

MINUTES – Monday, October 8th, 2018
AAHA Monthly Meeting
Ice Den Scottsdale

Approved November 12th, 2018

- Call to Order 6:32pm
- Dial in to Conference call if needed – Charlie Knots, Joth Jacobson, Ryan DeJoe via technology
- Establish a quorum and identify any directors with proxies Radke to Shafer, Frost to Aguirre, Edwards to McCaughey
- Introductions
- Approval of agenda Motion: Curly, 2nd Shafer
- Approval of last month's minutes Motion: Curly 2nd Shafer
- Approval of annual meeting minutes Motion: Curly, 2nd Urban

Reports

- President Report –
 - 1st AAHA mite jamboree 157 participants. Ice Den Chandler – did a fantastic job – Gary Ihling, Bob Platt, Carlee Acardo (sp?) great feedback. AZ Coyotes donated 65 jerseys. 3 different sessions/cross ice games. 10:30am – 4:30pm. Kayman (Mite Committee Chair) stated we may need to add the House Mite person(s) to the Jamboree committee.
- Treasurers Report – Submitted Electronically
- Secretary Report – No Report
- AAHA Admin Report – No Report
- AZYHL Report – No Report
- Background Screening / Safe Sport Report – Submitted Electronically
- By-Laws / Policy Report – Submitted Electronically
- Coaching Report – Submitted Electronically
 - # of coaches: 31 for Level 1 almost 50 for Level 3
- Disciplinary Report – No Report
 - A few hearings last week – will be reported next meeting. Reminder: the new rule – all coaches must be wearing helmets during practice – automatic 30-day suspension. No option.
- Mite Committee Report – Submitted Electronically
 - 1) The Committee recommends setting a deadline of Dec 31st to set all rosters for Mites. Motion: Curly, 2nd Shafer. Motion withdrawn as the Mites are now part of AZYHL and will have inclusion of AZYHL's established rules which dictate the same.
 - 2) The committee recommends setting a deadline for adding teams to be 2 weeks before seeding tournaments. Motion: Curly, 2nd Shafer Set a deadline for adding teams 2 weeks before seeding tournaments as proposed by the Mite Committee. Motion Carries.
 - 3) The Committee recommends allowing AZ Bobcats to add one additional player past the maximum of 10 players for a total of 11 Motion: Curly, 2nd Shafer. Approve Bobcat team of 11 players as proposed by Mite Committee. Motion Carries.
- Officiating Report – AHRA – Submitted Electronically
 - Seminars for this season have been completed. Pretty static for attendance the last few years. Shifting to focusing on officials completing modules etc prior to Nov 30th deadline. Then evaluations going forward.
- Registrar's Report – Submitted Electronically
 - 7360 players registered – half of them are still in unclaimed. Has been checking the redlined staff every night. High School needs to get the teams in and approved by February 15th. December 1st, Donnalee will be reviewing all coaches and CEP requirements.
- Tier Committee Report- Submitted Electronically

- Last week the youth council met and approved the guideline book. There are several things that will affect Tier teams – National Tournament fees will be assessed for both Tier I (not a set fee yet) and Tier II - \$1500 for Nationals.
- Adult Hockey Report – Submitted Electronically
- Arizona Coyotes Report – No Report

Old Business

- Non-Members with USA Hockey Registration Numbers
- Delinquent Player List – Amended policy. Proposal by Radke and Reckell together updated policy on Do Not Play List (aka Delinquent Player List). 8.7 is a new policy – not enforceable if a minor is placed on the list and becomes of age, where does the delinquency lay for responsibility? Strike 8.7 and re-number. Yubeta 8.6 / 8.6.1 second day following the national tournament – rewording will be completed by the policy committee. 9.3 add exception to girl’s hockey which per USA Hockey allows multiple rosters for girls.
- Vote on previously reviewed AAHA meeting frequency
 - Urban proposed last meeting that the AAHA meeting be reduced by 3, November, April, and June. Motion: Curly, 2nd Urban to approve the reduction of meetings beginning in 2019 and would reduce April, June, and November. Motion Carries.
- Vote on Minor Revision to Appeal Procedure – Disciplinary Committee
 - Motion to approve the appeal process change to include that the EC can choose how the appeal will be heard, either 3-man party, or the full AAHA Board. Motion: Curly, 2nd McCaughey Motion Carries.
- Vote on Revision to Play Up Rules
 - Motion on original proposal. All players may only be rostered within their own age division as defined by USA Hockey’s Annual guide. Motion: Curly, 2nd Koshiol. Motion Carries.
 - Motion: No 12u team will be permitted to play at a higher age division. Motion: Curly, 2nd Urban Motion Carries.
 - Motion: Beginning with the 2019-2020 season, youth goalies may play up no more than one age division in accordance to USA Hockey’s annual guide. A request for approval must be sent to the AAHA board accompanied by the head coach of the current team and the previous team along with the approval of their hockey director prior to rostering the player. Motion: Curly, 2nd Aguirre Motion Carries.
- Vote on Proposed Appendix C – Number of Games change - Tier I Competition
 - Beginning with the 2018-2019 playing season and thru 2022-2023 playing season, Tier I Regular Season Game Requirements will be:
 - 13U: vs all other AAHA 13U Tier I teams – 6 times (3 home / 3 away)
 - 14U: vs all other AAHA 14U Tier I teams – 6 times (3 home / 3 away)
 - ***There shall be no requirement for 13U teams to play 14U teams during the playing season***
 - 15Only vs all other AAHA 15O Tier I teams – 6 times (3 home / 3 away)
 - ***There shall be no requirement for 15Only teams to play 16U teams during the playing season***
 - 16U: vs all other AAHA 16U Tier I teams – 6 times (3 home / 3 away)
 - 18U: vs all other AAHA 18U Tier I teams – 6 times (3 home / 3 away)

Failure of a Tier I team or association to agree and execute these requirements shall result in excluding the non-complying Tier I team or association from participating in USA Hockey’s National Tournament at any level.

Penalties for non-compliance, in addition to the above, shall be as described in the AAHA Policies and Procedure Manual.

New Business

- Proposed modifications to AAHA Policy Manual from Tier Committee Meeting 9/18/2018

The following revision to the current AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual, Section 13 – Tier II; subsection 13.3.1 (Tier II Associations); 13.3.1.5 will be forwarded to the AAHA BOD:

Current wording:

5. Number of Teams: Any AAHA Member Association in good standing may field a youth Tier II team at any age division recognized by USA Hockey (14U, 16U, 18U for males and 14U, 16U, 19U for girls). An AAHA Member Association in good standing may have more than one Tier II team in each USA Hockey recognized age division.

Replace with the following revised wording

5. Effective beginning with the 2019-2020 USA Hockey Playing Season;

Number of Teams: Any AAHA Member Association in good standing may field ONE youth or girls Tier II team at any age division recognized by USA Hockey (14U, 16U, 18U for youth and 14U, 16U, 19U for girls).

The following revision to the current AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual, Section 13.4 Tier I/Tier II State Championships, will be forwarded to the AAHA BOD:

Current wording:

13.4.3 Tournament Formats

The Tier Committee shall determine an Arizona State Championship Tournament format for the division or divisions that will represent Arizona in the National Tournament.

The Arizona State Championship format for all Divisions shall be as follows:

1. In a Division of two (2) teams the teams will play a best out of three series. The first team to win two games will be declared the Champion. The third scheduled game in this division WILL NOT BE PLAYED if it is not needed to declare a Champion. All games will be played utilizing USA Hockey's semifinal rules.
2. In a division with three (3) or four (4) teams the teams will play a single Round Robin of games against all other teams in the division. The two teams with the greatest number of points at the end of the single Round Robin will play a best of three championship series to determine the State Champion. The team with the most points after the single round robin will be declared the Home team. If one or more teams are tied as the top two teams at the end of the single Round Robin, the tie breaking formula outlined in the most current USA Hockey Championship Tournament Guidebook will be used to break the tie and declare the final two teams.
3. In a division of more than four (4) teams, the results of the 4-game season series between all teams in the division shall be used to determine the top four (4) teams which shall advance to the Arizona State Championships. The top four (4) advancing teams shall then play a Championship series as described in 13.4.3, item 2 (above).

Replace with the following revised wording:

13.4.3 Tournament Formats

Effective beginning with the 2019-2020 USA Hockey Playing season, The Tier Committee shall determine, subject to AAHA Board of Directors approval, an Arizona State Championship Tournament format for the division or divisions that will represent Arizona in USA Hockey's National Tournament on a yearly basis no later than August 1st of that playing season.

Delete all current wording in this section after the above paragraph.

Establish a minimum number of players rostered in order to field a team at the House/Rec, Tier II and Tier I levels for youth and girls divisions.

The following revisions/additions to the current AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual

Page 20 of AAHA Policies and Procedures (add):

- 10.9.7** Beginning with the 2019-2020 USA Hockey playing season: A House/Rec travel team shall have a minimum of ten (10) skaters and one (1) goalie (two goalies are recommended) and shall have no more than eighteen (18) skaters and twenty (20) total rostered players, including goalies, on their USA Hockey 1-T roster no later than August 15th of the current playing season.
- 10.9.8** A House/Rec travel team shall not be permitted to have a “taxi” squad or players that are “practice players” or not actively rostered.
- 10.9.9** Any appeal to these rostering rules shall be made to the full AAHA Board prior to the August AAHA Board of Directors meeting so that the appeal may be reviewed by the Board at that meeting.

Page 28 of AAHA Policies and Procedures (modify/add):

13.2.4 Team Selection Process

3. Roster:

- d. Any Tier I team (Youth or Girls) must have a minimum of fifteen (15) players (including at least one (1) goalie) and ~~A Tier I team shall have no more than~~ eighteen (18) skaters and twenty (20) total rostered players, including goalies, on their USA Hockey 1-T roster no later than August 15th of the current playing season. ~~eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goalies.~~
- e. A Tier I team shall not be permitted to have a “taxi” squad or players that are “practice players” or not actively rostered.
- f. No Tier I team (Youth or Girls, regardless of whether or not the Team is Nationally Bound) may roster a player 12 years or younger (as defined in the age classification chart for the current season).
- g. No appeal of the minimum rostering requirements for Tier I may be made.

Page 34 of AAHA Policies and Procedures (modify/add):

13.3.3 Team Selection Process

3. Roster:

- e. A Tier II team shall have no more than eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goalies.
Beginning with the 2019-2020 USA Hockey playing season: Any Tier II team (Youth or Girls) must have a minimum of fourteen (14) players, including a minimum of one (1) goalie (Two (2) goalies are recommended) and ~~A Tier I team shall have no more than~~ eighteen (18) skaters and twenty (20) total rostered players, including goalies, on their USA Hockey 1-T roster no later than August 15th of the current playing season. ~~eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goalies.~~
- f. A Tier II team shall not be permitted to have a “taxi” squad or players that are “practice players” or not actively rostered.
- g. No Tier II team (Youth or Girls, regardless of whether or not the Team is Nationally Bound) may roster a player 12 years or younger (as defined in the age classification chart for the current season). Exception allowed for Girls 14U team(s) as described in the USA Hockey Annual Guide and IF approved by the AAHA Board of Directors. Girls exception is valid only for the 2019-2020 USA Hockey playing season.

h. Any appeal to these Tier II rostering rules, with the exception of item G above, which is not appealable, shall be made to the full AAHA Board prior to the August AAHA Board of Directors meeting so that the appeal may be reviewed by the Board at that meeting.

Discussion on revising current AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual to not allow a player to “play-up” at any age.

After discussion, Tier Committee reached a unanimous decision to support the proposed AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual revision beginning with the 2019-2020 playing season that NO youth player shall be rostered on a team other than their age division. Girls may continue to “play-up” one age division provided they are rostered in accordance with USA Hockey requirements.

The Tier Committee would offer as an amendment to the current proposal that youth Goalies may “play-up” no more than one (1) age division, except that any 12U player or younger, including goalies, shall not play on any 14U and above team.

The proposed amendment above regarding player ‘play-up’ would need to be brought forth by an AAHA BOD member when discussion on the item occur

Misc Proposed modifications to the AAHA Policy and Procedures Manual (9/11/18):

13.4 Tier I/Tier II State Championships

13.4.1 Guidelines

1. Each playing season AAHA shall conduct Arizona State Championships at the following age divisions for the purpose of determining teams to represent Arizona in USA Hockey's National Tournament play according to a schedule approved each year by the AAHA Board of Directors.

Youth Division: 14U and above as defined by USAH; Tier I and Tier II for each age division.

Girls Divisions: 14U; 16U; and 19U; Tier I and Tier II for each age division.

2. The AAHA Board of Directors will announce the Championship dates for each Division prior to October 31st of each year and post to the AAHA website.

CURRENT WORDING:

The Champion of each Youth Tier I, and each Girls Tier I or Girls Tier II Divisions shall advance to the Rocky Mountain District Championships.

The Champion of each Youth Tier II Division shall advance to the USA Hockey National Championships.

REPLACE WITH:

The Arizona Champion of each Youth and Girls Tier (Tier I or Tier II) age Division shall advance to USA Hockey's next level of USA Hockey's National Tournament.

~~Tier I, and each Girls Tier I or Girls Tier II Divisions shall advance to the Rocky Mountain District Championships.~~

~~The Champion of each Youth Tier II Division shall advance to the USA Hockey National Championships.~~

3. All final costs (ice, referees, score and timekeepers, awards, etc.) per division, related to the State Championships, shall be shared equally by the teams participating in the Arizona State Championships. All costs shall be subject to review and approval by the AAHA Board of Directors.
4. Each Member Association wishing to participate in State Championships must be in good standing with AAHA.
5. ~~Member Associations shall submit a \$500 non-refundable fee, for each Tier I or Tier II playing division in which they field a team for the playing season, no later than October 31st of each year. The non-refundable fee from Member Association shall be used to offset the final State Championship fees due per division from each Tier I or Tier II team participating in the State Championships.~~

Beginning with the 2018-2019 playing season, Member Associations shall submit a \$1,000 non-refundable fee, for **each** Tier I or Tier II team fielded for the playing season, no later than August 15th each year. The non-refundable fee for **each** team shall be paid by the Member Association that is represented by the team and shall be used to offset the final State Championship fees due per division from each Tier I or Tier II team participating in the State Championships. The non-refundable fee shall be required for **ALL** Tier I and Tier II teams, even if they fail to qualify for the Arizona State Championships and regardless as to whether or not they register as a Nationally Bound team. Fee payment shall be made payable to AAHA and delivered to the AAHA Treasurer. Failure to make the non-refundable fee payment on or prior to August 15th shall result in a \$500 penalty (per team not paid) to the delinquent Member Association. Any Member Association that has not paid their non-refundable fee plus penalty fee for a team or teams, representing that Member Association, prior to October 1st shall be referred to the AAHA Disciplinary

Committee for review on the subject.

6. Each Member Association may declare no more than one team in each division to participate in the **TIER** State Championships. Member Associations that register multiple teams in a division with the Arizona Associate Registrar shall be free to determine which team may represent the Member Association per Division in any manner they wish, but the Member Association shall declare to AAHA, in writing, which team will represent that Member Association in the State Championships no later than 10 days prior to the start of the Tier # State Championships **in which they will be participating**. See Section 13.4.3 for additional information on the State Championship format.
7. A final cost per team per division to participate in the State Championships will be forwarded to each Member Association no less than thirty (30) days prior to the start of the State Championships.
8. A Credentials Meeting shall be held approximately 7-10 days prior to the start of the State Championships. All remaining fees due per participating team shall be due no later than this meeting. A coach and/or manager from each participating team shall be required to attend. No one person shall represent more than one team unless prior approval is granted by the Tournament Director. Failure of a team to have a coach and/or a manager present for the credentials meeting shall result in the suspension of the Head Coach of that team's first game of the State Championship Tournament.
9. AAHA will pay the entry fee for any team that represents AAHA in the Rocky Mountain District Championships and Tier II Nationals, not to exceed the RMD entry fee per team. Beginning with the 2018-19 playing season, AAHA will pay the entry fee or a maximum of \$1,000 towards the entry fee, whichever is less, for any team that represents AAHA in the Rocky Mountain District Championships.

ADD:

Beginning with the 2019-2020 playing season, each team that represents AAHA at either the Rocky Mountain District Tournament and/or USA Hockey's National Championships shall be responsible for payment of their team's entry fee into the tournament.

10. All games shall be played in accordance with District/National requirements as outlined in the latest edition of the USA Hockey Championship Tournament Guidebook including all games being played to a winner.

Page 18 of AAHA Policies and Procedures (modify to be in conformance with USA Hockey Annual Guide):

10.4 No team shall play any game until it has registered with Associate Registrar from Arizona for the current season in accordance with USA Hockey Guidelines.
Teams registered with USA Hockey and AAHA as Tier I or Tier II will be considered Competitive (Travel) team and will be classified as one of the following and players rostered on them will be considered competitive travel players:
Youth (Boys) Division:
Tier I: 14U, ~~15U~~ **15 Only**, 16U, 18U Tier II:
14U, 16U, 18U
Girls Division:
Tier I or Tier II: 14U, 16U and 19U

- Proposed modifications to AAHA Policy Manual for Player Commitment and Release Letters

Policies and Procedures (modify):

9. Player Commitment and Release Letters

9.1 The AAHA Board will provide AAHA Commitment Letters and Release letters for use by Players Parents and Associations for all AAHA Registered AAA (Tier 1), AA (Tier 2) Travel teams, A House/Rec and B House/Rec teams. The AAHA Commitment Letter commits a specific Member Associations and a specific Team to a specific player and also the specific player to a specific Member Association and a specific Team for one playing season. The commitment shall expire at the conclusion of the USA Hockey National Tournament **(ADD THE FOLLOWING HERE) for Tier rostered players and at the conclusion of the AZYHL State Championships for House/Rec rostered players.** All players selected to participate on any of the above listed teams shall be required to sign AAHA's Electronic Commitment Letter for their respective association in order to participate on that team.

(ADD THE FOLLOWING HERE) In the event that a Member Association does not sign the minimum number of players, as stated elsewhere in these Policies and Procedures, to field the team that the player signed an AAHA Commitment Letter to play for then the Member Association must offer the player(s) the option of being unconditionally released from their AAHA Letter of Commitment and receiving a refund of any monies paid to the Member Association, other than tryout fees, or sign the player(s) to another team within that Member Association.

The AAHA Commitment Letter shall be signed by the custodial parent(s) or legal guardian of any player under the legal age of 18 or by the player if of legal age AND by an agent authorized by the Member Association to commit the Member Association.

Per Arizona law, after signing the AAHA Commitment Letter, Player/Parent have 3 calendar days to rescind.

9.2 Commitment Letters may not be offered or signed prior to the AAHA established tryout dates for each travel level of each playing year.

(THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE TO BE DELETED AND REPLACED)

Any team within a Member Association may have not more than eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goalies signed to AAHA Commitment Letters at any time.

(REPLACE THE ABOVE SENTENCE WITH THE FOLLOWING HERE)

Any team within a Member Association shall have no more than eighteen (18) skaters and twenty (20) total rostered players, including goalies, signed to AAHA Commitment Letters at any time.

Upon signing of the AAHA Commitment Letter, **one** copy shall be given to the Player/Parent; one copy shall remain with the Member Association and one copy shall be forwarded to the President of the AAHA Board or his/her designated representative via electronic transmission.

9.3 No changes/modifications in Sections 9.3 thru 9.11

9.12 The AAHA Commitment Letter has no bearing on a Member Association's requirements, if any, of the Player/Parent to sign any specific Member Association contract(s) including a financial commitment contract **(ADD THE FOLLOWING HERE) other than as stated in 9.1 above.**

- ADHL Application for AAHA Membership

Announcements

- There are still a handful of Conflict of Interest forms not submitted. Individuals will be notified independently.

[Adjournment 9:14pm Motion: Curley, 2nd Shafer](#)

Future State AAHA Board Meetings

- Monday, November 12th, 2018
- Monday, December 10th, 2018
- Monday, January 14th, 2018