



## Meeting Minutes

10/16/24

**ROLL CALL:** Anderson, Crimmins, Garver, Grothe, Hanson, Howarth, Izzard, Kyrola, Papko, Penney, Peterson, Severin, Sislo, Steen

**ABSENT:** Berthiaume

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT:** 6:00 by President Sislo

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** via email on 9/23 motion by Berthiaume second by Howarth

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS:** Motion by Papko second by Kyrola

### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

#### **President:**

- Level meetings went well
- Try Hockey For Free will be Nov 2, link on website and in newsletter
- Received \$1000 donation from Upper Lakes Foods for goalie gear
- WAHA Positive Coaching Alliance offering FREE coach workshops for WAHA coaches, level 4 and 5 coaches that attend one of the monthly PCA workshops are eligible to register with USA Hockey for continuing education credits
- WAHA 10U State Tournament- Superior is no longer hosting due to the change from A/B to Gold/Bronze/Silver divisions; Superior will now be hosting the 14U State Tournament March 1 and 2
- Code of conduct form for association officers/administrators were handed out to board members to sign
- We have not released any players from SAHA this season, there have been no requests to do so

#### **Executive Director:**

- Locker room policy flyer is posted on the website and will be posted in locker room area
- Salvation Army is looking for us to help promote/participate in some of the various charity events coming up

#### **Treasurer:**

- The missing April statement from Raymond James was received and the fiscal year was closed out, bottom line not affected

- We are under budget for registration due to the new multi-player discount and lower rates at the mite levels

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Development:**

- 2 12U to 14U petitions granted
- 1 Mite to Squirt petition denied
- Evals started Monday, teams will be posted by this Sunday, evaluators are UWS players, 6 at each level
- Coaches meeting Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00
- Coach placement will happen after teams are formed

### **Bylaws and Policies:**

- Committee recommends updated clearer info on the appeal process on denied move-up petitions \*see revision at end on minutes- motion to approve recommendation by Kyrola, all in favor

### **Equipment:**

- Jerseys are done and will be here shortly

### **Fundraising:**

- First meat raffle had about 40ish SAHA people there, made \$850 total
- ULF bacon sale is happening now
- KT car wash fundraiser info out soon
- 3 \$50 raffle winners were drawn tonight, they are posted on the fundraising page of the website

### **Tournaments:**

- BA 1 spot left, 10U 1 spot left, PWB 9/12 spots filled, M2 many spots left, all others full

### **Registration and Communication:**

- 263 registered
- Website updated often, newsletter going out weekly again

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Motion by Crimmins second by Kyrola

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT:** 6:43

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:** Crimmins

**NEXT MEETING:** Nov 20 6:00 SAHA

## Recommendation from Bylaws and Policy Committee for Development Policy Change:

### Strikethrough:

We recommend removing text from the current Development Policy to streamline and simplify the overall process.

### Highlighted Text:

We have added a clear **Appeal Process for Denied Move-Up Petitions**, allowing parents to contest decisions made by the Development Committee. This process grants parents the right to submit one appeal to the SAHA Board, providing opportunity for reconsideration of move-up requests.

**See recommended changes below.**

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## DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The purpose of the following rules will be to ensure that there is a consistent process in place for SAHA Team and Player Development. It is understood that reasons for potential move-ups may exist, and they will be handled according to the following guidelines. No player will be officially moved to another level until the Development Committee thoroughly **reviews** both player participation numbers at each of the effected levels, and the reasons for the potential player relocation.

~~Petitions received for a move-up request will be reviewed following registration. If a petition is denied by the development committee, the parents of the petitioning player can make one appeal to the SAHA board. If approved by the development committee, approval from the SAHA Board is required to take effect.~~

Minimum and maximum player totals are established for all teams Squirt and higher, prior to evaluations, based on USA Hockey guidelines. Player totals will be determined at the conclusion of the designated “registration” date prior to evaluations.

If after registration player total counts require maximum guideline levels to be exceeded, attempts will be made to create additional teams. If this cannot be accomplished, then B level teams will be assigned the “extra player(s)”. These players will be distributed as evenly as possible between the B teams. Note: If the A-level team is below USA Hockey guidelines for number of skaters, excluding goalies, they will be required to adjust “up” to the USA Hockey guideline numbers for that age group. This can occur up until the USA Hockey Registration Forms are submitted by SAHA in December.

If a potential goalie or skater shortage occurs, whether at the Squirt, Peewee, or Bantam age level, the Development Committee will make team size and player allocation decisions in the best interest of player development with an emphasis on age appropriate hockey. The development committee will only approach and ask players about moving to a higher level if said player is deemed to be elite and mature enough to play at the higher level. Players who have been asked to move will be required to follow the move-up protocol. No player will be

forced to move up into a higher level of play. NOTE: A first year player at any level will never be allowed to move up to the next level.

The development committee will recommend the number of teams and player allocation at each level to the board for approval. A-team coaches and evaluators will be notified prior to evaluations of skater and goalie numbers for each team at that level. Development committee and board decisions on team sizes are final.

### **High School Age**

Bantam age player/s who make the High School team but wish to return to the Bantam level, must notify the Development Committee no later than 24 hours after the first High School roster is posted. Players returning after this 24 hour period will be placed on a B level team.

### **Player Movement Request “Petition” Protocol**

The development committee at SAHA recommends that players play age appropriate hockey unless circumstances arise where a player exudes elite abilities, and it is determined by the committee that the player’s development would not be hindered by moving to a higher level.

A petition to move-up must be submitted to the Development Committee no later than the last “official” day of registration. A letter will be submitted to the player/parents sent by the Chairman of the Development Committee informing them of acceptance or denial. The following criteria shall be reviewed by the Development Committee to determine if a player move-up “petition” request, submitted by the parent/s, is accepted or denied:

- Petitioning 8U players are required to fill out the WAHA player move up form found online at [wahahockey.com](http://wahahockey.com)
- Accepted petitions will be subject to the additional registration fees to cover the difference between the players current level and the higher level. This will not apply to players that are asked to move by the development committee.
- Petitioning parents are required to provide a brief explanation, in writing, as to why they believe their child should be skating at a higher age level.
- Petitioning player must be an incoming second year player at the SAHA level they are trying to move up from.
- The petitioning player carry no outstanding financial debt to the Association.
- Petitioning player should obtain a letter of recommendation from previous year’s Head Coach. Note: The previous year’s Head Coach’s opinion that the petitioning player has the skills necessary to potentially play at a higher level will be considered, but will not be the sole determining factor.
- Development Committee reviews the Registration numbers.
- Development Committee will determine the appropriate number of teams at each level.
- If an accepted petition wishes to withdraw the request, this must be done 24 hours before the first evaluation session of both the level they have petitioned into, and the level they want to return to.
- Development Committee will inform Board members of all requests to move-up, i.e. “petitions”, and whether the petition has been accepted or denied. This information exchange must be accomplished prior to evaluations.
- On acceptance, these processes will be followed:
  - The Chairman of the Development Committee will notify the petitioning family, in writing,

that the request to move-up was accepted (or denied), based on the previously mentioned criteria.

- If accepted, the petitioning player MUST report to all evaluation sessions at the level requesting to move up to.
  - The Development Committee shall make all attempts to select independent, non-biased, evaluators to participate in the evaluation process of all players evaluating at that level. These evaluators may be, but are not limited to, College or HS level coaching staff.
  - The player will not be identified to the Evaluators.
  - The petitioning player must have an evaluated score that would place them in the top three forwards, top two defensemen, or top goalie to be placed on an "A" level team. This may alter the normal evaluation rating systems, but will be necessary in move-up situations.
  - The Evaluation selection process will be final and positional placement will occur at all levels within that age grouping, i.e. "A" or "B".
  - After the first evaluation session at the higher level, the petitioning player cannot opt to move back to the level requested to move from.
  - A petitioning player who has been selected to the Bantam "A" team will not be granted placement on Bantam "A" team if any positions are held open for returning HS age players. The petitioning player will be required to skate with a Bantam "B" team until HS evaluations are complete. If the Development Committee determines that the petitioning player still scores high enough according to the aforementioned 3-2-1 scoring scale, they could then join the Bantam A team if the maximum number guideline has not been exceeded.
  - Successfully petitioned players are granted this exemption one time only. If in two years the player wants to petition to the next higher level, they will have to go through the move-up process again.
- Denial of Player Move-Up Petitions:
    - If a petition is denied by the Development Committee, the parents of the petitioning player have the right to one appeal to the SAHA Board. The decision made by the SAHA Board on the appeal will be considered final.
    - Procedure to Appeal Decision:
      1. The appeal must include the following:
        - The player's name and details of the petition.
        - A clear statement outlining the reasons for the appeal.
        - Any supporting documentation or evidence that may assist in the reconsideration of the petition.
      2. Review Process:
        - SAHA Board will review the appeal during its next scheduled meeting.
        - SAHA Board may request additional information from either the Development Committee or the petitioning parents, as necessary.
      3. Outcomes of the Appeal:
        - If the SAHA Board upholds the Development Committee's decision: The original denial to move up remains in effect.
        - If the SAHA Board overturns the Development Committee's decision: The petition will be approved.
      4. Communication to Parents:
        - SAHA President will provide written communication to the parents regarding the outcome of the appeal.