

MINUTES

SAHOF High School Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: Friday, July 14, 2017

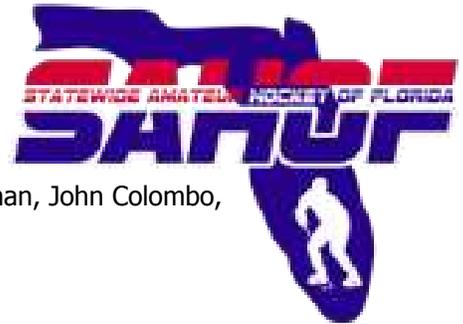
Meeting Time: 2:00pm

Meeting Location: Conference Call

Committee Members in attendance: Tom Garavaglia, Jay Feaster, John Gullman, John Colombo, Ed de La Paz

Committee Members Absent: N/A

Also in attendance: N/A



- SAHOF High School Committee seat nominations
 1. FSHL – John Colombo
 2. LSHL – TBD

AT the SAHOF HS Committee meeting on June 3, 2017, presidents from both the LSHL and FSHL were permitted to nominate 1 individual from their area to potentially fill the 2 remaining seats on the SAHOF High School Committee.

John Gullman nominated John Colombo of the Florida Panthers, and Jay Feaster nominated Ed de La Paz, former FSHL president.

MOTION BY TOM GARAVAGLIA, SECOND BY JAY FESATER – Accept the nomination by John Gullman, and appoint John Colombo as a member of the SAHOF High School Committee

MOTION PASSES 3-0

MOTION BY TOM GARAVAGLIA, SECOND BY JOHN GULLMAN – Accept the nomination by Jay Feaster, and appoint Ed de La Paz as a member of the SAHOF High School Committee

MOTION PASSES 3-0

With the addition of John Colombo and Ed de La Paz, the 2017-2018 SAHOF High School Committee is now at full capacity with 5 committee members

1. Tom Garavaglia – SAHOF Board of Directors, Committee Chair
 2. Jay Feaster – LSHL President
 3. John Gullman – FSHL President
 4. John Colombo – Committee Member – FSHL representative
 5. Ed de La Paz – Committee Member – LSHL representative
- Old Business
 - Private schools combining with public schools to form combined/composite (Tier II) team

At the time of Committee meeting, the FSHL has 1 or 2 Tier II (combined/composite) teams that are currently constructed utilizing both traditional public schools as well as private/charter schools in a single physical team catchment area. The LSHL currently does not allow private/charter/non-traditional schools to combine with a traditional public school in any capacity.

Discussion included the potential for creating an unfair advantage from a boundary/catchment area standpoint, potentially creating an almost limitless catchment area for any given team. Discussions only relate to the potential of establishing a qualifying standard for advancing to State and National tournaments.

During discussions, all 5 committee members recognize the need to establish a definitive SAHOF qualifier, and are of the opinion that private schools should not be part of a Tier II catchment/boundary area along with a traditional public school. The committee believes that should an official rule be created, the earliest a rule would be implemented is the 2018-2019 season to allow respective leagues and teams time to prepare for any potential change. Additionally, the committee believes that there is no need to ask leagues to change the construction of their teams to compete in their local regular season and playoffs. This potential qualifier in relation to the makeup on a Tier II team strictly relates to teams remaining eligible to compete at the State level and beyond.

No official motion or vote was taken on this subject.

However, given that all 5 committee are in support of this, the committee has asked league presidents to return to their league boards, and ask for their feedback on this topic, inclusive of a potential timeline to adopt a state qualifier of this magnitude.

ACTION ITEM: As this item impacts the FSHL more than the LSHL, John Gullman specifically will follow up with his Board of Directors to ask for a proposed timeline for implementation of potential new rule, starting with a minimum of 1 full season (2017-2018 season buffer). John Gullman will report back to the SAHOF High School Committee at their next meeting with FSHL feedback and timeline requests.

Based on the feedback and timeline recommendations provided by the FSHL, the SAHOF High School Committee will make official motion and vote on this topic at the next committee meeting.

While the committee believes private schools should not combine with public schools, the also discussed the potential to allow multiple private schools to combine. Additional discussion will need to be had by the committee at a later date to further determine the feasibility of this, as well as any restrictions that may need to be put in place on a state level.

- Private School/eligibility – New proposal from LSHL

While the committee made an official motion and ruling in regards to this topic at the June 3, 2017 meeting, the Committee Chair believes it is important to create official rules to be posted on the SAHOF website, and shared with leagues, teams, coaches, players and parents. The proposed item from Dan Bublely of the LSHL is in relation to creating the actual language for the statewide rule. Proposed verbiage of official rule as follows:

"A player that attends a private, charter, religious or non-boundary school which school does not have its own hockey team, and but for player's actual attendance at a private, charter, religious or non-boundary school such player's primary residence would otherwise dictate that the player would otherwise attend a traditional high school within a team catchment area, shall not prohibit the player from playing for the

traditional high school within the team catchment area, and such player's school of actual attendance shall not count against or be considered to exceed the quantity of schools within any catchment area, so long as the player's primary residence does not expand the geographical area of the high schools which form the team catchment area"

The committee feels the language provided in the proposal by Dan Buble accurately reflects what we want to accomplish. While no official motion and vote was held on this item, all 5 committee members approved the acceptance of this language in the creation of an official SAHOF High School Hockey rule. As a result, this item is now an official rule.

- Committee & High School rule documentation

High School Committee Chair, Tom Garavaglia, has been given access to add and change items within the High School section on the SAHOF website. Committee Chair believes it is important to remain as transparent as possible, while providing an outlet for those looking to gain additional information and knowledge on High School Hockey.

It was discussed that meeting schedules, agendas, minutes for all SAHOF High School Committee Meetings, as well as any newly created statewide rules will be posted on the SAHOF website for ease of access.

- SAHOF HS Committee meeting schedule

Upon discussion, it was agreed that the High School Committee will meet on a monthly basis via conference call. Calls will take place on either the 1st or 2nd Friday of each month, keeping us 1 or 2 weeks ahead of the monthly SAHOF Board meeting schedule. Calls will take place in the morning.

ACTION ITEM: Based on discussions, Committee Chair, Tom Garavaglia, will create and distribute meeting schedule to all committee members, and will also post on the SAHOF website a minimum of 2 weeks before next committee meeting

- New Business

- Continued player eligibility questions/concerns
 - Goalie exceptions
 - Pure Teams
 - Should teams classified as pure (Tier I) be eligible to qualify for a goalie exception if they do not have a goalie?

Item brought to the table by John Gullman, who is looking for further clarification on team eligibility at the state and national level.

Committee looked to USA Hockey rules and Nationals Guidebook first and foremost to look for additional insight. The Nationals Guidebook defines a Tier/Division I team as follows:

"High School/Prep School Division 1: Formal high school and prep school teams or non-varsity teams consisting of

full time students attending the same high school or prep school or full time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school” – located on page 21 of the 2017 USA Hockey Nationals Guidebook.

Committee is of the belief that in the event that a Pure/Tier I team take a goalie outside of their school, they would no longer be classified as a “pure” team.

MOTION BY JAY FEASTER, SECOND BY TOM GARAVAGLIA – Tier I teams, will not be permitted a goalie exemption. Should a Tier I team need and take a pool goalie, they would no longer qualify as a Tier I team.

MOTION PASSES 5-0

- Combined/Composite Teams
 - If a combined/composite team (Tier II) does not have a goalie within their catchment, should a goalie from outside of their catchment be allowable?
 - If allowable, does the school that goalie attends count as an additional school on their official roster count?

MOTION BY JAY FEASTER, SECOND BY TOM GARAVAGLIA – In the event a Tier II team is in need of a goalie (in need defined as having 1 or 0 goalies), and takes one from the pool, the school that goalie attends would not count against their roster total of 4

MOTION PASSES 5-0

- State Tournament
 - Intent declarations & deadlines
 - League team selection process update
 - Penalties for signing intent and then not attending

Vital to ensure that any/all teams that sign their intent to play/compete in both the State and National tournaments, actually attend those tournaments. Situations and scenarios that occurred within the last few seasons regarding teams that did not want to attend tournaments after signing these intents were referenced.

Discussion included potential penalties for both teams/programs, as well as head coaches. No official proposals presented at this meeting. The purpose of this agenda item was to introduce the topic and get committee members thinking on this issue

ACTION ITEM: Committee members asked to give this item additional thought, and generate potential ideas/proposals on either potential solutions, or potential penalties for teams backing out from their intent. Ideas and proposals to be presented at next committee meeting

- Other items?

FSHL name change

At a FSHL Board meeting held on 7/13/17, the Florida Scholastic Hockey League voted to change their name to the Florida Panthers Scholastic Hockey League (FPSHL). In the process of the name change, they have gained additional support from the Florida Panthers organization. Panthers will provide some administrative, as well as some financial support to the operation of the FPSHL.

Additionally, FPSHL will be activating a new website through Sports Engine, which will be activated in the coming weeks.

- For future agenda
 - Interleague play
 - Statewide development & opportunities
 - Elite Development Program

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:30PM

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Tom Garavaglia

07/17/2017

Tom Garavaglia – Committee Chair

Jay Feaster

Jay Feaster – LSHL President



John Gullman

John Gullman – FPSHL President

John Colombo

07/17/2017

John Colombo – Committee Member

Ed de la Paz, D.M.D.

Ed de La Paz – Committee Member