



Southern Alberta Women's Hockey Association Meeting
League Meeting - Monday Sept. 16th 7:00 pm
St Michael School

1. Call to Order - 7:01 PM
2. Roll Call of Teams - Hailstorm missing
3. Determination of a Quorum - Determined
4. Agenda
 - 4.1. Additions/Deletions - None
 - 4.2. Approval of Agenda - Approved by Tracy Tomassetti
5. Special Guests
 - 5.1 FWHAS -- Patti Newfield
 - FWHAS was encouraged by the City in mid-August to put in a letter of interest to operate the Great Plains facility
 - The current operator of Great Plains is walking away April 2020. FWHAS has already formalized a letter with the City. The next step is a request for proposal which should be done by the end of the calendar year
 - Short term goal: determine the next direction of FWHAS
 - Special thanks to former-board member, Leslie-Ann Kalman, for all of her contributions
 - Contact Patti for volunteer opportunities
6. Approval of minutes of last league meeting - Deferred to the November league meeting
 - 6.1 Business arising from the minutes
7. Executive Reports
 - 7.1. President – Susan Beirnes**

(spoke 2nd)

 - Critical deadlines
 - May 1: deadline for tier movement requests
 - June 1: deadline for new team applications
 - Major business decisions made over the summer
 - Declined two expansion teams. Both teams brought in mostly Sat & Sun ice times - these could not be accommodated. Weekday ice times are hard to get these days especially without Fairview.
 - Difficult to accommodate tier movement in August that is why the deadline is May 1st
 - Operating Rules & Bylaw updating
 - This has not been done since 2012

- Operating Rules will be up for review and discussion at the November league meeting
- Bylaw review will follow
- Introduction to our SAWHA admin - Virginia Fraser
 - Has helped Kelly with scheduling
 - Will book league meetings ahead of time - the rest of the season's meetings should be booked soon
 - Started a registry of jersey colours (Tier 3 only so far)
 - Contact: info.sawha@gmail.com

7.2. Vice President – Alyshia Pretulac

(spoke 1st)

- Website navigation demo
 - SAWHA.com redirects you to our ASHL website
 - Use the black navigation bar to stay on SAWHA pages
 - HOME: includes league newswire where we will be working hard this year to post the most up to date info. Check back here for regular updates.
 - LEAGUE & PLAYER INFO: rules and regulations, code of conduct, helpful tips, links and procedures including registration instructions and game sheet entry procedures, and then past meeting minutes. Sub categories include board information and then hockey finder. Hockey finder is still being developed by Canlan and will essentially replace the [message board](#) to find players and teams.
 - PLAYERS BENCH: Where you can find your individual player info, your schedule for 4 games out (they are working on expanding this), team record and individual stats.
 - SCHEDULE & STATS: Schedule (whole season), league standings and stats.
 - FAQs
 - CONTACT: Board and team rep contacts. Please review your team rep info as there have been a lot of changes lately and I want to make sure that they were all captured. If you need to make a change email vicepresident.sawha@gmail.com
- Key Survey Results:
 - Majority of respondents wanted to play 36 games (similar to last season)
 - Lots of responses indicated that they didn't know where things were on the website and that they missed a few features that were on the old site. Hopefully my update just now will address some ambiguity with the website.
 - sawha.com still works. New functionality to the site this season will include a "games today" section and "standings by tier" section on the home page.
 - Members wanted back the message board/want ads from the previous site so we started a SAWHA message board which can be found here: [link](#)
 - Majority of respondents do not want to participate in a social.

- More than 50% of respondents want to see more learning and development sessions this season. SAWHA will be offering these sessions this season, details to come.
- Over 60% of the league is paying a score clock operator during regular season, and 58% of respondents would like to see paid score clock operators during playoffs this season. With this feedback, the board will explore this option further for playoffs.
- Over 60% of respondents prefer the traditional style playoff format over several weeks. We will schedule playoffs in the traditional format this season.
- Positive feedback on the digitization of game sheet process. (reminder that there are many free scanning apps like CamScanner (iPhone) to make it easier to read)
- Some areas of improvement include discussion of the sub rules for players and goalies, seeing the schedule out earlier for games and league meetings. The board will be working on all of this, this season.
- Casino: January 27 and 28 at Cash Casino (4040 Blackfoot Trail)
 - sign up info will be emailed and posted on the website shortly

7.3. Director - Referee Coordinator – Dani Chicoine

- REMINDER: neck guards are mandatory
- Referees are being told to be more diligent about neck guards and helmets
 - FYI: your cage need to fit in the J clips on your helmet
- HOME TEAM: bring a timekeeper
- Ref evaluation form is online - positive and negative evaluations are encouraged!
- Want to become a referee?
 - <http://czrc.ab.ca/> to sign up for clinics
 - Email ref.sawha@gmail.com if you have any questions
 - Oct 26: female clinic, location not yet determined
- New referee fee sheet just came out that contained an increase from \$55/game to \$75/game - this would have resulted in a +\$800-1000 increase per team
 - The board has fought the increase for this year, but they will be increasing in the coming years
 - The high hourly rate is because it includes referees for Junior hockey
- Dani will be pushing to allow SAWHA players ref SAWHA games - will be meeting with the assigner
- Suggestion: try to compare fees with other sports (ex. basketball, soccer)
- Some changes in SAWHA's schedule may result in a ref being assigned to the wrong tier (just for the start of the season) please bear with these refs that may be refing games in higher or lower tiers than they are accustomed to

7.4. Director - Scheduling – Kelly Matthews

- October schedule is posted and I am working to finish the remaining months. November should be posted by the end of next weekend and December will follow shortly. Kelly hopes to have January and February out by mid to late October.
- We have TONS of Saturday and Sunday ice so there will be back to back games for all teams at some point- tried to make it so that each team only has to do that

once in a month but there will always be a few teams that have more than one in a month.

- We have 19 ice slots on Saturday nights so that means 38 of our 54 teams have to play on Saturdays and we have 14 Sunday ice slots so 28 of the teams have to play Sunday. There will always be back to back games for a few teams every weekend but trying to even it out over the season between all teams.
- You will notice a large gap between games in October due to the limited ice slots over the Thanksgiving weekend.

7.5. Director of Discipline & Game Reports – Mandy Runcie

- All teams must fill out a Code of Conduct and will be traded for Game Sheets at the end of this meeting
- Home team must enter Game Results within 72 hours of game. There is a game sheet entry procedure on the website under [League and Player info](#)
- Game sheets must be scanned and emailed in by the HOME TEAM to appropriate tier email within 72 hours of game. Tier emails are on the [website](#).
- All game sheets that require discipline review including – major penalties, misconducts, game misconducts, gross misconducts or match penalties – must be scanned and emailed by the violating team within 24 hours to the Director of Discipline (discipline.sawha@gmail.com). Make sure to include the referees' write up. The violating team is responsible to update the website and email the game sheet to the tier email
- If a player is serving a suspension it must be noted on the game sheet.

7.6. Director of Finance – Joanne Powell

- Fee schedule was delayed because of the discussion over referee rates which are still in negotiations. Fees are probably higher than needed to accommodate the referee rates – will make changes if they are significant.
- Budget sent out this morning
 - Ice costs have gone up slightly – about \$10 / game (\$330 to \$340)
 - \$700 / team credit for the Casino
 - Added admin costs
 - Casino 2020 will apply to next year's budget
 - Budget details - motion to approve -- approved by Danielle Bertsch

7.7. Director of Administration & Registration – Alyssa Mah

- REMINDER: all players must register before stepping on the ice
 - Get your players to register ASAP in case they run into any problems
 - Email registrar.sawha@gmail.com for help
- Registration & insurance fees are \$28.75 + GST / player
 - Team reps will receive an invoice from ASHL later (maybe in two months)
- Substitute instructions will be distributed and posted online soon
 - Team reps: get your substitute player to register for your team before they play
 - Ensure your sub player is marked correctly on the gamesheet and on LeagueStat when entering the score
- Website FAQ is not up-to-date regarding sub limits
 - Correct limits
 - 20 games for goalies

- 15 games for players

7.8 Director of Communications – Sharon Howland

- [Facebook](#) as a league communication tool; reminder to your teams to follow the league facebook page
 - Special dates, league information, and general women's hockey news will be posted on the Facebook page
- Newsletter
 - May not send one out if using Facebook to communicate regularly
- Social
 - Will explore options that won't cost the league and won't require volunteers
- Inclusion policy development
 - In development with locals and other organizations like You Can Play
 - A draft policy may not be ready for the November league meeting
 - If you have any input or want to help, you can contact Sharon at communications.sawha@gmail.com

7.9. Director of League Development – Cheryl Setchell

- Upcoming Development Sessions
 - October 1st, 8th and 15th 8:15pm Stew Hendry. Registration is first come first serve. \$25 per session which can be reserved by emailing me at development.sawha@gmail.com .
- The plan is to have at least one more in November and another in December
 - Interest will be gauged for sessions in the new year
- I am considering running an off ice session on team strategy. Potential topics covered will be breakouts, forchecks, faceoffs, power plays and penalty kills. If this is something your team may be interested in, please email me ASAP. I can also provide a basic play book to each team.
- Still looking for leads on acquiring a set of goalie gear for the league to share. Anyone with contacts or lead, please let me know.
- Suggestion: post somewhere (maybe the message board) if someone has goalie equipment they're willing to lend for a game every now and then

10. Unfinished Business/New Business

- Tier 7 subbing - to be discussed after the meeting
- Promoting upward development
 - Give opportunities for players and goalies to play up
 - You can contact registrar.sawha@gmail.com if you are interested in subbing up but don't know a team or contact
 - Goalie development session for new goalies is a possibility but harder to get enough goalie equipment
 - Contact Cheryl at development.sawha@gmail.com if you want to be a goalie at a development session

11. Next Meeting – November 2019

12. Adjournment - 8:06 PM