



SASKATCHEWAN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

#2 - 575 Park Street, Regina, SK S4N 5B2
Phone: (306) 789-5101 • Fax: (306) 789-6112
Website: www.sha.sk.ca

March 27, 2019

Memorandum

To: SHA Board of Directors
From: Kelly McClintock
Re: Zone 1 Meeting Feedback

There were twenty-seven (25) people present representing nineteen (15) MHA's at the Zone 1 Meeting in Stoughton on Monday, March 25, 2019. The communities represented were;

Ochapowace, Prairie Storm, Alameda, Carlyle, Milestone, Estevan, Oxbow, Carnduff, Bienfait, Weyburn, Radville, Kipling, Quad Town, Montmarte, Midale

1. SHA Initiation Program Provincial standard

Please provide your opinion of the SHA Board of Directors Provincial Standard that has been created.

- I like the standard that's been put in place. It brings structure, clear timelines and should help the development of these young players.
- Yes – 18
- Effective and working.
- Develop skill over winning.
- I think it is long overdue. I ran fall camps for players coming into Novice and always shocked at the lack of basic skating skill not acquired in 2 years of IP. I think setting a standard will go a long way.
- Like the ideas that have been created.
- Agreed cross ice but wonder ½ ice for small arenas.
- Parents should get info package to show how it helps players.
- All about the kids having fun.
- Kids are really getting better at their skills.
- Needed to be put in place. Like the focus on skill development.
- Could be January 1 for games.
- Standardization helps with volunteer boards that may not always have the expertise.
- Promotes skill development and structure.

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- It's still not a fan of this cross ice business but having had a kid in IP, I felt the season went well. Had a jamboree – was very well received.
- Don't see any benefit.

2. SHA Novice Program Provincial Standard

Please provide your opinion of the SHA Board of Directors Provincial Standard that has been created.

- I also like the Provincial standard. Emphasis has been put on Development. It will help with a structured start and end time for the season as it pertains to games, practices, and tournaments.
- Yes - 11
- Hope Moose Mountain tries it
- Develop skill over winning.
- Need to work with the MMHL to standardize format for League play.
- I think it is long overdue. I ran fall camps for players coming into Novice and always shocked at the lack of basic skating skill not acquired in 2 years of IP. I think setting a standard will go a long way.
- I feel it is a positive step in developing players at this important age group.
- I like the adjustment going from half ice to full ice. Will have some complaints but as a whole I think it will work good for development.
- It seems fine but I wonder what the overall goal of these standards are; to grow the game or become competitive on a larger scale. I fear these new models can't achieve both.
- Standard set so should be easier transition.
- Agree with set # of games and skills before games.
- Glad it graduates to full ice. Agree on skill development for ½ ice.
- I struggle with the novice turning into the same standards as IP but in the end I believe the change will be great for the players and keeping kids interested in the game.
- Is next year going to be the same or is this a transition to all year cross ice? If so, should go all cross ice now.
- I agree with more emphasis being placed on practices and skills but disagree with ½ ice. I don't see how ½ ice benefits the players.
- I also think our 1st years will benefit but will be confusing for offside and proper positioning.
- This will take some adjustment for those involved in this age group. Eventually I believe it will work well.
- Excellent. Too game focused now. Wish Leagues had to play a portion of game half ice.
- Not a fan of cross ice. I don't understand how you teach them offside and icing.
- Kids and parents want to play full ice games. They don't understand yet.

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3. Female Development model

Please provide your opinion of the SHA Board of Directors approved Female Development Model that has been put in place to date?

- I think the new structure will help with competitive balance. Players playing in appropriate age divisions.
- Yes – 17
- Built up numbers.
- No opinion
- Changes reflect player registrations.
- I like it but I do feel that females should not be able to play both a male and female league. If so why cant males play in a female both gender leagues?
- Changes were necessary for growing the game/players.
- Its been great to promote female hockey.
- There is plenty of opportunities for females. Will promote more grassroots development with the chance to play Bantam AA.
- Creates some uniformity around the province.

4. Male Midget Program Proposal

Please provide your opinion of the proposed Male Midget Program

Midget AAA

- I like it. I think its long overdue. Hoping Zone 1 puts in a strong bid for a team.
- I like that changes are being made like the Female was looked at. Would be a great opportunity for other centers to host a team in other geographic areas.
- From an Association point of view this has little impact on us.
- It's a good idea. Look at starting with a clean slate.
- Good – 8
- The change worked for the Female. Zone 1 numbers are exceptional.
- Needs to be reviewed.
- I cant see much changing, maybe one team.
- Good what is in place.

Midget AA

- 26 teams in 2018/19. I think a 22 team League would be ideal.
- I feel that the AA Midget League in the province is t=a great place right now with how the SAAHL was set up.

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- Very important for affiliating to AAA League.
- Good – 9
- Needs to be reviewed to determine the correct placement of teams.

Midget 15

- I would be strongly opposed to this. We had 25 players at AA tryouts and carried 6 – 15-year olds this year. Weyburn would have a hard time putting a team in without our 15-year olds.
- I don't agree with the Midget 15 League. I feel it would water down the Midget AA League
- If the numbers warrant it, I think it is good.
- This is something our Association would not be able to roll out.
- Not sure if there would be enough players in province to sustain this.
- Depends on the areas. It will give the 15's more development and confidence.
- I really like it as it opens up the option for 15 year old that either hasn't hit their growth spurt or just smaller to be able to play and not sit the bench when against 17 year olds.
- Review and understand numbers for this birth year.
- Leave 15's as part of midget not their own league.
- Unsure how much interest there would be to extra travel.
- I don't believe Zone 1 has the numbers to absorb Midget 15.
- Not sure what to think of this. If we have the numbers to support it, then we are for it.
- Don't believe a 15 year old program provincially is great. Perhaps a "carded" program.
- Give talented kids an option.
- May end up eliminating some AA/AAA teams.
- Might dilute Midget AA or hurt small towns that need 15 year old's for a team.
- Should be an option for 15 year old team.

5. Do you agree with the Accelerated Player Process? What other comments do you have regarding it?

- Agree – 19
- It is so rare that SHA should leave as is.
- Not a lot of kids are considered for this anyway.
- I agree in that parents have different standards for "exceptional" than truly qualified people.
- Identify through Sask First.
- If a kid is that good they will be accepted.
- Gives gifted kids the opportunity.
- No I don't think 14 year old's should play with the 17 year old's no matter what their talent level is.
- Should be decided by SHA or appointed representatives to decide, not the parents.
- Needs to be independently monitored.

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- Absolutely best for safety and overall development of the players.

6. What are your opinions on the following Hockey Playing Rule/Registration Regulation Proposals;

Mandatory use of Helmets on Coaches?

- In favor - 13
- Leave it up to the Association - 2
- It's mandatory in our Association. Good Idea. Coaches are our role models, why shouldn't they wear one? - 5
- Safety first.
- I think Associations are reluctant to put it in themselves but would welcome it.
- Better to do something before there is an incident.
- I coached in Sask (no helmet) then Alberta (helmet) then back to Sask (no helmet) – either way is fine.
- I believe it should be up to the coach whether they want to wear the helmet. - 3
- Currently enforce this in our Association with zero issues.
- Neutral opinion. Adults should be able to make this decision themselves. Its ironic numerous states don't require helmets for motorcycles.
- OK either way.

Sanctioned Exhibition Games counting towards Suspensions?

- Yes - 8
- As per the SHA Chair Discipline's discretion - 2
- Opposed. Allows coaches to bend the rules.
- Good idea. Suspensions need to be dealt with fairly.
- It's the same as tournaments counting.
- I agree but on a case by case basis, not near the end of season though.
- Don't agree - 7
- No, leave as is just for case of coaches scheduling extra games as discussed.
- Exhibition games don't mean anything.
- Especially during playoffs no.
- Maybe if the game was scheduled two to three weeks prior.
- Neutral.
- If exhibition game is played, possibly fine if game is cancelled.

Minor Provincial Playoff Modified Best of Three Series?

- Yes. – 23
- I would want GM 2 over GM 1

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- Gives a team a chance in case of bad game 1

No icing during short-handed situations?

- Bad idea. Get better on the pp
- No - 6
- Undecided. Perhaps I am a bit old school so need more thought on it. - 2
- Good idea. I like how skill is in the equation. – 7
- Be in favor of trying it at the lower ages – Pee Wee and down.
- Agree with skill development
- Yes I think it will help supporting a safer, cleaner game with less penalties.
- Why should the team who has the penalty just be able to shoot it down.
- Unsure. Maybe for Pee Wee and under. Bantam and older can be taught to defend the power play.
- This idea is alright. I'd suspect that teams will still ice the puck and take the faceoff in their end.
- I think this should be demo'd in a league somewhere in the province and then review feedback.
- Unsure about this one, need to think about that a bit more.

Player who is injured and the opposition receives a five-minute major and GM, that injured player not being able to return until the major penalty is served.

- Yes – 23
- Stops players/coaches from faking
- I agree, he may be concussed or not ready to return.
- Control embellishment.
- Gives proper time for evaluation for player safety.
- I've seen way too many "faked" injuries to draw a penalty and think this would eliminate a lot of that.
- If injury is that bad then sit out for that time otherwise it was probably a bad call from the ref.
- In Bantam and higher, might be harder for younger officials to keep track

7. Any Other Comments on any Topics?

- Well done Zone 1!
- Great meeting and very informative.
- Thanks for the opportunity.
- Criminal record checks should be mandatory for coaches/manager/volunteers

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