

Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 6, 2016 - 6:30pm – Sanford Meeting Room A

President Bryan Kouri called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Quorum present for the meeting. Board members attending were Chad Dykstra, John Sievert, Bryce Pattison, Brian Hefti, Kyle Hanisch and Matt Althoff. Incoming board members attending were Brian Schumacher and Matt George. Also attending was Mrs. George, Paul Clinton, Luke Sendelbach and Executive Assistant, Cherry Hunter.

Minutes – Matt Althoff made a motion to approve the March 2, 2016 minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Reports – Kyle Hanisch made a motion to approve the April 4, 2016 Treasurers Reports showing a balance on hand of \$266,620.22. The balance reflects scrip inventory, spiritwear inventory and Hockey Booster checking. Motion seconded and carried. Sanford Trainer invoice, March ice invoice and April ice invoice are sources of anticipated expenses.

Travel League Advisory Council Report – Brian Hefti – No meeting was held in March for the Travel Advisory Council. Team stats were presented.

House League Advisory Council Report – Chad Dykstra – No meeting was held in March for the House Advisory Council.

Director of Hockey Report - Dan Houck

- Good participation for player and coach exit interviews
- Sample dry land training sessions planned for players
- Hosted meeting for interested Squirt & PeeWee Gold team parents
- 3 V 3 Spring League has been successful.
- 3 V 3 Fall League will include ice time for Bantam & high school
- Will host a goalie parent meeting
- Off season planning

Matt Althoff requested Coach Houck information be sent to all possible participants.

Executive Assistant Report – Cherry Hunter

- Daily functions of SFYHA
- Other projects: 3 V 3 League, EOY events, SDAHA proposals
- Summer Volunteer Opportunities
 - June 7-8: need 3 volunteers for Legends for Kids
 - July 4th Mayors Picnic

OPEN FORUM

Paul Clinton – Paul suggested the Bantam and high school leagues host an early registration. He suggested thru tryouts and evaluations, players could be placed in the City League regardless of their travel registration. Teams with players who lack skills is not fair to those with higher level of skills. Paul suggested the Bantam & high school players be ranked 1-50 with rankings provided to player and parents.

Zach Jurgens: Zach stated high school ideal team numbers are 16 skaters and 2 goalies.
RESPONSE: Projections for 2016-2017 are 55 players at the high school level and 64 players at the Bantam level. Estimate loss of players to Jr. Stampede program is 9 players.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tournament Updates- Mindy Hansen: Working on tournament dates for 2016-2017 season.

Policy Review

- Travel Eligibility – Agenda item tabled.
- Code of Conducts – Agenda item tabled.
- Assignment by Residence/Geo Split – Current process for geo assignment noted. Matt Althoff made a motion to approve the Player Designation by Residence Policy (Geo-Split). Motion seconded and carried. Policy posted at the conclusion of minutes.
- Volunteer Requirements – First Reading discussion points
 - “See a need, Fill a need” concept
 - Child on the ice, the expectation is the parent will volunteer. Eliminates Dibs tasks for minor officials at home games.
 - Admissions would be a DIB item
 - Format places more pressure on the Team Coordinator

Survey Results– 137 online surveys were completed in addition to 40 hard copy surveys. Coaching experience, continue depth of coaching services, more program opportunities and general overall satisfaction with SFYHA were noted.

3 V 3 Spring League – Coach Houck choose the teams. Families seem to be happy with program ending on April 7th. Volunteers for tasks were slim except croxice dividers.

Other

- Cookbook – still planning to print 1000 books? 500 books printed is \$11.47 each. 1000 books printed is \$10.66 each. No discussion

NEW BUSINESS:

Player / Coach Remembrance– Flowers were sent for John Norlen and Brittany Corcoran services. SFYHA will provide IcePlex paver in memory of Coach Norlen and player Brittany Corcoran. Request has been received to retire #4 for SFYHA in memory of Brittany Corcoran. Consideration tabled until August meeting.

Uniform Requirements – Chad Dykstra made a motion to approve the SF Flyers Travel Uniform Requirements:

High School Jersey Requirement:

- Each player is responsible for the cost of their jersey set and must order said set through SFYHA. The cost will be the actual amount incurred by SFYHA and will be paid at the time of registration.
- Only the official jersey and socks of SFYHA may be worn during games. Numbers will be administered by SFYHA to avoid duplication. Individual player names will not be allowed on the jerseys. It is the name on the front we play for.
- Jerseys will be inspected annually to ensure they are in acceptable condition. SFYHA maintains the right to require a jersey to be repaired or replaced if necessary. Though no all inclusive, examples includes rips, stains, missing numbers or logos, wear and tear.

Motion seconded and carried.

Matt Althoff made a motion sock purchase (home & away) will be included as an up charge for Squirt thru high school travel registration. Mesh socks will match the jerseys and will be distributed with jersey handout. Motion seconded and carried.

Other SF Flyers Travel Uniform considerations:

All Levels:

Game Jerseys – Only the approved SFYHA jerseys are to be worn during games.

Breezers – Navy

Stick Tape – Black or white

Skate Laces – White

Game Socks – All players will wear Flyers approved mesh socks. These will be sold through SFYHA spiritwear. These are not to be worn during practice.

By League:

Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam Travel will wear white helmets with no non-Flyers stickers.

High School and Lady Flyers will wear navy helmets with no non-Flyers stickers.

High School Jerseys:

Once a player is finished as a Flyers, they will have two options for their jerseys.

1. Keep the jerseys as they have already paid for them.
2. Sell one or both jerseys to an incoming HS family. Sale will be subject to approval of SFYHA based on condition of each jersey and availability of number. Failure to receive approval may result in the number not being allowed. All jersey sales must be completed within 60 days of the end of the season. Once 60 days are up, the numbers of those players who have left will open up to the incoming players based on age. Older players, by birthdate, will have first choice of number.

Note: Standard game jersey sets are sold to senior players for \$200 for set. TJ Reinsch orange jerseys are \$125.

SDAHA Meeting in Huron– The SDAHA Spring Board Meeting will be held in Huron on Saturday, April 16th beginning at 8:30am. Board members reviewed proposals to be considered at the April meeting.

June Registration – Board members discussed early June registration for all state leagues. Matt Althoff made a motion to release SFYHA player registration July 1 and close registration August 15. Motion seconded and carried.

Board Transition– President Kouri encouraged outgoing board members to meet with the incoming board members.

Other

- ✓ Appreciation Dinner will be hosted April 19th beginning at 6:00pm at Minnehaha Country Club. Cost per person is \$25.00.

Reports

- ✓ Coach Houck Report
- ✓ SFYHA Board & Ad Council Meeting Schedule 2016-2017
- ✓ SDAHA Agenda & Proposals
- ✓ Proposed Policies
 - Code of Conduct
 - Travel Eligibility
 - Assignment by Residence
 - Travel Uniform Requirements
 - Volunteer Requirements

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, May 4, 2016 6:30pm – Location TBD

Between Meetings – April 7, 2016 thru April 23, 2016

May BOD Meeting Location – The May 4 Board of Directors meeting will be held at the Pastoral Center – 3rd Floor. Address is 532 N. Duluth Avenue – just north of Cathedral Church.

Appreciation Dinner – Appreciation dinner for board members, advisory council members and coaches was held Tuesday, April 19th. Thirty-four attended the event. RSVP was 51 attending.

Eblasts

- SFYHA News: Calling All Goalies / Dry Land Training / Summer Camps / Volunteer Needs: April 11, 2016
- Dry Land Training & Development Camp / National Team Tryouts: Lady Flyers – April 13, 2016

Approved May 4, 2016

Cherry Hunter, SFYHA
Executive Assistant

Player Designation by Residence Policy (“Geo Split”)

Effective May 2016

The South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association (SDAHA), in an effort to create and maintain parity within its member organizations, and while acting within its authority, has directed that the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association (SFYHA) divide its membership into equal halves based upon location of the player’s residence. The practice is commonly referred to as “Geo-Split.”

In an effort to mitigate immediate shock/negative effects of this change upon its members, the SDAHA permitted the SFYHA to implement a geo-split program gradually, over a 6 year period of time. The SFYHA began implementing a gradual geo-split program in which younger classes of players were the first units to be split, while gradually introducing geo-splits at older age levels. Beginning with the 2015-16 season, the SFYHA adopted a geo-split policy to be effective from the Mite Travel-level through High School leagues.

It is the position of the SFYHA Board of Directors that the current geo-split policy is both in accord with the SDAHA mandate for the SFYHA to geo-split, and in the best interest of SFYHA’s own players and teams based upon the current membership of the SDAHA league.

Further, it is the position of the SFYHA Board of Directors that it is in the best interest of its members that the SFYHA maintain its position as the local governing body for all teams geographically divided in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota area. The SFYHA believes that the division of geographically divided teams into separate SDAHA programs is not in the best interest of the development of youth hockey in the Sioux Falls area, nor in the best interests of youth hockey in the State of South Dakota.

Although the SFYHA Board of Directors reserves the right to modify its current geo-split policy within the mandate of the SDAHA, the following geo-split policy is adopted.

East-West Designations: Skaters

- The goal of splitting each age-level by geographical designation is to create an even number of players on either side of the East/West designation. The policy also explicitly sets forth a plan for maintaining continuity of teammates and families from one season to the next.
- All players are registered through USA Hockey using their permanent residence. This will serve as the basis for the player's placement. Parents are expected to use the legal residence of the player at the time of registration. Addresses are plotted on a map.
 - Mite, Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam leagues will be classified as either first- or second-year players per their registration and previous experience at the same level of play. In the case of High School, skaters are separated as freshman/sophomores (treated as one class), juniors, and seniors.
 - Using a map of the City of Sioux Falls and its surrounding area, each class will be divided in half on an east/west basis.
 - Therefore, a unique geo-split line will result for each age level.

East-West Designations: Goalies

- Recognizing the skilled nature of the specialized position of goalies, a sub-group of players identified as goalies will be created (separate from skaters) for the Squirt-level and above.
 - In the same fashion as described above, an equal number of goalies will be designated as either East or West players based upon their geographical residence.
 - In the event of an odd number of goalies at any given level, the SFYHA Director of Hockey (DOH) will have discretion to place the odd number of goalies on any given East or West team based upon skill level and seniority of the goalies on the respective teams. If no DOH is in place at the time of the player placement decision, the decision will be made by the SFYHA Board of Directors.
 - All East goalies must have an address further east than any West goalie, and all West goalies must have an address further west than any East goalie.

Formulation of Teams: Combining 1st-, 2nd-year skaters with Goalies

- Once geographic designations have been made, the sub-groups (e.g. 1st year & 2nd year) are combined to form the East and West teams.

East-West Designations: Disclosure

- The map used to plot households and on which the dividing line is drawn will be made available for inspection at the SFYHA office.

Player Try-outs

Player tryouts are offered at the beginning of the season for travel leagues. The tryouts sessions are conducted separately based upon designation of either East or West; skaters are evaluated only against their peers who share the same geographical designation.

Barring a circumstance that must be approved by a vote of the SFYHA Board of Directors, with input from the DOH, skaters may not be placed through the course of the tryout period on a team on the opposite side of that player's designated geographical line. SFYHA expects that such circumstances would be rare. The most common example would involve one team having significantly fewer skaters than its opposing age level geo team.

Any change of player from that player's original geo-split designation must only be changed if the change is consistent with the overall geo-split policy to maintain a balance of the number of players on each side of the geo-split line. Changes of a player's geo-split designation based upon the skill level of that player, and perceived competitive level of any given team, are not consistent with the SFYHA geo-split policy. The SFYHA also recognizes that USA Hockey and SDAHA places significant restriction on an Association's ability to change team rosters once submitted and made official at the beginning of each season.

Select ("Gold") Teams

In the event the SFYHA Board determinations that the level of participation supports fielding a select or "Gold" team, this team will not be participating in SDAHA League Play. Therefore, tryouts for the Gold team would be held prior to the assignment of east-west designations. Once players have been assigned to

the Gold team, all other player residences will be plotted on a map and a line drawn with east-west designations resulting in the same manner described above.

Player Transfers

In the event that a new skater to the SFYHA transfers from another association or club midseason, that player will be given an east-west designation based upon his or her residence at the time of registration and in accord with the line that was established for the corresponding age-level of play.

The SFYHA Board of Directors, in consultation with the DOH, reserves the right to determine player transfer assignment in the event, through normal attrition, there is a disparate number of players assigned to one east-west designation. Any assignment of player transfers to balance numbers must be voted on by the Board of Directors.

Siblings

Siblings playing at the same age/class level (typically twins) shall not be given separate East-West geo designations.

Siblings playing at the same hockey level (e.g. 1st year Squirt and 2nd year Squirt) may receive separate geo designations depending upon where the line for their individual age/class level is drawn. However, if, through the tryout process, siblings qualify to play on the same skill level team those siblings shall not be separated by an east/west designation (e.g. 1st year and 2nd year brothers both qualify to play at the A level of an A, B, C level league).