

EHA Board Meeting July 12, 2010

Attendance:

Present - Judy Goodman (Administrator), Joanne McGarry, Jon Foust, Dan McGraw, Peter McComber, Renee Hunzelman, Billy Klein, Jim O'Neill, Bob Levy, Tom Terwilliger, Erik Hendrikson, Todd Shuman, Dan Rectenwald, Kathleen Vorlicky, Jon Palmer.

Absent: Russ Lemker, Pat Foley, Peder Larson, Carrie Knowles.

Dan Rectenwald called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Review of June Minutes:

It was noted the June minutes may need further discussion with regard to the "Overview of Team Counts" section. Dan Rectenwald asked if there was a consensus on the team levels portion of the minutes; there was not. It was decided that the directions noted in the "Overview of Team Counts" will be stricken from the June minutes draft. The remainder of the June minutes will be left as they stand, and the notes were passed with the adjustment.

Team Updates:

Mites: Bob Levy has met with some of the commissioners. Jon Palmer, Bob Levy and Billy Klein met to decide on pricing and ice for the mite program with restructuring fees. Jon Foust noted the Blades Organization has offered a mite program that works in conjunction with association hockey. This would emphasize skill development and half games.

District 6 Update:

Bob Levy pointed out District 6 has sent a mandate about not allowing skaters to play any outside leagues. Minnesota Hockey is suggesting for periods 15 minutes or less will be one and one half minutes penalties rather than two minutes. Edina was the only city to vote against this. HEP points rules are unchanged. Minnesota is also exploring a tiered Bantam A program for districts, regions and states.

Mite Program:

Todd Shuman asked whether the girls and boys mites hours have been determined. There was a discussion about equal ice time for various rinks. Dan asked if we could get a clear picture of the program by August. Jon Palmer suggested we have a separate meeting on the mite budget which should include Bob Levy, Jon Palmer, Todd Shuman, Billy Klein and Erik Hendrikson. Erik made several suggestions about sorting ice levels to correspond to numbers of skaters. Judy Goodman asked whether levels should be registered as U6 to determine correct ice time which would correspond with registration fees. Carrie Knowles sent a prototype sweatshirt for the Board to approve for sale within the mite program. The registration form for the sweatshirt could be added to the registration.

Girls Coordinator

Due to a Board Member resignation (Scott McGarvey resigned between meetings due to increased professional commitments), Erik Hendrickson will become the Girls Coordinator. Previously Erik was slated to move into that position at the end of the season). Judy Goodman will update the EHA web pages accordingly.

Final Team Counts.

The executive committee, coaching committee and select Liaisons met in late June to discuss the multiple A team scenarios at several player levels across the association. It was determined by the Executive Committee that no action would be recommended for this year, although there were many strong points made in the discussion and the EHA should advance the subject during this year's season prior to the next season.

Peter McComber made a motion to pass the boys levels as discussed and noted below:

Squirts (9-10 teams)	1A	4B	4+C	
Pee Wees (10-11 teams)	1A	2B1	4B2	4+C
Bantams (8 teams)	1A	2B1	2B2	3C

A vote was taken and the boys' levels passed.

The following team count and distribution was proposed by the girls' Liaisons and acting Coordinator:

U10	4-5 teams	1A	3-4B
U12	4-5 teams	1A	4B
U14	4 teams	1A	3B

Dan McGraw pointed out at the previous meeting Scott McGarvey gave several strong reasons the girls program should include two A teams. A lengthy discussion was made about the competition among the girls levels, specifically at 14A (and why it is unique), as well as consistency in the Association, balanced by opportunity.

The motion passed with one A team at every girls' level. This motion passed.

Junior Gold/U16:

Tom Terwilliger noted over the past several years there have been a growing number of "must take" players. With a few exceptions, "must take players" are all seniors who are too old by MN Hockey rules to play U16. Additionally, many more kids may be registering at this level than expected. The bigger issue according to Terwilliger, is the varied commitment level among players. This has caused frustration. The suggestions made by Tom and others with relation to this program will be considered by EHA legal staff. Another suggestion would be to increase the number of Junior Gold B teams to three from two. Bob Levy will spearhead the Coaches' Committee on this, while Pat Foley and Jon Foust will work on development options. Coaches' positions have not

been finalized and interviews are scheduled for late July or early August. Tom Terwilliger gave an update on the coaches' certification and will let Bob Capra know about ice needs. It was suggested a mandatory coaches' meeting for all EHA coaches.

Goalie Update:

Peter McComber gave an overview of what Goalcrease could provide the EHA. This would include pre-tryout clinics, evaluations, and equipment management. In the past season, the session long training at Goalcrease received a 95 percent attendance rate. Outside evaluators would evaluate at Goalcrease during tryouts. Another evaluation option would be provided by Mac would be on-ice evaluations. Several options were suggested included two goalies per session (i.e. two Squirt goalies combined). It was pointed out teams need to have a designated coach to attend some goalie sessions to help the overall goalie training. Equipment storage, repair, and cleaning would be managed by Rob Stauber of Goalcrease. The EHA is reevaluating the overall program.

A motion made by Billy Klein to accept the option outlined in the handouts provided by Peter McComber was approved.

Financial Update:

Jon Palmer gave a brief overview of the EHA financials. It was pointed out that the EHA could do a better job of communicating how much the hockey season actually costs and this can be accomplished via the website. Jon also outlined the proposal for allowing flex pay at registration. Participants could pay via credit card in installments, and ice time and tournament fees would be included. Jon Foust, Joane McGarrey, Jon Palmer and Judy Goodman will be working on implementation in the next few weeks, and will report back to the Executive Committee on the final strategy (amount total and monthly payment approach) that will be implemented this year.

Overview of Guidelines:

Dan Rectenwald is working with Russ Lemker on any updates/edits to the guidelines. A draft of edits will be forwarded by Rectenwald to the board for added comment. All suggestions should be emailed to Russ and Dan before the next meeting.

Referee Program

A return of the Referee program is also being explored by Russ Lemker.

Toast of Hockey

Will be held Saturday, September 18 at the ECC. Planning is falling into place. Additional donations for the silent auction are welcome. The event will be sponsored by Twin Cities Orthopedics.

Additional Items:

Erik Hendrikson is handling the Frequently Asked Questions section for the website. This will help families determine what to expect at each level of youth hockey in the EHA.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

Next meeting will be August 9, at 7:05 P.M. at Braemar Arena.