
SYHA August Board Meeting

Wednesday 8-19-26

Attendees: R. Davenport, A Cunningham, P. Fromm, K. Burkwald, A. Plunkett, R. McCracken, Kyle Burkwald

Agenda

1. Roll Call-Present-J. Stoner, J. Patterson, A. Meister, J. Williams, S. Kelleher, P. Coombe, J. Sanderfield
 - a. Absent B. Ruyle
 2. Call to Order -@6:06 pm
 3. Opportunity for visitors to address the Board-
 - a. No visitors wanted to address the Board
 4. Approve July meeting minutes- J. Patterson motioned and S. Kelleher seconded-minutes approved
 5. Reports
 - Administration-Jacki Patterson-
 - J. Patterson proposed starting practices the week of August 31st with 90-minute time slots including 30 minutes shared and 30 minutes individual time for the first few weeks due to limited ice availability. The board approved this schedule change, with Salam agreeing to run cost numbers, and Kyle requested a separate discussion with Tyler about potentially doing 90-minute combined sessions between their two teams based on previous positive results.
 - Competitive Teams- Andy Meister
 - Try-outs have been completed and offers have been sent out and are being accepted.
 - Conversation with Decatur -
 - They may have to make cuts as well, agreed to keep us posted
 - More conversation in New Business
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- The group also addressed confusion about iPad requirements for scorekeeping, with Jeff committing to clarify whether MOAM will provide the initial iPads as previously agreed.
- The Board discussed team size regulations and contingency plans for 14U teams, with Kyle Burkwald asked with concerns about potential roster limitations and exploring hardship exemptions as a backup option. Jeff clarified that team size is limited to 18 players plus two goalies until December 31st, though exemptions for practice players may be possible but complicated.
- **Developmental Programs- Pat Coombe**
 - **Tournament Dates and Board Role Expectations**
 - The board discussed reorganizing their tournament schedule, particularly focusing on the Capital City Freeze and President's Day tournaments. They agreed to move the Capital City Freeze to March 5-7, potentially after the Blue Note Cup championships, while keeping the President's Day tournament as an ADM tournament in February. Jessi expressed concerns about the timing challenges and competition with other tournaments, while the group decided to proceed with planning the March weekend event and will check ice availability with George before finalizing the dates and potentially changing the tournament name.
 - **Revitalizing Legacy Awards and HOF inductions**
 - The meeting covered several key updates and decisions. Pat proposed reviving the Legacy Awards and Hall of Fame inductions for the 2026 season, which the group supported.
 - **Springfield Memorial Cup**
 - Pat reported positive fundraising results from Springfield Memorial Cup events, raising \$6,421 for SYHA.
 - **Little Jr. Blues**
 - Waiting on George
 - **ADM Coaches and Helpers**
 - The Board discussed USA Hockey's stricter requirements for coach certifications.
 - Included SafeSport training and background checks required before getting on the ice,
 - Coaching certification CEP Level 1 etc. for a mid December deadline.
 - Age modules required for a coach to be rostered.
- **House Programs-Ben Ruyle**
 - Nothing at this time-absent from meeting
- **Financial Report/Register- Salam Kelleher**
 - Finance-June emailed out-July in the next couple of days

- **Move money into a CD**
 - Plans to invest Ron Stone memorial funds in a CD and establish new scholarships for girls using funds from Mike Zoomer's memorial game

- **Marketing Report- Jessi Williams**

- J. Williams commented on a successful parade with third place in the float contest and reported the golf outing was nearly full with sponsorships and teams.
- Hosting Try Hockey for Free in October
- Jersey link will be sent out tomorrow for shipment mid to late October
- Free Style will be up and running soon as well

- **Communications Report- Jenny Sanderfield**

- Flyers-working on for different events
- School of hockey flyer sent out

6. New Business

- a. The group discussed the process of sending out team offers, with A. Meister suggested that staggering the offers rather than sending them all at once would be more efficient and reduce anxiety among players waiting for news.
- b. They addressed questions about providing individual player scores, with Andy explaining that mathematical scoring systems aren't practical for hockey tryouts due to the subjective nature of evaluation.
- c. The discussion also covered the potential transfer of lower-level programs (ADM, Learn to Play, and house programs) from the Park District back to the Kings organization, with J Stoner planning to meet with George to discuss this proposal. J. Stoner discussed streamlining the path for children to enter the learn-to-play hockey program, aiming to reduce barriers and prevent early burnout.
- d. The group explored strategies to improve collaboration with the Junior Blues organization, including offering billets and potentially allowing SYHA players to attend games for free.
- e. 16U had been moved to the 20th-but still no additional players registered. Email drafted to send to families and advise to try-out with Decatur.

7. Adjourned-7:34pm

8. Executive Session-

9. Next Scheduled Meeting is September @ 6pm-