

SDAHA State Meeting 4/21/12
Crossroads Event Center
Huron, SD

Voting delegates present:

Aberdeen, Duke Witte (President)
Brookings, Brian VanLiere
Huron, Doug Solem (President)
Mitchell, Denise Niehoff (SDAHA Secretary)
Oahe, Tony Lief
Rushmore, Sean O'Connor (President)
Sioux Center, Gary DeYoung (President)
Sioux Falls, Mark Arndt (President)
Watertown, None Present
Yankton, Rhonda Schenkel

Other Attendees:

Dan French, SDAHA President
Ben Tronnes, SDAHA Vice President/Discipline
Randy Honkomp, SDAHA Treasurer
Dawn Magee, SDAHA Risk Manager
Mary Held, SDAHA Registrar (Outgoing)
Annette Stensgaard, SDAHA Registrar (New)
Tom Hitchcock, SDAHA Past President
Dave Tronnes, NPD Director
Steve Salwei, CIC
Rob Kittay, Coaches
Jodi Sterrett, Officials Scheduler
Maxine Tronnes, SDAHA Adm Asst/Scheduler
Bruce Palmer
Dane Yde
Tommy Zerse, Sioux Center
Cherry Hunter, Sioux Falls
Nick Magera, Sioux Falls
Bryan Kouri, Sioux Falls
Brian Davidson, Huron
Steve Jorgenson, Aberdeen

Meeting was called to order 9:00 am. Welcome and introductions were made. Announcements included new association presidents (Todd Stratmoen, Brookings, Mark Arndt, Sioux Falls, Tony Lief, Pierre, Mike Carrels Aberdeen, and Rob Barger, Yankton. New SDAHA Registrar is Annette Stensgaard. Agenda was adopted and Fall 2011 meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurers report was discussed by Randy Honkomp and Tom Hitchcock, and accepted. (see attached)

Registrar report was given by outgoing registrar, Mary Held. (See attached) It was mentioned that the SDAHA fee of \$5 would be included in the USA Hockey fee when players register. Player birth certificates would be verified on the rosters, rather than having to carry birth certificates with the team. Coaches are only required to take the age specific module for the level they are coaching. Risk Managers report was given by Dawn Magee, SDAHA Risk Manager. 141 background checks completed last year. Price has increased for checks from \$15 to \$20. Need to improve dates release forms are received by Dawn. Proposal made and approved to set deadline for receipt of release forms for October 31. Proposal made and approved that coaches must be "cleared before they are on ice with players. Also need to have locker room attendants screened. See also discussion on the head contact injury issues.

Discipline report was given by Ben Tronnes, SDAHA VP/Discipline Director. 44 game misconducts given 2011-2012, down from 68 the previous season. Nine of these were coach misconducts, 10 were from one team during the Presidents Cup. 26 were from the varsity/jv level. 9 were abuse of officials. 5 match penalties were assessed. Discussion held regarding the use of video for determining discipline issues. The following criteria was discussed:

- Video must show serious injury potential..
- This would be determined by SDAHA president, discipline committee, RIC
- This would not be a judgment call on the official (penalties called by officials would not be reversed)
- Safety of players would be number one priority
- A time line would be needed (to be determined by discipline committee for next season) to make a request for a review of video. One week was suggested.
- It must go through local president

Also, discussed the types of penalties assessed should only be in games, etc. not community service types of options.

Officials updates were given by Bruce Palmer, standing in for Doug Sorenson, RIC and official's scheduling updates were given by Jodi Sterrett, Officials Scheduler. Evaluations done by level 3 officials for younger officials are required to be assigned to state tournaments. How assignments for state tournaments was made was discussed. Dane Yde was in attendance and informed us there is a new Hockey Officials Association being formed. There was also discussion on the \$25 single game additional payment for officials. The intent was that this payment was for isolated

games, not for officials opting to only officiate a single game. What about those officials assigned to only a single game? It was requested that the contract be reviewed. Discussion was held on 2 linesman/1 referee vs 2 referees/1 linesman.

Steve Salwei, CIC, gave updates on coaching. Level 4 will be held in Grand Forks in October. Nine clinics were offered in South Dakota last year, with 1148 coaches attending. Referring to the age specific modules: no 30 day limit, only highest level you are coaching needs to be taken.

It was announced that there will be a Northern Plains District meeting in Spearfish this fall, where an ADM clinic will be presented. Sign-ups need to be made by the associations through Dave Tronnes. ADM may become mandatory for ages 8 and under. Delayed offsides, head contact are being discussed and emphasized. South Dakota should consider bidding on National Tournaments (three sheets of ice needed but not all together). Bids need to be made two years ahead of tournaments.

Motion made and passed to create an ADM committee to review standard of play for players 10 and under. Chair will be Sean O'Connor, Rushmore.

Updates on Player Development was made in a written report by Vince Foley (see attached). Scheduling updates were given by Maxine Tronnes, Scheduler. Teams traveling together were discussed and a handout was given explaining how scheduling decisions were made. Pro Hockey Celebrity Hunt was discussed, and it was requested that each association provide a representative to work with the Hunt committee to help promote the event.

Local associations each made their reports, with anticipated team counts announced.

Aberdeen – Will do “quadrangle” play again for Mites and Squirts (Aberdeen, Mitchell, Huron & Watertown)

Brandon – Built rink in October, ice in December, no ice in January. Had approx 10 good practices for their 10 registered players. Rink is city controlled. Projecting 30 players next season

Brookings – BISA had a tough start to the season with passing of Dave Zervas. Brian VanLiere expressed thanks for all the support for Brookings hockey families and Dave’s family. Younger registration was down. NAHL team from Alexandria, MN is moving to Brookings. The “Blizzard” will begin play this fall.

Huron – New compressors (\$24k) coming in May and should be ready to have ice for the month July. Funding for compressors includes: Turkey Race, grants and blitz to families & friends.

Mitchell – Provided projected team count.

Pierre – Trying to attract younger players, extra seating capacity completed by volunteers, looking at dehumidifier system and hosted an online survey at season end.

Rushmore – Broke the 300 mark for registration!!

Sioux Center – Younger numbers are up. Ice planned for mid-August for number of try hockey events, camps and skill clinics.

Sioux Falls – Rough start to season. Loss of 64 players for registration.....

Watertown – No report

Yankton – Hosting dryland during the summer for all age levels. Creating shooting range and working on better bleachers.

Discussion/proposal items:

- SDAHA presence at state tournaments was discussed. It was felt that the current procedure of having the local tournament director be the SDAHA representative was not working. It was felt that there should be a state officer present to handle disputes and decisions. Presented by Dan French.

Motion was made to have an SDAHA officer present at each state tournament that would work with the local tournament director and the scheduler. This representative would make the on-site decisions that relate to rules/play in SDAHA Hockey. They would also be the SDAHA presence for medal/trophy awards made during the tournament.

Motion made and passed

- SDAHA presence regarding ADM, team sizes/splits, consistency was discussed. No decision was made, but a committee will be formed to discuss and work on developing criteria. Presented by Dan French

Motion made and passed to form committee

- Should a committee be formed to work on developing criteria for a re-configuration of our JV programs? It was decided to do so, and a committee was determined. Presented by Dan French (See below)

Motion made and passed to form committee Ben Tronnes will chair.

- Request approval for monthly conference call between SDAHA officers, and including (at times) RIC, CIC, registrar, and others. Presented by Dan French

Motion made and passed to allow conference calls

- Request pay raises for Jodi Sterrett, officials scheduler and Maxine Tronnes, Administrative Assistant/Scheduler. Presented by Dan French

Motion Made and passed to make paycheck monthly, instead of hourly and to increase annual salary. Increase will be 20% over last year's total salary, and divided into 12 payments.

There was a short discussion regarding the injury problems with the head checks made. A meeting was held at the boys varsity state tournament with Dr. Sanchez from Pierre. Discussion included working with the officials to make sure the appropriate calls are being made.

- Proposal to change state tournament rules to allow Girls and Boys varsity tournaments to be held at the same site on one week end. Presented by Sean OConnor, Rushmore Hockey.

Discussion was held regarding the implications of this type of change. There was a request for a show of support for a change.

Motion to show support was made and failed.

- Proposal made regarding referee systems:
 - In SDAHA play, the one referee-two linesman system will be used for all levels. This would change the current Girls Varsity/Girls JV system, which is two referee.

Motion Withdrawn

- Proposal made regarding referee systems:
 - Youth JV and Varsity shall use the 4-man referee officiating system.

Motion Withdrawn

- Proposal made:
 - In SDAHA play, warm-ups shall be 5 minutes for peewee, 8 minutes for bantam, and 10 minutes for JV and Varsity levels.

Motion made and passed to change playing rule 5A

- Proposal made:
 - Delayed offsides – at the bantam, JV and Varsity levels, a delayed offsides will be allowed.

Motion made and passed to change playing rule 5E

- Proposal made:
 - By laws rule 5.5: Members eligible to vote on SDAHA matters at hand shall include the elected directors outlined in Article 5.4 of the SDAHA by laws, or their approved alternates, as well as the elected officers of SDAHA as outlined in Article 6 of the SDAHA by-laws. The president shall vote only in the event of a tie on any matter at hand.

Motion made and passed to change By-Law 5.5

- Should a committee be formed to work on developing criteria for a re-configuration of our JV programs? It was decided to do so, and a committee was determined. Presented by Vince Foley, Watertown

Motion made and passed to form committee (Includes Gary DeYoung, Brian Davidson, Ben Tronnes)

- From National Tournament Team Committee: *A per head fee of \$___.00 shall be assessed against league registered players for the use and support of national tournament bound teams as the SDAHA entry in Tier II Youth, Tier II Girls, and High School Nationals.*

This discussion actually arose from the Boys Varsity Tournament discussion and the problems with fundraising faced with any of the teams representing the state. The National Tournament Team Committee was segregated from the Boys Development Committee and the Girls Development Committee this past winter to manage independently that process and selection. Proposal submitted by Vince Foley, Watertown.

TABLED UNTIL FALL MEETING

- Proposal to update geographic lines drawn to distinguish between Brandon Valley Hockey Association and Sioux falls Hockey association. See drawing.

Motion made to approve proposed changes per drawing and approved.

Additional Discussions:

- Determination needs to be made regarding date to receive bids for boys varsity tournament.

Motion made and approved to require bids to be to SDAHA by June 15th, 2012

- Nominating committee needed for Vice President and Treasurer positions. Tom Hitchcock will get this done and an e-mail vote will be taken during the summer.

August 2, 2012 Conference Call

Everyone except Rushmore was present (some individuals joined a bit late)

Associations reported their anticipated number of PW teams. Counts had not changed from the spring meeting.

Ben presented the tiered approach for changes to 3 conferences of 8. The main concern was how to place teams in conferences when the players

change from year to year.

Dan (and others) moved the discussion to consider the two conferences of 6 at each level. Pros and cons were considered as well as having only conference games or having some non-conference games were considered. Also various options for the state tournament were brought forward.

Motion: Divide both PW A & B into conferences of 6, with Gary De Young examining possible conference options and what they would mean for travel with further discussion of possible conferences done via email, with an email vote to approve specific conferences. This would be for one season only with a committee formed at the fall meeting to bring forward recommendations that will work for PW (and later for Bantam) in following seasons. **The motion was made seconded and passed unanimously.**

5) Vince Foley suggested that the follow up discussion take place in an online chat forum that he would set up. It was agreed to do this

August 20, 2012 e-mail voting

First of all, **Ben and Randy have been chosen to stay in their current positions within SDAHA as Vice President and Treasurer** respectively. Congratulations

Secondly, **Brookings has been selected as the location to host the 2012-2013 SDAHA Boys Varsity State**

During the conference call we held regarding the initial conversations, it was decided to use conference play at the PW level for the 2012-2013 season. There was decisions to be made as to how to split the conferences and the make up of the state tournament. And if we play league games just within the conference or do we play some non-conference games as well.

Good conversation took place on Chatzy. From that, a motion has been made and seconded.

Here is the proposal for the 2012-2013 PW season:

Both the "A" and the "B" divisions will consist of 2 6-team conferences. Scheduled league games will consist of a 3-game series within each conference only. No cross-conference games will be scheduled or part of league play. Teams may do some on their own, but it would not be part of league play.

"A" division conference 1

Aberdeen
Oahe
Mitchell
Huron
Rushmore 1
Rushmore 2

conference 2

Watertown
Sioux Center
Brookings
Yankton
Sioux Falls 1
Sioux Falls 2

"B" Division conference 1

Sioux Falls 1
Sioux Falls 2
Sioux Center
Yankton
Rushmore 1
Rushmore 2

conference 2

Brookings 1
Brookings 2
Aberdeen
Watertown
Mitchell
Oahe

The motion also addresses the state tournaments. All teams would participate in their respective state tournament. We will have to change the format since each tournament will be a 12-team tournament over 3 days.

We have a little time to develop the best format for each state tournament. The one thing we will do is the first round would be cross-conference games. (#1 from conference 1 vs. #6 from conference 2, #2 vs. #5 and so on)

I recommend we approve this proposal. Work on the schedule needs to get started right away. We could sit and discuss for hours who should be in what conference for a variety of reasons. This proposal seems fair to all as much as anything. This is only for this coming season and adjustments can and probably will be made as we move forward.

Proposal Passed

E-mail vote:

Huron petitioned to play Bantam B only, citing limited player numbers at that level.

Proposal made and passed to allow Huron to play Bantam B only (no Bantam A) for 2012-13 season.