

USA Hockey Report

On this past Monday the Finance and Audit Committee had a conference call review the proposed budget for the 09-10 season. USAH Treasurer, Jim Smith, chaired the call and was assisted by Bob Weldon, staff accountant.

Some of the highlights include:

- The budget is now \$30 million
- The budget includes funding from the USOC for the Olympic team
- Registrations are budgeted for a 1 1/2 percent decrease
- Most programs have decreased funding this year
- Corporate Sponsor funds are OK this year but most agreements end after the Olympics and new deals need to be signed. A couple sponsors have already indicated they will not continue.
- NHL funding is now paying for the entire NTDP program: \$2.7 million.
- Pat Kelliher has \$1 million to “grow the game”
- In line apparently breaks even – hard to pull out of the numbers however.
- Insurance costs are rising due to increased numbers of claims. Increased deductibles to \$3,500 for a secondary insurance claim is expected to help.
- The increased funding from the NHL is budgeted to be about \$2.2 million this next year on top of the \$1.1 million that was already committed by the NHL

The process is somewhat similar to ours. Each program submits a budget plan for the year and after review by the executive committee the budgets are revised until a balanced budget is achieved. Jim Smith reviews the final draft with the staff and executive committee and then a condensed version is presented to the Finance and Audit committee for approval. The final step will be presentation and approval by the board at the Annual Congress in June.

Hal Tearse
USA Hockey Minnesota Director