

**Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting**

January 15, 2025 6:30pm
Sanford Conference Room – SCHEELS IcePlex

President Chun Chan called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Jenn Warren (Vice-President), Elliot Hitt (Treasurer), Leah May (Travel League Director), Cody Alderman (Director of City League), Amanda Smith (Director of Tournaments) and Derek Berg (Development Director). Quorum was present. Cherry Hunter (Director of Operations), Suzy Hoffman, Mike Wright, Brandon Bell, and Neil Matthiesen were also in attendance. Sam Everson (Past President) joined the meeting via Zoom. Adam Gorra (Secretary) and Dan Houck (Director of Hockey) were absent.

Open Forum – Suzy Hoffman, Mike Wright, Brandon Bell, and Neil Matthiesen inquired as to

- Will SFYHA be allowed to have a top team at each level? Requesting at SDAHA Meeting?
- Loss of players is not good for SDAHA. Hockey development needs to be a priority.
- There are players participating with other groups that are not USA Hockey sanctioned. These players are not under SDAHA umbrella.

Responses

- SFYHA is serving on a committee regarding league level divisions.
- Noted – there is not an Open Forum at the SDAHA Board Meetings. Proposal submissions have a deadline in accordance with SDAHA Bylaws. The proposals are distributed to the locals for review to determine support or do not support vote at the local board level.
- Exemption requests for teams can be submitted for consideration.
- Enhanced transparency & education from the board to membership – SDAHA Affiliate Agreement & what that means, organization & structure of SDAHA

Secretary's Report – Leah May made a motion to approve the December 11 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report – Elliot Hitt reported status quo for financials.

Director of Hockey – Dan Houck

- Attended Varsity West/East game
- Attended Bantam Blue 1/2 Game
- Attended PW Blue 1/2 Game
- Attended several Mini-Atom skates
- Attended Hockey Day in SD and watched several games
- Handled a few small discipline issues across various teams
- Met w/ SF Youth Lacrosse Program
- Worked on coaching roster for Atom Short Session
- Attended ACL Games on 1/3/25 to examine refereeing and team splits
- Attended several games at Bantam Challenger Tournament
- Handled discipline issue around the ACL grievance
- Helped Bantam Orange out at a practice a few times - focused on body contact/comfort
- Mite Tier 4 has been coming along very nicely. Their ability to move on the ice has improved tremendously and they are doing much better moving through practice more fluidly

- Sent new Mite netting and skirt information to Cherry post December 2024 BOD meeting. It has been ordered
- Handled the coaching change at the JV East high school level
- Met w/ JV East HS Team w/ new HC on Dec 31
- Worked on proposal to SDAHA BOD on Team SD Policy
- Ran coaching development session on 1/15 with Andy Gillham

Admin Update – Cherry Hunter

- Clarified USA Hockey Concussion protocol with Sanford Athletic Trainer Coordinator. President Chun noted the USA Hockey Return from Injury form may be helpful in concussion protocol.
- All tournament fees collected and deposited
- Fundraiser Fee/Mid-Season invoices to be mailed no later than Friday morning
- Atom Short Session began January 10. Sixteen players registered
- Working on All State Academic Awards
- Processing High School Enrollment Verification
- Safe Sport Reports and/or SDAHA DC Reports received. Currently none are pending of which I am aware.

Director Reports

- ✓ Director of Travel League – Leah May: Planning for 25-26 season begins next month
- ✓ Director of City League – Cody Alderman: ICL/ACL have Community Service project planned for a food drive. ACL team discussions continue and Mites end March 9
- ✓ Director of Tournaments – Amanda Smith: Mite Falls Freeze will host 24 teams. Requested some changes for PW Tournament referees, and iPads need to revert back to SDAHA key following tournaments. Amanda requested one adult per referee team for PeeWee and Mites.
- ✓ Director of Development – Derek Berg: Raffle drawing held Jan 14 & winners being notified. No increases in sponsorships this season.

Agenda Items:

SDAHA Girls Varsity Tournament – March 6-8, 2025 (Thurs-Sat) Committee established and meeting January 16.

Flyers Expansion Project – Currently approximately \$350K to go on fundraising efforts for the Expansion Project. Cherry will do an email to Bantam, JV & Varsity families regarding locker stall sponsorships. \$3000 in donations and higher will be placed on the donor wall of recognition. Need to secure all pledge cards, go to the bank regarding financing and hope to dig in March with completion in October.

End of Year Events / Player Participation Gifts – SFYHA will host EOY event on ice for JV/Varsity travel for boys and girls. Bantams, PeeWees, Squirts can have team parties if they wish. ICL and ACL will have pizza and drink last week. Mites, Atoms, and Mini-Atoms will receive treat, drink, certificate, and patch during last week of ice. Only Mite and below will receive player gift – most likely trophy.

***Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Mission:
To Motivate, Inspire and Encourage Athletic Participation and Good Health through Ice Sports***

Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm

NEXT MEETING
February 12, 2025 6:30 pm
Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,
Cherry Hunter
SFYHA Director of Operations

Adopted February 12, 2025 by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence
(Date) (Circle one)