

Stillwater Area Hockey Association Coaches Meeting



September 10, 2025

High School Partnership

3 Areas of Support

- Align on strategy and vision
- Mentor players, coaches, and parents
- Support and foster pride in hockey community
- Comments and Q&A from Greg and Tim



High School Partnership

What should players be able to do by high school?

1. Need to be able to practice well. Meaning little to zero demonstration on drills, be prepared, etc.
2. Need to be able to understand what kind of player they are by high school. Are you a scorer? Are you a shut down D, are you an energy player? Can you adapt your game to the needs of the team?
3. Need to understand results matter.
4. Need to understand how to train off of the ice in a manner that works for them, but be flexible to do what team is doing, as well.

High School Partnership

SAHA Support

1. Don't be afraid to ask for ask for help on anything you need.
2. If your team has ice after our practices encourage them to watch and learn a bit. Please also encourage players not to be distracting while we are on the ice working.
3. Hold your players accountable! Players need to learn that attention to details matters. Skate to the line means skate to the line - not three feet short of the line. Stop on a whistle means stop on a whistle - it does not mean continue skating around and shooting pucks across the ice.
4. Use a play board! Players need to learn how to read a play or drill on a board and execute on the ice. Before demonstrating a drill, draw it on a board to explain it. Give players an opportunity to execute based off the drawing before taking time to demonstrate.

Agenda

- Introductions
- 2025-26 Rule Changes
- High School Partnership
 - Greg Zanon
 - Tim Morris
- Coaching Best Practices
- Practice Planning
- Coaching Goalies
- PDP Changes
- Coaching Certifications
- Questions



Intros

- Matt Tuccitto, President
- Ed Souter, Vice President
- Justin Kaufenberg, Girls Director
- Alex Stalock, Boys Director
- Justin Magill, Boys Director
- Kyle Kraemer, Initiation Director
- Jeff Neidt, Coaching Education
- Joe Kauffman, D2 Rep
- Greg Zanon, Boys High School Coach
- Jen Zanon, Admin (speaking for Registrar)

2025-26 Updates

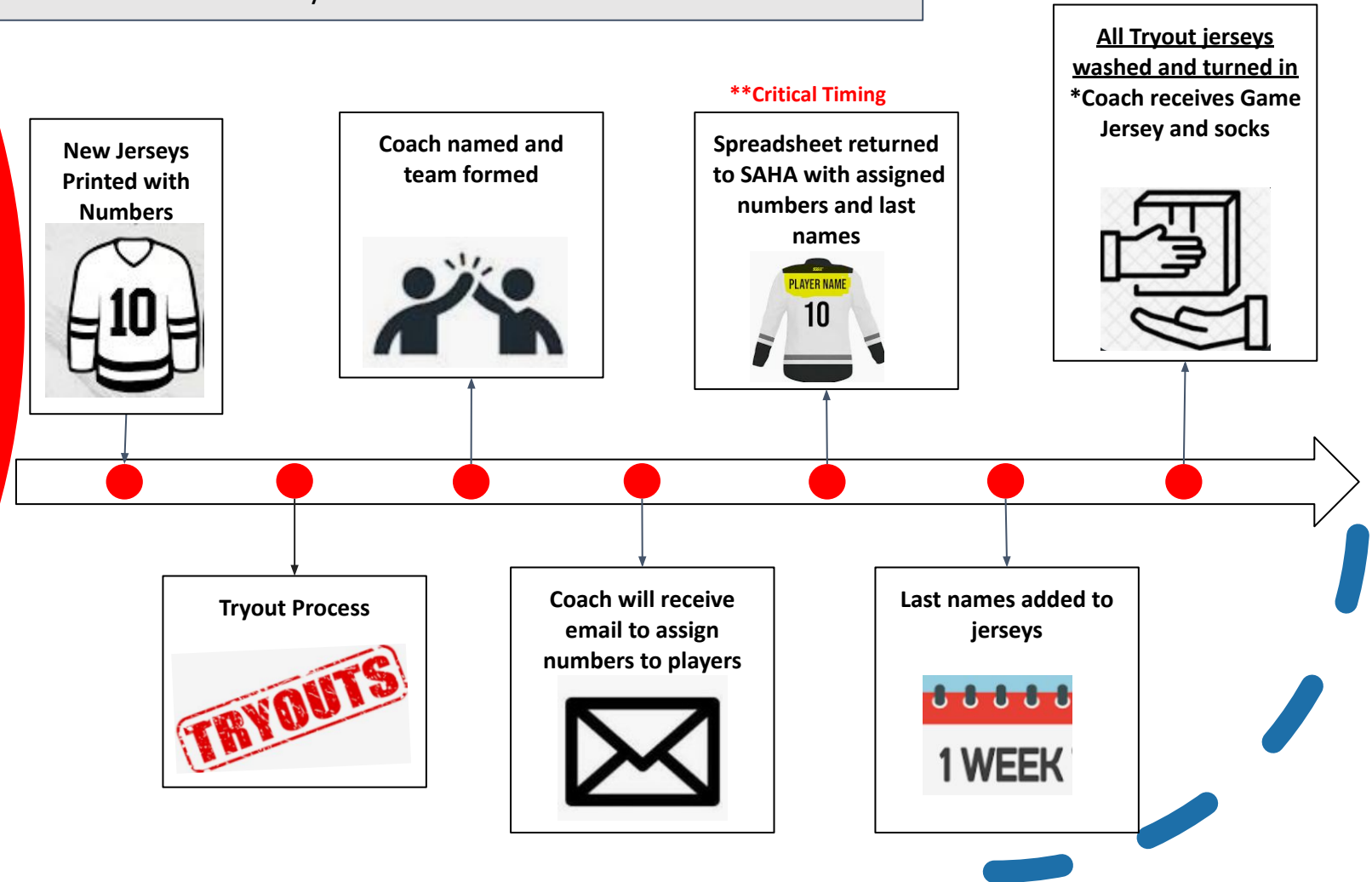
What's new this year

- Tagup and icing on PK allowed for Bantam/U15
- Kneeing minor now has a 10 minute misconduct
- No cameras on players
- Bench minor if wrong on mouthguard challenge
- Game misconduct on second mouthguard issue
- Center ice faceoff if refs err in icing
- Player loses helmet must leave ice immediately
- Body checking must be for purpose of gaining possession AND stick on puck
- Looking at competitive contact

Jerseys Process

New this year!!

- Jersey Sponsors
- All Squirt/u10 thru Bantam/u15 will receive new Orchin+Orchin practice jerseys
- Coaches will be responsible for collecting and turning in all tryout jerseys
- New Game Jerseys with Names!!



2025-26 Updates

SAHA Equipment

- New training aides have been purchased and are available for use by SAHA coaches
- Equipment includes updated cones, tires, moveable goalies and pro screen shot blockers
- Coaches responsibility to clean up and store on provided storage racks
- Please do your best to keep things tidy and in order (if something is broke, reach out to a board member)
- **THANK YOU MATT FOSSE**











Coaching Best Practices

- Take your parent meeting seriously. Have a written handout.
- Talk with your managers like a partner. Keep team fees down.
- Engage your assistant coaches and empower them. Every practice and every game.
- Make hockey plays, pass/control the puck, be creative.
- Be prepared for practice.
- Beg, Borrow and Steal Drills! Be a student. IHS, Instagram, HS, Other Coaches. Introduce yourself.
- You are capable of being an amazing influence in a player's life.
- Teach kids how to be great young men and women through your conduct and your comments.

Coaching Best Practices

Development by Level - Kyle Kraemer

- Mites/8U
 - Keep kids with friends and classmates
 - Prioritize fun and development over winning
 - Good for all vs. good for one
 - USAH recommends 3:1 Practice vs Scrimmage ratio
 - Full Ice Games: No Sooner than **January 15th**
 - No full time goalie: goalies should rotate
 - Outdoor Ice at the Rec Center

Coaching Best Practices

Development by Level - Stalock/Kaufenberg

- Squirts/U10
 - Intro full ice concepts and positional play
 - Fluid positions
 - Create winning strategies without players knowing
 - Coach principles around systems, be creative, and stress having fun
- Bantam/U15
 - Fully understand your team's system
 - Having the knowledge of being able to play both sides of the ice, as well as both power play and penalty kill
 - Learn how to prepare for practice and games, on and off the ice

Coaching Best Practices

Development by Level - Magill/Kaufenberg

- Peewees/12U
 - Puck possession/purpose with puck. Play fast offensive hockey. Be creative!
 - Physical
 - Strong on stick, passing/receiving the puck needs to be a focal point
- Jr. Gold/U19
 - Master systems - Smart Hockey Players!
 - Develop special teams strategy
 - Learn how to learn and prepare - Failure to prepare is preparing to fail!

Practice Planning

Coaching Education - Jeff Neidt

- Have a plan and share before you arrive
- Explain why (players & coaches)
- Be a coach, not a task master
- Create routines
- Focus on competition & fun
- Use the game as a teacher (let kids figure it out)

Using IHS & other drill resources

Email jeff.neidt@gmail.com if you'd like help, support, or ideas

Coaching Best Practices

Optimal Goalie Experience - Jeff Neidt

- We're all goalie coaches
- Designate a goalie specialist
- Talk with your goalie. What are you seeing? Feeling?
- Make your goalies skate and do edge work each practice
- Warm up shoot from distance (outside top of circles) and variety of angles
- Every drill goalies need: purpose/focus, proper breaks, variety of shots, and a crease
- Make the goalie feel part of the team
 - Example: Incorporate in defensive zone

PDP Changes

- Shooting & Passing
 - Teach the skills you don't have time for on the ice
 - Saucer pass
 - Pull and shoot shot
 - Mechanics of a hockey stick
 - Snap shot, slap shot, one-time shot
 - Assign homework
- On-Ice
 - SAHA Coaches running on-ice
 - Customize to your needs
 - Communicate in depth prior to practice
 - MEGA
 - No training for Mites
 - Training for Squirts/U10 and above
 - Bantams will be given chance to sign up, no team PDP

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Coaching
Certification

Coaching Requirements

SAHA Registrar

Jeanette Geisbauer

registrar@stillwaterhockey.net

Coaching Certification

www.stillwaterhockey.net/coachescorner

- Coaching Checklist
- Must dos by first practice/game
 - Register with SAHA
 - Register with USAH
 - Complete SafeSport
 - Submit Background check if needed
 - Complete age-specific modules
- CEP Level up must be completed by December 31
- Official rosters

Jeanette Geisbauer: registrar@stillwaterhockey.net

Initial Rostering Requirements

USA HOCKEY REGISTRATION

- Complete prior to registering for SAHA

SAHA REGISTRATION

- USAH reg # required to complete SAHA registration

SAFE SPORT TRAINING

- *Required annually*
- Cannot be rostered until complete
- Available 60 days prior to expiration
- Expired SST will result in coach being redlined & deactivated from roster

Initial Rostering Requirements

BACKGROUND CHECK

- Required every two years

AGE SPECIFIC MODULES

- Fundamental module to be completed first
- 25-26 Modules:
 - 8 & Under
 - 12 & Under
 - 13 & Over



Initial Rostering Requirements

CONCUSSION CERTIFICATION

- MN Hockey requirement - every 2 years
- Accepted Trainings:
 - Age module for prior or current season
 - CDC training
- Documentation must be submitted to SAHA (clearance form available on Coaches Corner)



FINAL
Rostering
Requirement

CEP REQUIREMENTS

- usahockey.com/coachingcertification
- NEW: 6U/8U CEP for new coaches
- **MUST BE COMPLETE BY DEC. 31**
 - Failure to complete required CEP training by Dec. 31 will result in removal from your team roster and the inability to coach for the remainder of the season
 - No temp cards will be issued for not meeting CEP requirements by Dec. 31

Refer to your Coaching Profile in the '[USA Hockey Learning Center](#)' to review your current and required course/screening statuses

Questions

- How else can we support you?

