

SYHI Board Minutes

February 6th, 2025 at 7pm

Location: Rec Center, Vanderbilt Ave, Saratoga Springs

Attendees: Comora, Eddy, Ellis, Garrett, Hanson, Kelly, MacNaughton, Mulledy

Virtual: Chatham, Ely, Guyette,

Absent: Bradford, Kauth

Overview

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. Kelly called for approval of the January minutes, McNaughton seconded, and all were in favor.
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance:
 - i. McNaughton provided an overview of the finance committee report. Ice costs are higher this year than projected. Operating expenses are slightly above projections and includes work with accountants on our tax returns. Organization has a solid fiscal position. No questions were raised.
 - b. Executive:
 - i. The bulk of the recent committee meeting was spent discussing recent disciplinary issues. Eddy moved into executive session. Following a brief discussion, the board gaveled out of executive session.
 - c. Marketing + Communications:
 - i. The committee finalized the logo for the 50th season, which was shared.
 - ii. Tryouts and board elections will be placed on social, and newsletter to go out at the end of the month.
 - d. Governance
 - i. Hanson presented minor edits to the bylaws recommended by the Governance committee. No questions raised. Eddy motioned to accept the changes, Kelly seconded all were in favor. A final version will be presented at the March board meeting.
 - ii. Hanson presented recommended edits to the Player + Parent Handbook. A question was raised regarding placement of a returning player when they missed tryouts for an approved reason. Recommend that language is included to say returning players who miss tryouts with prior approval, will be placed on a lower team and an evaluation will be conducted. The Committee will bring forward a revised document with this change for approval next month.

- iii. The board election process is moving forward and will initiate in a few weeks.
- e. Scheduling + Facilities:
 - i. Eddy flagged ice shifts for February 8th + 12th which will be communicated.
 - ii. The tryout schedule will be communicated when finalized.
- f. Tournaments:
 - i. A few teams have not paid, Macnaughton and Guyette will be following up with teams to ensure payment.
 - ii. Hanson raised reviewing the tournament schedule for next year to allow for greater spacing between tournaments than what occurred this season.
 - iii. Eddy will pull potential weekends for the 25-26 season to review at the next board meeting.
- g. Girls:
 - i. The spring session of the wrap season will begin in March.
 - ii. The spring tournament is almost full at 10/12U and has 2 teams at 8U. Regardless there will be a tournament.
 - iii. In conversations with local teams about a small jamboree for 8U girls.
- h. Coaching + Player Development:
 - i. Met to discuss team issues that have been resolved.
 - ii. The coaching application was issued, and resulted in applicants at every level.
 - iii. The committee may need board support to ensure a full 5-member panel, during coaching selection, as some CPDC members will be precluded from participating due to conflicts. Kernan, Hanson and Guyette offered to support.
 - iv. Kelly raised the need to finalize tryout dates for 10/12U and the timing of 14U, 16U, and 18U. Including whether 16U and 18U are held over the weekend. Eddy will work with the city to land tryout dates.
 - v. Hanson recommended that following tryouts we have a concentrated conversation regarding LTP. Given numbers both for LTP and Mites, it is likely the same structure for the program will need to be maintained. Kelly recommended a focused conversation on Mites in June given the anticipated numbers for the program.
 - vi. Eddy flagged early challenges with the practice schedule for next season. May need to begin practice as early as 5pm, and 7:30 am on Saturday mornings, and condense to 55m ice slots.
 - Macnaughton provided an overview of a proposal for costing for 2025-26. Noted that reffing fees go up \$5 at each level.
 - Mites requested fees be slightly increased to reflect early costs of tournaments, and increased skills stipend would result in the cost going up for Mites.

- Recommending staggered start of teams, enabling older teams to get on the ice sooner, but all travel teams 10U and older, the opportunity for early season ice. Should also add notation of goalie skill funding.

vii. Ellis provided a high-level reviewed feedback received from parent survey.

- One clear point: Members are looking for some transparency for how decisions are made on the number of teams, in particular when there are more than 3 teams at a given level (example 12U - AA, B, B, and C)
 - a. Consensus that we need to communicate to parents that we expect to field 4 teams at both the 10U and 12U levels this upcoming season, and the skill level of teams will be determined following the assessment of those who attend tryouts.
 - b. Recommendation made to create a document that outlines what families can expect at each level of play - which should include expectations around when the season will begin and the number of practices and games.
 - c. Question was raised regarding the registration fee for tryouts. Agreement on \$125, only refundable if you are not placed on a team, and is deducted from your total registration cost.
 - d. Eddy requested that the ice times for tryouts be sent to him.
 - e. Hanson raised the need to purchase jerseys for tryouts.

4. New Business: No new business was raised.

5. Adjourned: Kelly motioned to adjourn, Hanson seconded, all were in favor.