

- c. Ft. Mill National – may be adding one back. Still uncertain.
- d. Charleston National – no changes.
- e. Holy City Palmetto – one pool skater added.
- f. Greenville Palmetto – no changes.
- g. Fusion Palmetto – one dropped. 17 skaters, 2 goalies.
- h. Ice Raiders Palmetto – one skater dropped to pool; one skater added. No net difference - 17 skaters, 1 goalie.

6. Old Business:

a. EOS State Tournament Entry Fee (discussion)

- Lingering question - Ginnette asked if a \$20 gate fee for the weekend was enough. With our costs going up for ice, refs, and awards, do we not want to charge more for State?
- Jessica reiterated that an entry fee is required for all CAHA / CHL tournaments due to added ice.
- Kirby shared last year we spent \$11M on awards and drained the account.
- Starr confirmed there would be no problem for 2026 when we go to the round robin tournament, but expenses should not be as high with a single elimination. Barbara agreed that we look into projected costs and what's brought in / shortfall this year and analyze for next season to set the amount.
- Aiko confirmed guaranteeing game count would help, along with knowing costs up front for the additional ice and refs for the round robin.

b. ESO State Tournament opt out option? (discussion)

- Beth suggested everyone be required to participate.
- Barbara shared that if we are going to charge an entry fee, we could not mandate participation.
- Jessica asked if we should consider an increased league fee if we are going to allow opt outs by a certain date.
- Kirby said it should be part of the National bound declaration we make by November 1st for National teams.
- Ginnette brought up the differences between our league and a travel league.
- Brad Hoffman shared that CAHA teams have to declare by 11/21 to play in the tournament and by 12/21 to pay their entry fee. No one can be required to participate, but there is a timeline established.
- Kirby said he would look more into this prior to the EOS meeting.
- Alyssa asked if after the date was established and there became a problem for teams, would that be able to withdraw? Would they have to pay the fee anyway?
- Starr asked if the Jamboree date could be decided by EOS as well.

c. EOS State Tournament Exemptions (Ice cut & single elimination)

- Kirby shared with the group that he did get our exemptions for ice cut and single elimination approved by USA Hockey for this season, but those would be implemented with the 2026 tournament.

7. New Business:

a. Introduction of Brad Hoffman – CAHA Executive Director

- Brad Hoffman introduced himself as the Executive Director for CAHA and went through his experience. He has been in the Charlotte areas for 18 years, and has served as a coach, instructor, and hockey director. This is a newly created position to improve communications and clarify details, including bylaw review and CHL operations.
- He wants to serve as the face of the association, getting answers to the members when needed.
- He reports to the Board of Directors of CAHA, but they are still defining roles. He expects to be more focused on the nuts and bolts. But will also focus on We Honor the Game awards and the CAHA festival.
- He has talked with Kirby several times and knows the history of our league. Our handling of this meeting has been awesome, and he wants to support HS hockey any way he can. He reiterated the need for HS hockey to follow the same tournament structure as other divisions of CAHA and is glad we are moving to round robin in 2026.

b. All State Ballot – Delivery and selection in January and

c. Suspension/GM&USP discussion for All-State

- Kirby went through GameSheets and created a list of names that cannot be All State due to game misconduct or off-ice suspensions. He would like to assign major penalties or unsportsmanlike penalties as eliminators for All State contention.
- Barbara clarified it's a suspension, and not a 2/10 penalty. Kirby responded that unsportsmanlike 2/10 are considered, but not regular 2/10 penalties.
- Aiko expressed concern that it's ref discretion and no way for the player to respond to those penalties.
- Jessica shared that the current standard is good, and not to preclude for penalties or unsportsmanlike. Karen agreed the current standard is fine.
- Brad shared that a 2-minute unsportsmanlike is more than mouthing off. Likes the harsher rules, but we need to know what we're committing to.
- Kirby shared that between the team nominations and the scoring, All State will be decided. Supposed to be the best of the best. Want everyone on the same page.
- Starr asked that refs not knowing the rules preclude players.
- Kirby said he has a good relationship with Ben Shiley and Norm Eberle, as well as Maris from the midlands, and they are both gathering notes and will sit down at the end of the season and work on things to make us all better.

8. Announcement of next meeting/Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 with a motion by Lauree, seconded by Kirby.