

## Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association

### Board of Directors Meeting

July 10, 2024 6:30pm

Sanford Conference Room – SCHEELS IcePlex

President Chun Chan called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Jenn Warren (Vice-President), Elliot Hitt (Treasurer), Sam Everson – via Zoom (Past President), Derek Berg (Development Director), and Amanda Smith (Director of Tournaments). Quorum was present. Dan Houck (Director of Hockey) and Cherry Hunter (Director of Operations) were also in attendance. Cody Alderman (Director of City League) joined the meeting late via Zoom. Adam Gorra (Secretary), and Leah May (Travel League Director) were absent.

Open Forum – Attending the Open Forum were Kevin Wiese, Katrina Anderson, Kristi Butler, Justin Schempp, Jason Brooks, Matthew Bacoulis, Jordon Gillis, and Sara Gillis.

#### Topic: SDAHA League Play

Jenn & Chun reported conversations with Northern Plains regarding appeals go back to SDAHA. Same SDAHA delegates would vote on an appeal. At the last meeting, parent who noted he would contact USA Hockey for movement, submitted information

- USA Hockey would not get involved
- SFYHA would become outlaw teams if not affiliated with SDAHA / NP

A new exemption request was submitted for one Squirt and one PeeWee team to SDAHA. Long term strategy is to create a better relationship with SDAHA.

#### Comments from membership attending:

- ❖ With two high school Varsity teams, can SFYHA secure better representation at SDAHA level? Needs to be some level of proper representation. Appears other local associations are advocating for their own association and not all of SDAHA. Noted discrimination against our local association.
  - Northern Plains District is one vote per district. Representation is not based on registration numbers. SDAHA voting delegates are structured in the same manner.
- ❖ Why was the Bantam league not included in the second exemption request?
  - At the Bantam level, there was a higher level of sensitivity for the first Bantam exemption request. Locals do not understand why SFYHA does not host 4 Bantam teams.
- ❖ Will the geo split line move on a yearly basis?
  - SDAHA prefers a stable line for geo split. High School incoming players will be geo split.
- ❖ Suggested SFYHA place geo split system in our bylaws and this is how the determination is made each season.
  - SFYHA still needs to follow SDAHA Playing & Admin Rules
- ❖ There is a need for all local associations to follow all the rules.
  - Does not change SFYHA situation.
- ❖ Need bullet point documentation of our goals & benchmarks regarding games and competition.

- SFYHA currently has a game limit policy. SFYHA is attempting to maximize the number of weekends for tournament play. Squirts are limited to 25 game days. PeeWees are limited to 35 game days.
- ❖ Why was the exemption request submitted for only one PeeWee and one Squirt team?
  - SDAHA expects SFYHA to have competitive and several teams in league play. Requesting exemption for one team at Squirts and PeeWees may increase chances of approval.
- ❖ Can we attend SDAHA Meetings?
  - Attendance at SDAHA Spring & Fall Meetings is open. SDAHA meetings held throughout the summer and season via zoom are intended for Voting Delegates. No Open Forum is on the SDAHA Meeting agendas.

Secretary's Report – Jenn Warren made a motion to remove member names from the Open Forum section of the minutes. Motion seconded and carried. Elliot Hitt made a motion to approve the June 12, 2024 SFYHA Board of Directors Meeting minutes as amended. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Elliot Hitt presented end of year information with books now closed for the April 30 end of fiscal year. The proposed budget was emailed for consideration to Board Members. Projected net is \$465. Elliot indicated the increase in 6:00am ice cost was factored in the budget. Plans are for high school teams to have three ice slots per week. Jersey, bussing, and tournament fee expense and income should be net zero. Fundraiser Fees will increase per player by \$25. There will not be a subsidy for tournament fees or jerseys. Budget does not include income/expense as possible host for SDAHA Tournament. Budget does include funding for Equipment budget requests. Budget work will continue in Executive Session.

#### Director of Hockey – Dan Houck

- completed 2024 NHL Coaches Association Clinic virtually
- met with Andy Gillham regarding programming for coaches for 2024/25
- held High School Coaching Staff meeting and followed up w/ details/questions from the meeting to Leah/Cherry
- Nick Bierschbach will be taking over as Head Coach of the JV East High School Team for 2024/25
- spoke w/ Jenni Wirkus about Squirt and PeeWee Travel Game Schedules to look at potential of doing a few more tournaments

#### To Do:

What is the plan with Sanford Performance for 2024/25? High School coaches would like to go to two times a week or not do it at all-they do not feel there is much value in going one time/week. What is SFYHA's plan with their long-term relationship w/ Sanford? How does utilizing Sanford for training help/ hurt this relationship. I am looking for direction. ***Board members noted desire to continue with Sanford Performance for the upcoming season. Estimated cost per session is \$12***

#### Asks:

I did meet with a representative from Ice Hockey Systems (IHS), a worldwide database, coaching education, and practice planning website. I have been asked in the past about getting this for the coaching staff for all travel teams. I think this would be a valuable tool in player development and information sharing amongst our coaches. Please see information below:

- Pricing: For 30 teams, the price would be \$1,000 which would amount to \$30 per team for the full year. For 25 teams it would be \$850 ***Board members approved IHS for coaches and every team.***

- Content: Every coach gets full access to our exclusive content of 1,000+ drills & coaching videos.
- Software: Every coach gets full access to IHS software to help them organize, create & share content.
- Association Collaboration: directors and coaches can share drills with each other within the association.

**Demo videos:**

- Association Demo: <https://www.icehockeysystems.com/association-demo>
- Association Software Videos: <https://www.icehockeysystems.com/ihs-associations-director-getting-started-guide>

**Popular Links on IHS:**

- Hockey Drill Database
- Small Area Games
- NHL Coaching Clips
- Skill Development
- Coach Education

**Admin Update – Cherry Hunter**

- ✓ Working on Registration builds, schedules, COI & waivers for IcePlex
- ✓ Need cloud storage for hockey files. Cherry will work with Jordan on the issue.

**Director of Tournaments – Amanda Smith** – There have been some dropped teams at Bantam level and some movement at Squirt level. Verbero is creating stocking hats for player gifts. May need to adjust the DIBS/Volunteer Agreement for tournaments.

**Director of Development – Derek Berg** – Raffle sales will begin in August or September Kick Off. Derek is working on Sanford funding agreement and possible naming rights for gym in the NW Addition project at the IcePlex.

**Presidents Report – Chun Chan**

- Jenn Warren and Chun are attending the July 11 SDAHA Meeting to review and vote on SFYHA request for exemption of a Squirt and a PeeWee team from SDAHA League play.
- Roger Kasa contacted Chun with a request to take over the ACL program. The SFYHA ACL program will remain an option for SFYHA and not a Kasa program. Coach Houck noted plans for high school coaches to assist with team selection.
- Team SD – Boys 16U needs a coach. 18U Boys was struggling with numbers, but good to go now. 14U Boys – hard to secure a National Tournament bound team.

**Agenda Items:**

**IcePlex Expansion Fundraising** – Derek Berg reported

- Promo folders are ready to be printed
- Plan to get promotion of the project going in August
- New email address has been established
- Need designated page on our website and QR code to scan
- Looking into Fundraising Hub
- Donation & contribution payments will go directly to payment portal
- Ideas for business plan

**Game Sheets** – Amanda Smith advised the best training for Game Sheets is on their website. She does have laminated sheets for each iPad for Game Sheet instruction. Cherry will check

with Jordan Gillis and Randy Preston regarding creation of Game Sheets video for the Flyers website.

Registration

- Will send out Hockey Overviews with final updates and Tryout Skills Worksheet
- Once fees are approved, the registration link will go live

SFYHA Season Guide / Fall Events / Ice Scheduling

- Board members reviewed the SFYHA Fall Schedule
- Jenn Warren made a motion to approve the SFYHA Season Guide with date change Nov 14 to Nov 16 under Weekend Practice and Feb 9 to Feb 8 under No Practices... Motion seconded and carried.
- Working with Brian Prisbe to finalize ice slots for Fall Camps, Fall Clinics, player tryouts and other SFYHA Fall Events.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

NEXT MEETING

August 14, 2024 6:30 pm  
Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherry Hunter  
SFYHA Director of Operations

Adopted August 20, 2024 by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence  
(Date) (Circle one)