



South Carolina Scholastic Hockey Association

Agenda for:
August 10th, 10:00am (In Person)
The Residence Inn
944 Lake Murray Blvd, Irmo, SC 29063

ROLL CALL: Executive – President: Kirby Brownfield Vice President: Ginnette Romkey
Treasurer: Beth Davis Registrar: Tirissa Johnson
Secretary: Vacant Coaching Coordinator: Pete Just

Members - SafeSport Coordinator: Alan Johnson – CAHA HS Chair: Robert Engler
Columbia: Barbara Clark, Alyssa Mehlretter
Greenville: Jessica Bagley, Fort Mill: Karen Barber
Charleston: Aiko Thompson, Lauree Cook, Stacy MacDonald, Starr Jordan

1. Call to Order -at 10:04, motion by Kirby, seconded by Lauree Cook.

In attendance: Kirby Brownfield, Ginnette Romkey, Beth Davis, Tirissa Johnson, Lauree Cook, Pete Just, Barbara Clark, Alyssa Mehlretter, Karen Barber, Aiko Thompson (new TM for the Mariners), Starr Jordan, George Kiernan, Aaron Beaver (new HC for Greenville National)

Absent: Alan Johnson, Robert Engler, Jessica Bagley, Stacey MacDonald

2. Acceptance of the minutes from prior meeting, motion by Beth Davis, seconded by Ginnette Romkey
3. Few updates to the agenda:
 - a. 8th graders are off the table until further notice.
 - b. Alan Johnson has resigned as SafeSport Coordinator; we need a new one.
 - c. Still looking for a Secretary; Lauree Cook is filling in one last time.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Current balance in the account is \$4,475.63.
 - b. The tax return information has been submitted to the accountant and will be filed in September.
 - c. We have not yet gotten a bill from SportsEngine. Historically, the annual fee was pulled on 7/1, but we believe the anniversary date has changed since we had to adjust last year and think it will come out on 9/18. Budgeting \$1,000 last year was \$870. Kirby will follow up.
 - d. GameSheets bills by the game when the schedule is created. We couldn't remember if it was \$6 or \$8 per game, approximately \$500-600. The EOS tournament is a separate charge.
 - e. No change in the ref fees (need to confirm). Ben ___ is the new head of refs. Need to find out when the (See further down for notes on ref evaluations and beginning of season coaches meeting with the refs)

- f. Fees for scorekeepers went up. Paid by gate fees.
- g. League fees are currently \$650 but there is a proposal to increase to \$750 for National and \$650 for Palmetto (they each have a \$100 credit from the tournament baskets). Motion was made by Kirby and seconded by Lauree; passed unanimously.
- h. Gate fees have been \$7 for adults and \$4 for students for many years. What if we raised them to \$8 and \$5 this season? Motion by Kirby, seconded by Barabara. Passed unanimously. Also discussed online tickets; Greenville agreed to do a trial. Can we look into a Board Venmo rather than it going through the TMs? Something we could post at the gates?

5. Registrar's Report

- a. If we are having kick off weekend on the 7th and 8th, we need to submit the rosters by the end of next weekend, the 19th. Since the SportsEngine registrations aren't ready, we'll have to do this the old-fashioned way. Send Tirissa the list of your team, coaches, TM, and volunteers. Each roster needs one LRM unlike previous years. Do not forget your HS Eligibility forms which are required for rostering. Birth certificates are needed for anyone who has not been previously certified by CAHA.
- b. Please remember, USA Hockey numbers reset on 8/31 and we need the new one. All players 2007 and older need to be SafeSport certified. Background and SafeSport are needed for TMs, volunteers, and coaches, with coaches also needing their modules before taking the ice, and their CEP clinic by yearend. Assistant coaches can serve as LRM. Need one for males and females (can serve both as long as they are within arm's length of the doors).

6. Secretary's Report

- a. We need one. Please ask your families.
- b. The secretary normally handles rule changes, but Kirby is handling this year's. See later in the minutes for discussion and voting results.

7. Vice President/Director of Discipline

- a. Please send your blackout dates and ice availability to Ginnette by 8/15. One person by market work with the local rink. The plan is to have the schedule out within a week or two for review, and then it will be finalized.
- b. We need a new SafeSport Coordinator. Remember reporting guidelines – if you hear or see something, report it. If you need advice, Matt Hurley is the SafeSport Coordinator for CAHA; he's a great resource. And as a reminder – we don't investigate. USAH does all of that. And normal rules apply – innocent until proven guilty.
- c. Coaches report derogatory language. Big issue for coaches, players, and res.
- d. Slides will follow, but there are new rules for number of penalties, accrual, and leaving the bench.
 - For number of penalties, if a team receives 12, the coach will be suspended one game by USAH and 2 games by CAHA. Second time, 30-day suspension and a hearing plus a \$250 fee.
 - For accrual, first offense 1 game. Second offense, 1 game from USAH and 1 game from CAHA. Third offense, 3 games.
 - For leaving the bench, first offense is 3 games. Second offense is 30-day suspension and a \$250 fine.

- e. The refs will be encouraged to call it tight early because it's hard to regain control. Will try to encourage them not to make ticky tack calls though. Greenville shared that Nationals is ref'd much looser.
 - f. Penalties for not having a LRM – 1st offense is \$250 fine; 2nd is \$500 fine.
 - g. Spectator discipline. Slide to follow. Anyone removed will have a rolling 24-month period. Lots of discussion about who is responsible for removing the party. Reach out to Rick Daniel and let CAHA handle it. We can't be responsible for escorting someone out. Ginnette asked if we could make a poster for people to be warned before entering? You can report is anonymously to Ginnette and the Board can decide if it needs to be elevated.
 - h. Please remember that your LRM needs to go to the locker room with an ejected or injured player. An ejected player cannot come back into the rink or watch the game – they must leave the rink for the evening.
8. SportsEngine App (discussion/update)
- a. As soon as the schedule is finalized, Ginnette will build out the season on the website.
 - b. Please keep your eyes out for registrations for all teams but Greenville National and Palmetto. There will also be registrations for volunteers and coaches. The chat feature on SE will be used for Pete with the coaches and for board communication. Everyone must register themselves – the TM can't do it for everyone. This is required for group chat access. We will use it more and more.
 - c. After the players are registered and the team pages are set up, families can go in and add another parent if necessary.
 - d. TMs will have to go in and load their teams' practices and games.
 - e. GameSheets
 - Worked well last season. There are training videos available for everyone to review. Ginnette will send info on training for the new scorekeepers.
 - Feeds directly into SE, and there is no changing a scoresheet once it's closed. Coaches need to confirm it's correct before it's closed. One coach needs to confirm, take the iPad if necessary. Scorekeepers will be told about the importance of not letting the refs close the scoresheet until it's been reviewed.
 - Working on clarifying game misconduct in GameSheets. There were some entry errors last season – someone can't get kicked out twice.
 - Scorekeepers also need to be advised about the importance of shots on goals and assists. Refs will be advised of the need for clarity and perfection. Use the buzzer to get the refs back if necessary. Could impact the new awards. Goalie changes also need to go in the system.
 - Game and match penalties – call Ginnette to address major penalties. Also, we started the season with a few head shots and knee on knee last year - let's avoid those. Repeat offenders can get stiffer penalties.
9. Team Updates for Season 2024/25:
- a. Greenville National – 42 kids tried out, teams not set, but will have both National and Palmetto. Ice is \$383/hr. New HC for National is Aaron Beaver. Kirby suggested asking the Plex is we could start at 9:45? Worth asking, since their public skate ends at 9:30. Why wait 15 minutes after the cut?
 - b. Fusion National – 35 tried out, teams not set, but will have both National and Palmetto teams. Ice is \$400/hr. Hourly charge for ice cut, split between 4 teams.

- c. Ft. Mill Ice Jackets – 19 skaters and 2 goalies. XI has no ice, Pineville has ice in Sept and Nov. \$475/hr. 10:15 start time. New coach Cameron Calder (if approved, see below).
- d. Charleston Mariners – one National bound team. 24 skaters and 2 goalies. New TM, Aiko Thompson. Ice is \$385/hr.
- e. Holy City Palmetto – declaring for Palmetto for 24-25 season. 15 skaters and 1 goalie. New coach Chris Matson. TM Vandy Inman.
- f. Greenville Palmetto – See above. Trying to finalize new HC and TM for Palmetto.
- g. Fusion Palmetto – See above.
- h. Charleston Ice Raiders Palmetto – 15 skaters and 1 goalie. Jason Jensen new HC. Jason Torres returning as AC. Also, new AC named Kyle Cahill.

10. New Business:

- a. Pool Players – assigned based on need. Try to go to a team closest to their residence if possible, or next closest market. If it's an out of market team, how would the closest home team consider letting them practice? Would like players to stay with the team in subsequent seasons so they would not have to repurchase jerseys. Also, it should go without saying – poaching is NOT allowed. Also, the Charleston market should be Myrtle Beach to Hilton Head, not just the tri-county area.
- b. Scholarships – Money Available? Yes, there are funds available. Application is on the website, and the deadline is 10/15. The award is capped at 50% of the team fee.
- c. We Honor the Game/Senior Spotlight – CAHA will pay for a videographer to come and do interviews with our seniors. Want one team senior per month. Kirby will assign teams to their respective months.
- d. CAHA Grant – does anyone know who decides or when you hear? Supposedly, they had \$40M left over after the first round of grants. Greg Barnes may be able to shed some light. It's awarded in two tranches – ½ when awarded and ½ on the back end when you report how it worked.
- e. 2024/25 Playing Season Proposed Rule Changes – see discussion section below.

Motion, Discussion & Vote (see handout)

- Barbara Clark – Team Manager for Fusion (Out of market) Player – Nate 11th grade
- Cameron Caulder – Head Coach for Ft. Mill National (Out of market) – Quinn 10th grade
- Approve proposed boundaries for Charleston National
- Approving dates of EOS Tournament: March 7-9, 2025 Location TBD
- Rule K. Removing words 1st & 2nd Team for All State selections
- Rule J. Changing period length for Palmetto to 15 minutes
- Rule B. Add Neck Guards are required for play effective 8/1/2024.
- Rule F. Needs to be amended due to the use of Gamesheet
- Rule I. Needs to be amended to reflect new changes from CAHA
- Approve EOS Tournament Playoff Bracket
- Approve Template for Referee Grading Card
- Residency Rules
- Approve 8th grade athletes to participate in Palmetto league
- Approve number of games and the definition of “participation” to be eligible for the National Tournament.

Voting Discussion:

- Barbara Clark – Barbara is the TM for Fusion. Her son has played with Fusion the last two years, and would like to stay with them, and Barbara stay as TM. Kirby made a motion to allow her son to be released from Ft. Mill and play with Fusion with her staying on as TM. Tirissa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Cameron Caulder – Cam is a 10th grader in the Greenville area, but he would like to be released to Ft. Mill and his father serve as Head Coach for team. Kirby made a motion, Ginnette seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- **Charleston boundaries** – Currently the boundaries for the Charleston market are the Cooper River and for 2024-2025, the request is to move the line to I-26. Kirby also shared that the market should not be limited to the three counties but go from Myrtle Beach down to Hilton Head. Kirby made a motion, Ginnette seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- **EOS Tournament** – all books are due to Terri by 2/15. The proposed dates are March 7-9 and Nationals would be three weeks later. The three Charleston teams have players scheduled for a tournament that weekend and would be unavailable. There are other conflicts with Feb 21-23 and Feb 28-Mar 2. Kirby will reach out to Dustin Hapka and JC Gaskins and seeing if there's any wiggle room. The item has been tabled for now, but there was disappointment from the Charleston teams that no one seemed to care that 40% of the league would be excluded.
- **All State teams** – there still needs to be some clarification on voting, but there was not a vote on automatic appointments and 1st and 2nd team designations will stay.
- **Period length change for Palmetto for tournament** – since the Palmetto teams do not go to Nationals, they do not need to play 17-minute periods. Kirby made a motion, Barbara seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- **Neck guard requirement** – not in our rules, mandated by USAH, no vote needed.
- **Use of GameSheets** – change the language as appropriate but leave something in regarding backup paper copies if necessary. Motion by Kirby, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.
- **Disciplinary rules from CAHA** – update to CAHA language with a note that the Board can do supplemental discipline if warranted. Motion by Kirby, seconded by Lauree, passed unanimously.
- **EOS Tournament bracket** – for this year, the vote was for a single team elimination. Motion by Ginnette, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.
- **Referee grading card**
 - Kirby will collect the ref evaluation cards from the coaches, and then share them with Ben. We are paying them to do a job and should expect quality service. Most refs weren't on the HS availability list, meaning our pool could be larger. Who decides or confirms if refs are qualified? If we explain the evaluations correctly, it could not be an issue. Consider paying more for good refs, and having the best refs travel for the tournament and the league pay travel and hotel.
 - If you have issues with refs, take them Pete.
 - Motion by Kirby, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.
- **Residency rules** – this is not to delete language but clarify who and how to prove residency (utility bill). Lots of discussion around billeting players. They would be required to provide proof of legal, court-ordered guardianship. Kirby made a motion, Ginnette seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- **8th graders in Palmetto** – as noted above, this is tabled for now.
- **# of games and the definition of participation for National** – lots of discussion about players showing up at the tournament having not played in regular season games. The minimum is 5, and Palmetto will comply with a 5-game min but will address on a one-off basis if someone moves in late. Motion by Kirby, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.

- While the kickoff weekend is a go, Kirby thought it was in addition to regular season games, not replacing regular season games. TMs said they did not budget for 15 games. Kirby asked everyone to see if they could build in a few to keep Fridays. The math suggested it would cost < \$50 per player to add games. Sept. 7-8, times to follow. Kirby made a motion, Karen seconded, passed unanimously.
- Lastly, the rules say we can't have games after 10pm, but Pineville will not accommodate game times before 10:15. Kirby made a motion to accept these times, Karen seconded, passed unanimously.
- Worried about the impact to the gate losing a National bound team. No vote, but drum up attendance, and hopefully the rate increase will help.

11. Announcement of September meeting – next meeting, Sept. 10th at 7pm on Zoom.

12. Adjourned at 2:05 with a motion by Kirby, seconded by Beth.