

SYHI Board Minutes

January 9th, 2025 at 7pm

Location: Rec Center, Vanderbilt Ave, Saratoga Springs

Attendees: Bradford, Chatham, Comora, Eddy, Garrett, Guyette, Hanson, Kauth, Kelly, MacNaughton, Mulledy

Virtual: Ellis, Ely, Guyette, Kernan

Absent: Hunt

Overview

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. Eddy called for approval of the [December minutes](#). Kelly seconded, and all were in favor.
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance:
 - i. Provided an overview of the financials. No concerns raised.
 - ii. Will have a strong balance at the end of the season. CDs will mature, with a limited grace period to renew, Eddy and MacNaughton will address.
 - b. Executive:
 - i. Addressed administrative and disciplinary issues raised and resolved. Kelly flagged that USA hockey has added in the 25-26 guide book a form all parents will need to sign, on a new off ice policy for parents and players. Violation of the policy will result in significant fines. Will need to be incorporated into registration next season.
 - c. Scheduling + Facilities:
 - i. Raised that a few ice slots are available in February. Weekend of March 8th + 9th also has open slots. Kelly flagged it may make sense to use that ice for 8Us moving up.
 - ii. Ice cut slots will be placed in the master schedule.
 - iii. Need to organize the back corner in Vernon.
 - iv. Need to communicate with 8U teams to turn off the segment timer. Recommendation that we edit the directions in the score box to clarify how to turn off segment timer.
 - v. Hanson raised that there are a few snackbars shifts that are open in February which were sent out to team managers.
 - d. Girls:
 - i. Ice slots for the spring have been secured. Working to schedule games.
 - ii. Two teams have registered for the Spring tournament, and will continue to push to fill both age slots.
 - iii. A team store was open and sent out to families.

- iv. NYSAHA reached out to Eddy to manage a Girls Try Hockey event early February. Hanson said she would see if we had on-ice capacity to support.
- e. Marketing + Communications:
 - i. The next newsletter will come before the squirts tournament. Requested photos from the 12U tournament for the newsletter.
 - ii. The committee is planning to meet at the end of the month to do some planning for the 50th and sponsorships for next season.
- f. Coaching + Player Development:
 - i. Kelly reviewed the projects of skaters for next season.
 - ii. Expecting: 4 teams at 10U, 4 teams at 12U, 3 teams at 14U with a goalie deficit, 16U (potential for 1 full season, and 1 wrap team). Recommendation to put a group together to talk further about 16U.
 - iii. Not making a recommendation of skill level breakdown going into tryouts, levels will be based on the skill on the ice at tryouts. The Head coaches for the top 12U and 14U teams will work with CPDC to make a determination whether they will identify as AA and be tournament bound.
 - iv. Recommendation to put a group together to further discuss structure of 16U.
 - v. Tentative dates for checking clinics 8U skate ups were shared and will be submitted to the city to secure the ice. Coseo will run the checking clinic.
 - vi. Kelly shared a tentative schedule for tryouts, 4 nights, starting the week of March 24th. Following discussion the following recommendations were made:
 - Secure ice in both rinks as soon as feasible that provides 4 nights of tryouts at each level. Will continue to work through structure. One recommendation was to not have the tryouts the same week - to run 10U one week, 12U the next.
 - vii. The committee is requesting \$2k for jerseys for tryouts. Finance requested that the committee send a recommendation in writing with examples of what they are seeking to purchase.
 - viii. Requested feedback on the new coaching evaluation form that was shared in advance of the meeting. The form will be sent out and collected in advance of coaching interviews.
 - ix. The Tryout policy was slightly updated from last year.
 - Clarified that should the number of skaters necessitate more than 3 teams at a level, CDPC and Executive Committee will determine team level suitable to the level of play.
 - Explicitly added the criteria USA Hockey has for a skate up (pg. 5 of the policy).
 - x. The committee developed a new coaching selections document process, which was shared with the board for feedback.
 - The goal is that coaching applications go out the following week and are due on February 1st.
 - Head coach will be solicited, CDPD will approve staff for teams.
 - Question asked about what happens when kids register late:
 - a. Kelly reviewed the process as covered in the document.

- xi. Question was raised about timing of tryouts for the older age levels given the timing around spring break. A recommendation was to look at the weekends after Spring break.
- xii. Agreement that we want to post tryout dates as soon as possible.
- xiii. Recommendation was made that the organization increase the tryout fee, and only offer a refund if the player is not selected for a team.
- xiv. Recommendation that we continue to explore ways to support goalie development and retention within the organization including further reduced fees, and enhance goalie training.
- xv. Consideration: baking into registration reimbursement for coaches for their CEPs, if they complete prior to the start of the season. Recommendation was to host a level 1 + 2 in Saratoga. Eddy will reach out to NYSAHA.

4. New Business: None

5. Adjourned: Eddy motioned, Chatham seconded, all were in favor.