

SYHI Board Minutes

November 7, 2024 at 7pm

Location: Saratoga Rec Center, 15 Vanderbilt Ave

Attendees: Bradford, Comora, Eddy, Ellis, Hanson, Kelly, Kernan, MacNaughton, Mulledy

Virtual: Chatham, Garrett, Guyette

Absent: Ely, Hunt, and Kauth

Overview

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. Eddy called for approval of the [October minutes](#). Kelly motioned, Eddy seconded, and all were in favor.
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - i. The committee met, and all topics will be covered within committee reports.
 - b. Finance
 - i. Provided an overview of the financials. No concerns raised.
 - ii. Executed insurance for the Board and Learn to Play. Cost for both was approximately \$1150.
 - iii. Kelly raised a question as to whether the finance committee would approve slight overages for skills. MacNaughton said if approved by CPDC then yes.
 - c. Governance
 - i. Committee will be reviewing the bylaws and player and parent handbook for any amendments. Recommended edits will be brought to the board's December meeting. The board will have the opportunity to review and provide additional feedback with any changes approved at the February meeting.

- ii. Governance asked the CPDC to review their tryout policy, to also be reviewed at the February meeting.
- iii. The final activity will be to prepare for the 2025 board election, which will begin in February.

d. Marketing + Communications

- i. The kick-off event was successful, with positive feedback. The event came in \$1k under budget. The committee is considering doing a survey of families to gauge additional feedback.
- ii. The next newsletter will go out before Thanksgiving.
- iii. Communication went out to team managers with information about picture week, the winter store, helpful links and a request to continue to have them share photos and game information to promote on social.
- iv. The next committee meeting contain a discussion on the plan for the 50th anniversary.
- v. A question was raised to the committee about whether there were any plans to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first state championship of SYHI. The committee consider suggestions that are offered - including social media postings.

e. Scheduling + Facilities:

- i. The new process for managing ice requests is working well.
- ii. Working with DPW to ensure staff have the ice cut schedule.
- iii. The snack bar is 95% complete. Windows will be finalized in the coming weeks. Front countertops will be revisited in 2025. The project came in roughly \$2k over budget.
- iv. The link to sign up to run the snack bar continues to be shared with team managers, plenty of open slots remain.
- v. The organization has fielded a few complaints about keeping the locker rooms clean, which need to be communicate to coaches and monitors.
- vi. The locker room issue from the 14U tournamnet is sill not resolved. Waiting for the damage amount from DPW.

- vii. Kelly raised a question about available ice in 2025 for full ice reciprocation for 2016s. Recommendation that next year the schedule contemplate a few full ice slots for second year mites in the later part of the year. Friday nights, Presidents week break are options, and there will be some ice in February and March. Eddy asked that 8U identify the weekends/nights they are focusing on.

f. Coaching + Player Development

- i. Mite assessment recently completed.
- ii. Addressed Saturday morning ice collaboration with 8U/6U House and 8UB. Next year consideration should be given to moving LTP to Friday nights to provide House and Blue their own full ice slot. Also raised that we need to look at the impact of 8U/6U transitioning from 3 days a week to two days.
- iii. Requests from coaches for skills funding are being received and addressed. A reminder will go out to encourage remaining to submit.
- iv. Questions have been raised about the policy for late registrations, evaluations and additions to established teams and how the levels of the 4 12U teams were determined.
- v. The committee will be revisiting the tryout policy and making any necessary revisions in preparation for 2025. The policy has been shared with the committee, as well as a document that contains the feedback the committee received after 2024 tryouts. The board can expect to review early 2025.
- vi. Question raised about mid-season evaluations, and whether that will be done again. Evaluators found the paper evaluations from coaches to be helpful in tryouts. It was raised that it is beneficial for coaches to give direct feedback to skaters throughout the season. Recommended that in a future coaches meeting, encouragement be given for direct one-on-one feedback with players to support their growth.

g. Girls Hockey

- i. Strong start of the wrap program and celebration of IIHF Girls' Hockey Weekend with two games and 7 girls at the try hockey skate.
- ii. The committee will meet in November to finalize the March and April schedule. Looking to schedule a girls "Spring Breaker" tournament in April.
- iii. Both teams will play in a St. Patrick's tournament in Plattsburg in March.

h. Tournaments

- i. Still absent teams for the 12UAA section of the tournament. Continue to support in finding other teams.
- ii. All remaining tournaments are full.
- iii. 14U tournament was a strong tournament. Player of the game pucks, and the swag was appreciated.

4. New/Old Business

- a. Kelly flagged a skills opportunity shared with 6U coaches.
- b. No league updates or issues raised.
- c. No old business raised.
- d. Request to go into executive session.
- e. Eddy motioned to adjourn, MacNaughton seconded.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- December 5th
- January 9th
- February 6th
- March 6th