

## Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association

### Board of Directors Meeting

December 11, 2024 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 Sam Everson (Past President), Elliot Hitt (Treasurer), Adam Gorra (Secretary), Leah May (Travel League Director), Cody Alderman (Director of City League), Amanda Smith (Director of Tournaments) and Derek Berg (Development Director). Quorum was present. Dan Houck (Director of Hockey), Cherry Hunter (Director of Operations), Brandon Bell, Mike Wright, and Tim Kuphal were also in attendance. Jenn Warren (Vice-President) was absent.

#### Open Forum – Brandon Bell and Mike Wright inquired as to

- Changes next year – Is a top Blue team planned for Squirts? Need a team of excelled players at each level.
- Squirt practice ice – Squirts had 4 hours last year – one of which was Squirt 4 v 4. This year, the Squirts only have three ice slots – one of which is Squirt 4 v 4. Why?
- 4 x 4 DIBS – Can we receive DIBS/Volunteer credit for working Squirt 4 v 4?

#### Responses

- Team Structure – Discussions within SDAHA continue, SDAHA League Structure Committee is working on options – including revisit regarding Squirt Blue team. Jenn & Chun are members of the SDAHA League Structure Committee with recommendations to be made at the Spring Meeting.
- Squirt Ice – High School was reduced from four ice slots to three practices per week. Goal is to have 3 quality practices instead of 4 ice slots. 4 V 4 is essential for Squirts and four times a week on the ice is too much for Squirt age level.
- 4 V 4 DIBS – there is minimal need for volunteers for Squirt 4 V 4 and those tasks are assigned per team. League Managers, Board Members, Coaches, and a lot of volunteers make SFYHA function without DIBS credit. This is your association, and expectation is for parents to handle the duties needed at 4 V 4

Secretary's Report – Sam Everson made a motion to approve the November 13 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

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

#### Director of Hockey – Dan Houck

- Ran coaches' development sessions with Andy Gillham on 11/13 with Bantam and LF 14U coaches
- Ran coaches' development sessions with Andy Gillham on 11/20 with Squirt/PW Travel and ACL/ ICL
- Ran several Mite Tier 3 and 4 practices and worked w/ figure skating coach (Lindsay Fenton) on planning/coverage for other sessions that I did not lead. Trying to attend one time per week for Tier 3/4 and have Lindsay at the other
- Went over season plans for Mite Tier 2 w/ Tier 2 lead
- Attended Varsity East and JV East home games vs. Rushmore
- Attended Squirt Home Tourney games
- Attended 2/4 Mini-Atoms skates

- Attended PW Blue game on 11/22
- Attended Mite City League games on evening 11/17
- Attended Mite Travel games in Sioux Center and Omaha Tournament
- Filled in for 4v4 coach missing on 12/10
- Ran skills for LF 12/14U, 2x's PW travel (alternating weekly), Squirt Whites, and Squirt Oranges
- Bantam and HS coverage for Mite Tier 3 and 4 practice from players has been outstanding and the players have been nothing but great. Concern with some Mite player behaviors
- Atom attendance has been lackluster all season-this is a concern- 12/8-tier 2 had 10 kids, tier 3 had 20, tier 1 had around 20 (35 are supposed to be there)
- Participated in zoom calls for Team SD and working on collaborative plan for mission statement for Team SD
- Sessions with Andy Gillham have been great
- Working hard on Mite Tier 3 and Mite Tier 4
- Mini-Atoms going well
- Please see attached ICL/ACL reports below

### **Admin Update – Cherry Hunter**

- POWER Ice for SFYHA players – NP District Risk Manager: Approved as long as players are USA Hockey registered. More of a coaching concern and association allowing players to participate in two programs.
- Athletic Trainers – Remain at \$40 per hour for 24-25 season
- Completed audit for Workmen's comp
- Board members were reminded – if a fan or parent is asked to leave the rink, the referee making request needs to file a SDAHA Incident Report.

### **Director Reports**

- ✓ Director of Travel League – Leah May: Games & tournaments are off to a good start. Game Sheet scoring is functioning well.
- ✓ Director of City League – Cody Alderman noted appreciation for high school coaches' assistance with ACL evaluations. Cody worked through the ICL Schedule to balance schedule & teams.
- ✓ Director of Tournaments – Amanda Smith: Squirt Tournament went well. She indicated game officials need to dial it down, remember to do warnings and use diplomacy. Schedule is done for Bantam Tournament officials.
- ✓ Director of Development – Derek Berg: He expects the Sanford Contract to be similar to last year.

### **Agenda Items:**

City League Function with Rushmore Hockey – Cody Alderman reported discussions with Rushmore regarding City League play. SFYHA is not going to participate. Our City League in-house teams are non-travel.

SDAHA Girls Varsity Tournament – March 6-8, 2025 (Thurs-Sat) Committee will meet after the first of the year to plan for the tournament.

Flyers Expansion Project – Fundraising is stalled right now. \$760K has been raised through pledges and donations. No ownership is being shown by the Flyers membership. Cherry will do

an eblast – any amount is welcome from \$25 and up. Suggested a sign for outside to show where the Expansion will be located.

SCHEELS IcePlex Rental Agreement for 2025 – Agreement copies included in the board packets

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

NEXT MEETING  
January 15, 2025 6:30 pm  
Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherry Hunter  
SFYHA Director of Operations

Adopted January 15, 2025 \_\_\_\_\_ by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence  
(Date) (Circle one)