

PYHA Board Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Monday, July 10

6:00PM - Oakstone

Board Members Present:

David Gauder	Megan Fritsch	Liz Payne	Bekie Timmons
Chad Normington	Aaron Palmer	Greg Fawver	Debbie Reynolds
Blythe Robbins	Lindsay Schleis	Mike Taylor	Zach Goeppinger

Ground Rules:

- o Your time is valuable. We respect each other's time so all topics run on time.
- o If won't be complete, table until next month or discuss via email.
- o 3 Types of topics
 - Informational – Provides information to the Board.
 - Discussion – Informational plus requires idea generation and/or input in preparation for a Decision.
 - Decision – Discussion plus decision required.
 - A vote is taken.

1. 6:00pm - Call to order (approve minutes from June meeting) – Greg/Blythe

2. 6:05pm – Old Business

- 3vs3 – 9/16 & 9/17 – horn every 1.30, 15 min periods \$240/6 players, \$25/goalie
- Families getting credit for suggesting Non-parent coaches – travel ONLY \$500-\$1000/coach based qualifications Blythe/Mike, \$50 skater credit for family per accepted referral Chad/Blythe
- Revisit Key Factors for Evaluation/Tryout Process 4 categories - skating, puck skills (shooting, passing, puck control), hockey IQ and compete – parent meeting
- Come up with a unified front for priorities – see David's handout
 - o Girls Hockey
 - o Communication/Transparency
 - o Sustainability/Process
 - o Mission Statement – Mike/Zach

3. 6:45pm – Girl's Hockey – approve logo and colors? 7:05pm –

- Webpage. Condense programs to girls hockey page.
- Collab with Sun Prairie. Sub Committees
- Region 4 Girls Hockey Meeting – Sauk Monkeys, Janesville/Beloit, Polar Caps/Verona/Middleton, East Side
- Recruitment Efforts – Girls try hockey for free event in June – 5 new players – new players to rec? Sharing booth at All-City Swim Meet, August 27th
- Placements and process (last week of September), skills sessions (girls only)

- Jerseys Only - \$5,000
 - Logo and colors – Tara will send out final file for approval
 - FAQ – see Karl’s handout
 1. Change 10U play up verbiage to – 2015 **may** be eligible to request to play up
 2. For cross-rostering – change information to eliminate parents submit cross-rostering form
 - Tara’s title – Girls Hockey Liaison
 - Participation has been slim – girls hockey committee – Dragons Advisory Committee – Board Member, OIC, Girls Hockey Liaison – reps from each association represented
4. 7:15pm - Treasurer Update / Budget – 7:53pm – Taxes filed and non-profit status, insurance
 5. 7:30pm – OIC Update – 8:06pm – See handout – Bantam C tournament early November
 6. 7:45pm – MII / Hartmeyer – Ice fees will increase. 7/18 meeting with City re debt forgiveness. Next meeting 7/24
 7. 8:00pm - Survey Reactions
 8. 8:30pm – Midgets – Send out a survey? will be a last minute decision
 9. 9:00pm – Goalies – reach out to Rob. Looking at a couple different options. Goalie classes re equipment.
 10. 8:50pm – Committee Updates

- Advertising/Sponsorships – Chad Normington
- Apparel – Liz Payne
- Jerseys – Lindsay -
- Awards – Mike –
- Educational Awards Program – Bekie
- Equipment – Chad
- Golf Outing – Chad – 17 teams signed up
- Communications – Blythe
- Tournaments/Events – Debbie
- Fundraising – Liz / Greg
- Rec Team – Zach
- Recruitment – Board Effort
- Pictures - Megan
- Grants/Scholarships – Liz
- Rink/MII – Lindsay/Chad
- ALD – Greg
- Concessions – Jackie will report directly
- Governance – David
- OIC - Zach
- Registrar - Tamara
- Finance – Liz

8. 9:15pm – Team Manager Handbook

9. 9:15 pm Upcoming Meeting Agenda Topics

a. Microsoft Exchange

10. 9:25pm Adjourn Chad/Aaron

Madison Dragons Girls Hockey - FAQ

- Who are the Madison Dragons?
 - Who can play for the Dragons?
 - Are the Dragons part of a co-op?
 - How did you get the Dragons name?
 - What about the jerseys?
 - What is the cost to play for the Dragons?
 - Which association would I play for?
 - How will volunteer hours and concession requirements be split?
 - Will each association have their girls be part of their own co-ed U8 program?
 - How will cross-rostering work?
 - How will double rostering work?
 - Can players play up to join a 10U Dragons team?
 - How will team placement (tryouts) occur?
 - If we can only field one team at the 10U and/or 12U level, will there be no offering for the current season? Or would one team still be supported?
 - What will practices be like?
 - Will there be off-ice training?
 - What are games like?
 - What teams will the Dragons play against?
 - What are tournaments like?
 - Who will the coaches be?
 - Will the teams be state eligible?
 - Do players need to be released to play on the Dragons?
 - How can I prepare for the season?
 - Which is better for my player, all-girls or youth (co-ed)?
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- Who are the Madison Dragons?
 - The Madison Dragons are girls only teams at the 10U A and B age level as well as the 12U A and B age level registered through the Madison Patriots as an association affiliated with Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association (WAHA) under the umbrella of USA Hockey. While the Patriots have previously registered all-girls teams, branding as the Dragons is intended to be more inclusive of girls who reside outside the Patriots geographic boundaries.
 - Who can play for the Dragons?
 - Any girl from the Patriot organization or another association that does not offer an all-girls option with a couple caveats based on WAHA rules. Girls from associations adjacent to the Patriots who do not offer an all-girls option can join the Dragons without needing a release from their home association as long as they have not played for another all-girls team before. If they have played for another all-girls team previously, the first all-girls team they played for is considered their home association and would need to release them to join the Dragons.
 - Are the Dragons part of a co-op?
 - The Dragons are not part of a formal co-op with any other association. The Patriots have been collaborating with Sun Prairie to provide an all-girls option on the east side of Dane County. The two associations are looking at ways to

strengthen our relationship without formalizing a co-op with WAHA. By not forming a formal co-op, girls from multiple associations including Waunakee, McFarland, and Sun Prairie among others are all eligible to play for the Dragons.

- How did you get the Dragons name?
 - Legend and folklore from various cultures around the world depict dragons as powerful and fearsome creatures, symbolizing strength, wisdom, and good fortune. During the spring and summer of 2023, a naming contest was held open to all girls interested in playing for the Dragons. There were several submissions that were reviewed by the girls committee as well as a collaborative committee including Sun Prairie representatives and narrowed down to five options. The Patriots board narrowed down the list to three options and a public vote was held including participants at the Girls Try Hockey for Free event in June at Hartmeyer.
- What about the jerseys?
 - Jersey design is being finalized and ordered to arrive in time for the start of the season. Participants will not need to purchase jerseys as the Patriots are purchasing the jerseys to provide to the players to wear during the season and return at the conclusion of the season. There may be a nominal cost to rent the jerseys for the season. Home and away jerseys will be available for the 10U A and B teams as well as the 12U A and B teams. Socks would be the individual player's responsibility, the same as youth (co-ed) teams.
- What is the cost to play for the Dragons?
 - The cost is the same as the youth travel teams for the Patriots. The 10U registration fees for 2023-2024 are \$1165 for two practices per week, up to approximately 35 games including two tournaments. There is an additional \$175 fee if desiring a weekly skills session with other players at your age level. The 12U registration fees for 2023-2024 are \$1350 for two practices per week, up to approximately 35 games including two tournaments.
- Which association would I play for?
 - The Madison Patriots Youth Hockey Association is hosting the Madison Dragons teams. Registration is through the Patriots at www.patriotshockey.org.
- How will volunteer hours and concession requirements be split?
 - Volunteer hours and concession requirements are based on the player's home geographic association. This means families residing within the Patriots boundary would fulfill all volunteer and concession requirements as outlined on the Patriots website during the registration process. Players residing outside the Patriots geographic boundary would fulfill their volunteer and concession requirements with their home geographic association in accordance with that association's policies. This would include buyout options. In essence this is a reciprocity agreement between associations. Players must be in good standing with respect to completing concession and volunteer hours with their home geographic association to play for the Dragons.
- Will each association have their girls be part of their own co-ed U8 program?
 - The Dragons program is currently only for 10U and 12U age levels. The Patriots will have all 8U players divided by like-ability on co-ed teams. In addition, Patriot girls at this level will automatically be placed on separate girl teams for the purpose of girls' jamborees and tournaments. Other associations are free to manage how they register their girls with girls only 8U teams or youth (co-ed) 8U teams.
- How will cross-rostering work?

- The WAHA definition of cross-rostering is: "... a female player is registered on one (1) youth team and one (1) girls team at the same age level. NOTE: This will be identified as "cross-roster". (A female player who wishes to cross-roster MUST complete the on- line Cross-Rostering Form. ...). p. 45, *WAHA Guidebook*
- The cost to cross-roster is \$150 which pays for the additional ice time. Cross-roster players are allowed to participate in one practice per week with the cross-rostered team. They play in games only at the request of the cross-rostered coach. Girls from outside the Patriots organization are eligible to be cross-rostered with the Dragons at the same \$150 price as long as they are not playing on another all-girls team.
- Cross-rostering is treated like double-rostering to ensure enough players are available for each game to avoid players needing to double-shift which creates a safety concern. Cross-rostering is slightly different than double-rostering as it is also an opportunity for girls to experience all-girls hockey compared to youth (co-ed) hockey. Cross-rostered players are expected to honor the commitment to their primary team in the event there is a conflict for games.
- Girls need to designate which team will be their primary team at the time of registration as that is where they will participate for placements. If they are interested in cross-rostering, they need to designate that during the registration process. By showing interest in cross-rostering does not commit a player to cross-roster, nor does it guarantee an opportunity to cross-roster.
- After placements are complete and teams are selected, coaches wishing to cross-roster players will reach out to interested players to be selected to cross-roster. The selection process will include consultation between the cross-rostering coach, the primary coach, and the hockey director.
- To maintain state tournament eligibility, the roster size for the team cannot exceed 14 players including goalkeepers per WAHA rules. Cross-rostered girls must participate in at least 5 games prior to playdowns to be eligible for WAHA playdowns and state tournaments. Additional players may be cross-rostered to ensure there are enough players available for any given weekend, but those additional players will not be eligible to play with the team during playdowns or the state tournament. Those additional players will be identified on the team roster through a note at the top of the roster as ineligible for playdowns and state tournaments.
- Girls who designate playing on an all-girls team as their primary team are eligible to cross-roster to a youth (co-ed) team.
- Additional rules apply to cross-rostering that can be found in the WAHA guidebook.
- The goal of the Dragons program is to have a minimum of ten players and one goalie on each all-girls team rostered with that team as their primary team. Cross-rostering and double-rostering is not intended to be a significant portion of each team.
- How will double rostering work?
 - The WAHA definition for double-rostering is: "...Any player can, however, as long as the player meets age classification, be registered with more than one team in a different age classification within the same association. NOTE: this will be identified as "double-roster"." p. 46, *WAHA Guidebook*
 - Patriot girls are eligible to double-roster the same as boys. Girls from outside the Patriots playing on a youth (co-ed) team as their primary team with that association would not be eligible to double-roster onto a Dragons girls only team

per WAHA policy defined above. They could cross-roster at the same age level as noted in the previous FAQ answer. Girls who register for their primary team with the Dragons are considered Patriot players and would be eligible to double-roster within the Patriots (for either another girls team or youth (co-ed) team regardless of their home address.

- The cost for double-rostering is the same \$150 as cross-rostering and will follow a similar process as cross-rostering. The double-rostering coach (older age level) would first approach the coach of the younger player's team for permission, and then ask the younger player if she is interested in double-rostering. Double-rostered players must participate in a minimum of 5 games to be eligible on the team's roster for WAHA playdowns and state tournament.
- Double-rostering rules are the same for girls as they are for boys. More information on double-rostering can be found in the Patriots Handbook.
- Can players play up to join a 10U Dragons team?
 - For the 2023-24 season, girls born in 2015 would be eligible to request to play-up to the 10U team. The process includes the Patriots Hockey Director completing a formal request through WAHA and submitting the form through your WAHA Region Director to Andy Bradford. Girls requesting to play up will only be eligible for the 10U B team to fill a 14 player roster. Approval needs to be granted by WAHA prior to the player skating with the team. The form will not be available until September 1, 2023 and must be submitted prior to November 15, 2023.
- How will team placement (tryouts) occur?
 - The Dragons have a placement process in lieu of tryouts. Tryouts imply players could be cut. No players will be cut from the Dragons. The placement process simply identifies a player's ability at the start of the season and determines where that player's best chance for success and development over the course of the season will occur.
 - The Patriots will manage the placement process for the Dragon teams the same as their placement process for other teams. With only an A and a B team at each level there will not be a separate "A" tryout as outlined in the Patriots handbook for age levels that have A, B and C teams.
 - Girls who signed up for the Dragons team to play all-girls will have separate placement sessions than the youth (co-ed) teams. Cross-rostered and double-rostered girls do not need to participate in these all-girls placements as they will skate with their primary team. Placement of cross-rostered players will be determined by the requesting coach in consultation with the Hockey Director.
 - Evaluators are identified by the Hockey Director with the support of the On-Ice Committee. Parents of players at an age level are not eligible to evaluate at that age level.
 - Full details of the placement process are outlined in the Patriots Handbook.
- If we can only field one team at the 10U and/or 12U level, will there be no offering for the current season? Or would one team still be supported?
 - The goal of the Dragons program is to recruit enough players to play all-girls hockey to enable players to be on like skill-level teams. This fosters better player development and overall success no different than the structure on the youth (co-ed) teams.
 - By recruiting early and opening registration early, it is anticipated there will be enough players to support two teams at each level based on interest surveys and previous registration data.
 - The target is to have 10 players on each team committed as the primary team for girls rostered with the Dragons. Each roster would be supplemented with

additional players through cross-rostering and double-rostering to ensure all four teams can be offered.

- The Patriots association is fully committed to offering an all-girls option for 2023-2024 regardless of the number of registrations.
- What will practices be like?
 - Two team practices per week are included as part of registration fees. An additional skills session each week is offered for those girls interested in participating for an additional fee. All Dragons players would be eligible to register for this skills session as they are part of the Patriots organization. At this time, the skills session is planned to be for girls only.
 - Practice times and locations will depend on ice availability. Practices are intended to be held at Hartmeyer, Sun Prairie, and McFarland. There will likely be Sunday late afternoon practices bi-weekly as part of this rotation.
 - The Patriots follow USA Hockey's ADM guidelines and target skill development based on age level. Practices include two teams per ice session, meaning the 10U A and B teams would likely be paired together and the 12U A and B teams would likely be paired together. Coaches collaborate on how best to utilize the ice with portions being shared together on full-ice while other portions are separated in half-ice practices or station-based practices.
- Will there be off-ice training?
 - Historically, the Patriots have partnered with Total Athlete Performance (TAP) at the GRB Academy facility in Windsor. These off-ice sessions provide semi-private training in groups of 15 or less. More information will become available later this fall as arrangements are finalized. This is a separate cost.
 - Additional off-ice training sessions may be scheduled by the coach on each team.
- What are games like?
 - The 10U level will play 12 minute periods while the 12U level will play 15 minute periods. The rules are the same for youth teams as they are for all-girls teams at these age levels. There is no resurfacing between periods at these levels. As a result, 10U games are typically an hour long while 12U games are an hour and fifteen minutes long. All games will be officiated by USA Hockey registered officials to ensure insurance coverage as well as a safe environment for play.
 - Each team is budgeted to have 12 home games which typically results in 12 away games against the same opponents with each team paying for ice and officials for their home games. Planning is underway to schedule some neutral site games that would reduce the amount of travel required. With the addition of two tournaments per team, the targeted number of games for the season is approximately 30 with playdowns and state tournament games in addition to this number.
 - Home games would be played at Hartmeyer Ice Arena in Madison and Sun Prairie Ice Arena in Sun Prairie based on ice availability and cost.
 - It is likely some game days will have multiple games in the same day. The goal is to coordinate multiple opponents on these days, but it is possible that the Dragons would play another team twice in one day with a break between games.
 - Games are typically on Friday nights, Saturdays and Sundays. It is possible a few games will occur on weeknights this season based on ice availability, officials' availability, and cross-rostered player availability. Multiple teams in the area have expressed interest in playing some weeknight games.
- What teams will the Dragons play against?

- Several other all-girls teams in Region Four include the Mavericks, Sauk Monkeys, Polar Caps, Jr. Icebergs, and Beloit/Janesville co-op. Other girls teams can be found regionally in the Fond du Lac/Beaver Dam area as well as Region Five teams around Milwaukee. Additional teams further away will also be scheduled, but they may be at neutral sites to reduce the travel burden.
- Depending on the team, some Dragons teams may play youth (co-ed) teams to provide competitive games. Since the rules are the same at these age levels between youth and girls teams, this is a great way to find good competition at the local level and help reduce travel.
- What are tournaments like?
 - Each team is budgeted to participate in two tournaments based on their registration fees. Additional tournaments may be an option if the team and coaches choose to participate in them for an additional cost.
 - State tournament is not counted toward this budget as it is not a guarantee. Jamborees are also an option for girls players, but have not been factored in to the budget.
 - Some teams are already registered for the Green Bay girls tournament in February. Other tournaments are being evaluated by the on-ice committee for registration.
 - Tournaments are a great time for players to bond as a team and have a lot of fun together. They are some of the most memorable times of playing hockey for the girls.
- Who will the coaches be?
 - Coaching applications are available on the Patriots' website. Applicants are interviewed in September and chosen at placements by the On Ice Committee with PYHA Board approval. Historically, coaches are primarily parent coaches, but in the event there are no parents with coaching experience, non-parent coaches will be utilized. The On Ice Committee also has the right to select a non-parent coach as head coach if more qualified than the parent coach applicant.
 - Both male and female coaches are possible. Almost all coaches have prior playing experience with most at the high school or collegiate level. All coaches undergo background checks, SafeSport training, coaching seminars, and online modules specific to coaching female athletes.
 - Coaches are supported by the On-Ice committee with representatives paired up at each level to mentor coaches and develop coaches not just players. In addition, representatives from participating associations will contribute toward establishing player development curriculum.
 - Additional guest coaches will be brought in to include former players with high level experience. These guest appearances will likely be during the skills sessions.
- Will the teams be state eligible?
 - The goal is for all four teams to be state eligible. The Patriots and Dragons are closely following all WAHA rules to maintain eligibility. This includes monitoring the number of associations represented on each roster, the number of cross-rostered and double-rostered players on each team, and ensuring girls have played in enough games to be eligible for playdowns and state tournament. Per one of the WAHA guidelines, each team will be eligible for state if the team has a total of no more than 3 organizations represented in addition to the home association. For example, if a Dragons team had players from the Patriots (as host association), McFarland, Sun Prairie, and Waunakee, the team would be eligible for state playdowns and the state tournament. This rule is enforced at the

team level, not the association level, meaning different associations could be represented on each roster.

- Do players need to be released to play on the Dragons?
 - Girls from associations that do not offer an all-girls team would not need a release from their home association as they are eligible to join the nearest association with all-girls hockey without a release.
 - Girls from a different association offering all-girls teams would need a release.
 - Girls that have played for another all girls team as their primary team may need a release. WAHA defines a girl's home association as the first girls team she played for.
- How can I prepare for the season?
 - Register for the Dragons through the Patriots' website at www.patriotshockey.org.
 - Recruit friends to come play with you. There will be recruiting drives at the All City Swim Meet among other events like Corn Fest in Sun Prairie. Sign up for the Region 4 Girls Showdown on August 11-13. Bring a friend interested in hockey to the Girls Try Hockey for Free event at Hartmeyer Ice Arena on August 27 from 5:15-6:15 PM.
 - Practice your skills off ice with the summer conditioning program. There are programs for shooting, stickhandling, and general fitness on the Patriots' website: <https://www.patriotshockey.org/summerskills>.
- Which is better for my player, all-girls or youth (co-ed)?
 - This is a very personal decision and there is no one right answer. Some girls prefer to play on all-girls teams, while others prefer to play on a youth (co-ed) team.
 - USA Hockey provides resources to help consider factors when making this decision on their girls hockey website: <https://www.usahockey.com/girlshockey>.
 - Consider what environment your player will thrive both athletically and socially and as a result have the most fun playing hockey.
 - Coaching, skill development emphasis, competition level, windows of trainability, puck touches, on-ice and off-ice leadership opportunities, travel, locker room culture all factor in to making the right decision. Consider who the girls will be playing with at the next level.
 - Educate yourself and don't follow mis-information based on outdated sources. Opportunities for girls continue to explode as part of the fastest growing segment in hockey and a continually changing landscape. 70% of the girls selected on the Central District team last year played girls hockey in the past. All-girls hockey is more competitive than ever and is not simply a recreational option. Don't be afraid to ask others within the girls community for their experience.