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# SYHA May Board Meeting

Tuesday 5-5-26

Attendees: A. Klotz and J. Hautala

## Agenda

1. Roll Call-Present-on Zoom Call
2. Call to Order - 6:02PM
3. Opportunity for visitors to address the Board-
  - a. J. Hautala inquired about his ICE bill for the spring program, and that he would pay for his bill, if it is sent to SYHA
4. Approve April meeting minutes- The board then approved the minutes from the previous meeting
5. Reports
  - Administration-Jacki Patterson-
    - Farmers Market- regarding a potential opportunity to participate in the downtown Springfield Farmer's Market, which would cost \$25 for the entire summer season. She noted concerns about volunteer availability but mentioned that Kyle Burkwald was willing to help organize and manage the initiative. Ben Ruyle also said he was interested in helping. Possible to have flyers with QR code, Gonzo's Legacy (gear out to show what is all needed to play)-could use Sign-Up genius for volunteers to make sure we are represented. Follow up with Kyle to get started.

- **Competitive Teams- Andy Meister**
  - **Coach Applications**
    - Finalize and distribute the coaching application for next season within the next couple of weeks, targeting completion before the next board meeting.
  - **Hockey Program Survey Results**
    - The group discussed feedback from a recent survey about the hockey program. Andy Meister presented results showing generally positive feedback, with 65% of respondents saying they had an "awesome or good" experience and most feeling their players' skills improved. However, concerns were raised about sportsmanship ratings, with Patrick emphasizing that 100% should practice sportsmanship rather than the reported 90%. The discussion also covered feedback about time commitments, with 34.8% of respondents feeling there were too few tournaments, games, and practices. Finally, the group noted that 65% of respondents planned to return to SYHA, while 17% were unsure and 17% planned to go elsewhere.
  - **Organizational Direction and Retention Strategy**
    - The board discussed feedback from recent comments about the organization's direction, particularly regarding spring programming and retention of players at higher age levels. Andy Meister emphasized the need for a clear roadmap to align everyone's expectations and suggested developing a mission statement to guide decision-making. Jeff Stoner and Jacki Patterson acknowledged the challenges in retaining players as they progress through different skill levels, noting how the competitive landscape has evolved, with many talented players moving to higher-level organizations. The group agreed on the importance of addressing these concerns by implementing changes based on feedback received.
  - **Hockey Player Development Strategy**
    - The group discussed the importance of player development in hockey, with Jeff Stoner emphasizing the need to help players reach their desired skill levels and opportunities beyond their current program. Ben and Pat Coombe agreed on building up the house league program as a foundation for development,

noting its growth from 7 teams previously. Andy Meister suggested considering inter-city collaboration with teams like Decatur to balance skill levels and provide better competitive opportunities for players, acknowledging that population and player experience levels affect program success.

- **Hockey Program Growth Strategies**
  - The group discussed challenges with team numbers and competition levels in local hockey programs. Pat Coombe and Andy Meister highlighted that creating enough competitive teams requires sufficient player numbers, while Jacki Patterson emphasized the importance of retaining young players by promoting Missouri hockey as a viable option. The team agreed to explore collaboration with nearby areas like Decatur and Danville, and Ben Ruyle suggested leveraging the House League program to support travel teams. They also discussed plans for tryouts, with Andy Meister proposing to align the timing with other programs' tryouts.
  
- **Developmental Programs- Pat Coombe**
  - Spring wrapped up
  - mentioned a potential opportunity to introduce hockey to children at Christ the King's summer camp.
  
- **House Programs-Ben Ruyle**
  - Announced that a tiered program will run on Wednesdays during the summer for skill development, confirming that travel players can participate.
  
- **Financial Report/Register- Salam Kelleher**
  - **Check Approvals**
    - No ice bill at this time
    - Attorney-\$4000
    - MOAM-\$459
  - Financial-March has been emailed, sending April to accountant tomorrow

- Discussed insurance renewals, including Zoom membership, deck rink insurance, and general liability coverage, noting that the DNO renewal will be due in June at \$977.
- Fall season registration added questions
  - Will be getting setup-
  - Adding the insurance policy/Dr/Choice of Hospital
- Marketing Report- Jessi Williams
  - Chipotle fundraiser is June 2
  - Golf Outing is Aug. 21st-get fliers out
  - State Fair Parade float application is being sent in
  - Challenge all board members to 1 sponsor
- Communications Report- Jenny Sanderfield
  - Chipotle fundraiser-getting flier out on facebook to promote
  - Golf outing flier update and send it

#### 6. New Business

- a. SOG-updates at the June meeting-need to be submitted for approval in next months meeting
- b. Twin Bridge-Tyler -we are sending down 14/16-8 kids to play interment with their kids.
  - 10/12 not able to make it
- c. Coaching applications-get them out this week for the Board's approval at the next meeting.

7. Adjourned-@6:55PM

8. Executive Session-

9. Next Scheduled Meeting is June 2@ 6pm-