

John,

Andy Shriver here- emailing from Ronald McDonald house with two patients who are discharged, but not lifting >5 pounds or fending much for themselves. I am going to stay here and be absent from the meeting tonight.

My bullet point update is as follows:

1. Hockey Director Conference was in April. Excellent content on the science of player development from USA Hockey-- which should drive all Hockey Director and Hockey Committee, or Player Development committee decisions.
2. Most popular and with the most requests and greatest appetite for "more" was networking on best practices in other associations.
3. With #2 in mind, this group needs to exist beyond 1 meeting per year. We should evolve into an association similar to an Athletic Director's or High School Principal's Association:
  - 1) we would meet in person for training and communication yearly at minimum (April or May) and possibly again for preseason late summer, early fall.
  - 2) Minnesota Hockey would provide support for associations to establish and maintain effective Player Development (or "Hockey" Committees) to drive the day to day on ice programming if the association, making decisions based on the science of how to best develop hockey players.
  - 3) The hockey director network would provide support as a resource for case studies, best practices and other applications of excellent on-ice programming. It could also include training and support, talking points, rationale and meeting agendas for driving positive change and reacting to "normal hockey association angst" that seems all too common.
  - 4) Through annual or semi-annual live meetings, quarterly online meetings we would facilitate communication among the hockey development leadership of our local associations. Through these scheduled connections and then via networking among members, this group would have access to examples of how different associations execute programming that seize opportunities and tackle challenges that all associations face.

In short, the potential for this group includes having platform through which we foster institutional memory.

The Hockey Director network gives us a place to collect and share the best of what we are already doing in the State of Hockey, and to support local efforts to furthering it when possible.

In June, we will connect with attendees electronically with 3 things: 1) follow-up to our conference, 2) new information (small dose, limited topic) for educating; 3) discussion on a larger-scope online meeting for late summer/early fall.