

# HPHL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

November 29, 2022

Ralph Bammert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

## CLUBS PRESENT

Arapahoe, Black Widows, Chaparral, Cherokee Trail, Cherry Creek, Coyotes East, Coyotes West, Denver East, Fairview, Grandview, HTB, Monarch, North Alliance, Parker Knights, Polar Bears, Ralston Valley, Storm.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Ralph Bammert welcomed the group, introduced the board members and congratulated last year's champions.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2021

*Mark Wildrick moved that minutes from 2021 be approved as written. Dina Fieweger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Last year's budget aimed to lower the reserve by 35K. However, our deficit was actually 40K. Ice costs were significantly higher than budgeted. Currently reserve is at 83K. The goal is to keep reserve around 100K.
- Ice fees and officiating fees are increasing significantly again this year.
- Team fees for 2023 are as follows:
  - Varsity - \$9500. 12 games, 6 ice touches (including tryouts).
  - JV - \$6100. 10 games, 6 ice touches (including tryouts).
  - Girls - \$6100. 10 games, 6 ice touches (including tryouts).
- \$775 security deposit for each club remains the same.

## SCHEDULES AND TIERS

- The league has been securing ice in to alleviate the chronic ice shortage in certain areas. •  
6 ice touches per team including tryouts.
- Teams that desire additional ice need to work directly with the rink to schedule and pay for this. •  
Games will begin 3/17 and playoffs will end 5/14.
- Playoff games are included in the team fees, but not in the 10 or 12 game count.
- Playoff format similar to last year. Single elimination with two rounds on Saturday. The idea of holding some championship games on Monday instead of Sunday to accommodate CHSAA coaches was brought up again. The league will discuss.
  - The tiering process was summarized. Each player's team, level for the fall/winter season is verified. Players are assigned points based on grade level and level of play. Scott will also look for top scorers in the various fall/winter leagues. Points are then calculated for each team. Teams are placed in order and logical breaks identified. Scott will reach out to bubble teams for additional information if needed.
- A question came up regarding jv teams as a few seem to be significantly stronger than the rest thus creating lopsided games. Those jv teams that appear to be significantly stronger on paper are usually encouraged to move up to varsity.
- Everyone was also reminded that the small clubs with only one team often are in a low varsity tier due to a majority of rec players, but might also have a junior or AAA player.
- The only players that are NOT allowed to play jv are junior players and AAA players in grades 10 -12.

## **HPHL RULE REMINDERS AND UPDATES**

- NO DUAL ROSTERING on USAH rosters unless on both coed and girls team.
  - If on girls and coed team, must be in good financial standing with both teams in order to play for either one.
- Absolutely NO PLAY DOWNS - based on USAH roster.
- If rostered on lower team, once play in 4<sup>th</sup> game for higher team no longer eligible for lower team. • Same for goalies, except games only count if they actually go into the game. Can sit on bench as back up as often as needed.
- Rule update to be aware of this year –
  - The 5 minute 3 v 3 OT during regular season was changed to stop time. (no shoot out, if tied after OT, end in tie).
  - Suggestion to print OT rules and have them available in the score box. It is hard for officials to keep all leagues and their various rules straight.
- Fines/forfeits.
  - \$775 fine payable prior to next scheduled game plus ineligible for playoffs if fail to show for scheduled game/cancel with less than one week notice.
    - \$775 security deposit due same time as first installment of team fees.
    - We will cash the security deposit the first time and new check will need to be sent in prior to next game.
    - Coach/manager responsibility to find out well in advance who is available for games. • Shortage of players is not valid excuse for last minute cancellation.
  - \$200 team fines still in place for the following:
    - Abuse Game Misconducts written up as 601 d or e.
    - Fighting Game Misconducts written up as 615 a, d, f.
    - 601 e 3 is an automatic match penalty so there is no additional fine.
  - Coaches MUST verify penalties at the end of each game.

## **USAH RULE REMINDERS AND UPDATES**

- HPHL uses USAH rules and CHSAA used Federation rules. These are not always the same and officials can get confused.
- Icing and off sides are per High School rules (same as CHSAA/Federation rules). Youth and juniors have different rules so those players will need to be educated/reminded.
  - 4 penalties in a game for a player results in a game misconduct. This is not so under CHSAA/Federation rules, so the scorekeeper should be prepared to remind the officials. ◦ A 2 and 10 counts as two penalties and should be entered as such.
  - Two 2 and 10's for the same player result in a game misconduct per rule 404 (2 misconducts in a game = game misconduct; the second misconduct should be entered as a game misconduct.)  
Would also add up to 4 penalties for the player so an additional game misconduct.
- 12 penalties for a team results in a suspension for the head coach on the bench at the end of the game. This is also different from CHSAA/Federation rules.
- Bench minors count against the coach but not the player serving the penalty.
- There are no stand alone 5 minute majors under USAH Rules. If a major is handed out, it will be accompanied by a game misconduct. CHSAA/Federation rules do allow for stand alone majors. • It was suggested that scorekeepers are aware of and have these rules handy in case the officials confuse or question CHSAA/Federation vs USAH (HPHL) rules.
- When serving a game misconduct the coach or player is not allowed to be in contact with the team or in the vicinity of the bench for the 45 minutes leading up to the game and for 30 minutes after the game ends.

This includes in person and electronic contact.

- Use of electronic devices to dispute a call during a game is NOT allowed.
- Injuries are not automatically considered a reason for supplemental discipline. The intent to injure or reckless endangerment is the main factor.
  - Remember this is a judgement call and officials might not always get it right, but they do their best.
- Slurs and inappropriate language will be penalized if heard by the official.
  - If the use of inappropriate language is reported to the official he/she will likely give each bench a warning, but will not be able to penalize unless they heard it themselves.
- Officials have 48 hours in which to submit the penalty report. HPHL teams often have their next game before the 48 hours has passed.
  - If a report is not turned in the suspension will not be enforced.
  - Contact Anda Craven or Tom McGann if questions regarding a suspension/potential suspension.

## **GAME SHEET SCORING**

- Scoring is now done using the GameSheets platform.
  - Teams are entered/managed on a computer.
  - Games must be scored live on an iPad. Cannot score on laptop or phone.
  - If no connection at rink, still score live on iPad and upload when back to working wifi.
  - There will not be any more scoring on paper and entering data at a later time.
- Training sessions via Zoom will be available prior to the start of HPHL games.
- Sandbox league for practice.
- Game Sheet pulls rosters from the USAH roster via team ID numbers, so will be important to have roster templates turned in 5-7 days prior to the first games
- Players all default to playing. Scorekeeper must go through and check those that are sitting out or suspended as such. Same with coaches.
- Entering penalties should be less error prone.
  - Time is selected first, then infraction. Infractions are alphabetical in relation to penalties time frame. All 2 minute minors first, followed by 5 minute majors, then 10 minute MSC (misconducts) and finally 10 minute GM (game misconducts). Scorekeepers need to read carefully and scroll to the appropriate choices.
  - Suspension will not automatically populate. The scorekeeper will need to mark the player as suspended and indicate if first game out of 1 or 2<sup>nd</sup> game out of 3, etc.
- Finalized roster should never show more than 20 active players including goalies. • Coaches will need to sign iPad at start of game indicating roster is accurate.
- Official signs at end of game indicating data has been reviewed and is accurate.
- Both the scorekeeper and official have access to game notes. Text or voice option. • Game Misconducts issued during the game should be noted in game notes by the scorekeeper as well. • Temporary players/goalies are added as an “affiliated player” with the option “for this game only” selected.
- All corrections/changes to finalized Game Sheet data will need to be sent to the CAHA ESS Admin. • Game Sheets does not sync to our calendars, so clubs will need to manually enter games if they would like them on the team calendar.

## **CREDENTIALS AND GRADES**

- SafeSport for coaches, managers, club coordinators, and players born in 2005 or earlier.
  - Players must take same course as coaches, managers, etc.
  - The course is accessed through Safe Sport Training on the USAH site. If one logs into their “MyHockeyHQ Portal” using their USAH confirmation number the correct course should show up. • Screening/ background check for coaches, managers and club coordinators.

- Through USAH. Must complete separate registration, as is not automatic upon registering as USAH participant.
- Good for two seasons. \$30. Teams could offset this by adding a few extra dollars to player fees. ○ Can take 7 - 14 business days for results to come back. Cannot add anyone to roster until results are back and clear, so must plan well ahead.
- Age related module for coaches only.
  - One time requirement.
  - Modules are supposed to change at some point.
  - High School coaches will need either the existing midget (16/18U) module or the new 13 and older module. Take whichever is available. Current module is \$10 and new one will be \$15. • All of the above requirements must be done PRIOR to being added to a roster.
- Anything that has already been completed for the fall/winter season does NOT need to be redone. • CEP is the only credential that there is any leeway on.
  - We will work with coaches that do not have CEP or have expired CEP if they are new to HPHL and were not coaching this past fall/winter.
  - All other coaches must have CEP with expiration of 2023 or later by end of December 2022.
  - In person and virtual classes available through December.
- Player grades are checked prior to first game and again prior to playoffs.
  - Grades will be checked by division directors. Please direct any questions about format and logistics to them.
  - Players on individualized learning programs (IEP/504) may participate if they turn in a letter from counselor stating on learning plan, all work turned in, putting forth adequate effort.

## PLAYER PLACEMENT

- Players tryout for the team that the school they are attending is affiliated with.
- Players from unaffiliated schools also have policies dictating their team placement. • Players requesting to tryout for different team than the one school is affiliated with must submit a written request that will be reviewed by the board.
  - Playing with friend(s) is not a valid reason.
  - Playing for higher tier is not a valid reason.
- If releasing/cutting players after tryouts follow the steps below.
  - Send names of potential releases to league. Send in one batch.
  - Wait to notify the players they are being released until the league has let you know there is an alternate team for them.
  - If HPHL does not have another team to place potential releases on, work with the players on a satisfactory option.
    - Practice player or select minimal games.
    - Prorated fee.

## GOALIES

- Lack or excess of goalies during registration.
  - Keep league informed.
  - Same as skaters, do not tell goalie that he/she is released until league has let you know there is a team for the goalie to go to.
  - Assignments will be made near/at end of registration in order to look at the big picture. ○ No guarantee that each team will have two goalies. Might have more there is nowhere to place extra goalies, might only have one if that is all that is available.
- No goalie available for game.

- It is possible to play/finish a game without a goalie. Not a reason for a forfeit.
- Options include dressing a skater as goalie, playing with 6 skaters, borrowing opposing team's back up if they are willing to share.
- If a team will not have a goalie for a game and is able to let Mandy know 48 hours or more in advance she can help locate an appropriate substitute.
- If game day notice then the team manager will need to contact other managers to find a sub, which will need to be approved by Mandy.
- Substitute goalies need to be from an equal or lower level team.
- As the season starts let Mandy know if you have any goalies that are willing to substitute for other teams if needed.

#### **JERSEY OPTION**

- Center Ice has reversible jerseys available. Jersey plus home and away socks are \$95. Contact Jeff Mielnicki with questions or if interested at 720-436-3298.

#### **INCLUSION NIGHT**

- WLTV shared an idea that they have implemented. Players select a special needs student from their school to be an honorary teammate for Senior Night. The honorary member receives a jersey signed by the team, is announced during senior night and does a celebratory puck drop at the start of the game.

#### **DENVER MUSTANGS SPECIAL HOCKEY TEAM**

- The Denver Mustangs are willing to scrimmage interested teams. They have ice at DU on Sundays between 1:15 and 2:15p. Contact Mary Lederman if interested. denvermustangsco@gmail.com.

#### **ELECTIONS**

The slate of candidates listed below was presented. As there were no additional nominations from the floor *Mark motioned and Dina seconded that the slate be approved.* All were elected.

- Mandy Narum – First term as Goalie Director.
- Hannah Valadez – Up for reelection as North Division Director.
- Steve Hickman – Up for reelection as South Division Director.

#### **HPHL ADMIN POSITION**

- HPHL will be looking for a new Administrative Assistant, as this is Anda's last year. ○ This is a paid part time position.
  - Anda will be available next fall/winter as needed to train the new Admin.
  - Please let anyone that might be interested know.
  - Contact Anda with any questions about the position.
  - Interested persons should send a resume to Anda to be forwarded to the board.

Meeting was adjourned by Ralph Bammert at 8:30pm.

Approved 12/12/2023