

## **HDC Meeting Minutes – September 5th, 2018**

**Attendance:** Neil Huewe, Kurt Knott, Corey Rupp, Tony Mannausau, Eric Monsrud, Bob Brink, Mike Johnston Andy Haskell, Matt Lee, Jim Dewar Mark Elliot

**Absent:** NA

**Team Number & Structure Recommendation:** - The HDC had an offsite work session in August to discuss the team make up for the 2018-19 season after registration numbers are complete. Here are the team structure approvals by HDC that will be recommended to Board for approval

- Bantam (AA, B1, B2) (3 Teams)
- Pee wee (AA, B1, B2) (3 Teams)
- Squirt (A, Two equal B's, Two equal C's) (5 teams)
- 12U (A) (1 Team)
- 10U (A, B) (2 Teams)

There was discussion about squirts and the proper makeup of teams. Are all equal better, are an A and 4 equal better? A great conversation was discussed about the Duluth type models and what is best. Mark also shared that MN Hockey is discussing making a no travel until January 1<sup>st</sup> for Squirt/10U and trying to force programs in development of more in house model similar to what Duluth has created.

**10U Team Discussion** – There was conversation on the 10U teams along with an update on the 8U kids moving to 10U to form two teams. Six of the eight 8U age girls are willing to move up to 10U. With those numbers the HDC will recommend two teams which will be an A & B team. Discussion was around this being the best solution to keep smaller teams and maximize skill development. There were several questions from members about splitting of girls, moving 6U girls up and options around this opportunity.

**Coaching Recommendations** – The HDC approval and will recommend the following coaches for approval at the Sept Board Meeting:

- Vinny Huerd – Bantam AA - Head
- Neil Huewe – Pee wee AA - Head
- Jake Walters – 12U - Head
- Matt Carlson - Pee wee AA – Assistant
- Alex Stenberg – 12U – Assistant
- Shane Mattfield – Squirt A - Head

The remainder of coaches at this point will be parent coaches. The remainder will be names once tryouts will be complete and kids are placed on teams. The HDC will email the board potential coaches for the age groups that will end up coaching somewhere and ask for any feedback or concerns to address now in order to expedite the process of approval after tryouts.

**Walker Program Discussion** – Ben Brovold the Vice President of the Walker Youth Hockey Association attended our meeting and discussion was had on the Walker player playing in Bemidji this season. As of now there will be six peewees and three Bantams and possibly one or two squirts looking to play here. There was great information shared on the past and Mark Elliot shared that there is a plan in place with him and the District 15 Director to address for next season and beyond. These kids will have no place to play this year if we do not allow. Mark Elliot also let us know that due to that he will be approving them to play in Bemidji. HDC supports this decision and feels is the right thing for this year even though it moves us to larger than desired teams but feel we need to find a place this year for them.

Respectfully submitted: Corey Rupp