7:34 Patriots.