



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 20, 2019

Memorandum

To: SHA Board of Directors
From: Kelly McClintock
Re: Zone 7 Meeting Feedback

There were twenty-seven (27) people present representing nineteen (19) MHA's at the Zone 7 Meeting in North Battleford on Monday, March 18, 2019. The communities represented were;

Biggar, Hillmond, Meadow Lake, Turtleford, St. Walburg, Luseland, Kindersley, Eatonia, Maidstone, Lashburn, Medstead, Rosetown, Eston, Macklin, Unity, Moosmin First Nation, Battlefords, Wilkie and Elrose

1. SHA Initiation Program Provincial standard

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

- Would prefer half ice. Full nets would be an asset to let the kids still have fun. Reason being to see kids score they are pumped and a 4 - 3 Initiation game isn't the same as 8 - 7. 35 games is a good number.
- Everything is fine.
- Like cross ice, light pucks. Would rather see 2 - 30-minute periods as it allows 3-minute shifts as it takes 20 - 40 seconds to change young players.
- I agree in what you have put in place. Small area proper team building.
- Good - 7
- Like it. Should be more time spent on development and less o games and tournaments.
- I think it's a great template for young player and coaches.
- I think if is a good idea, that everyone is heading in the same direction.
- Seems to be working well.
- I think it's excellent.
- My opinion is this is great for this age group. I feel currently there is too much emphasis on competition and needs to be more on fun and keeping kids engaged.
- It has been a success so far. Seems to create an emphasis on skill development for the younger kids.

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- Good stepping stone to get everybody on the same page.
- Luseland has a small rink and it is easier for us to use the blue line instead of true half-ice
- I agree with it.
- Fantastic. Appreciate the focus on skill development and fun. Want to encourage lifelong athletes, not just short-term. I think lack of skill is a large determinant if they play long-term.
- I love the cross ice and skill development to focus on.

2. SHA Novice Program Provincial Standard

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

- Games should be longer prior to January 1. Funding should be in place if boards are needed. One ref should be sufficient.
- Everything seems ok.
- I agree in the direction SHA are going.
- I like it. Only part that poses as issue for me is the 2 x 24-minute periods. Everything else is good.
- Like it but maybe don't start games till later as some smaller centers don't have ice until late in October.
- I think instructs the coaches to base more of their season planning to skill development
- I think if is a good idea, that everyone is heading in the same direction.
- Lots of push back. We will see how it all plays out.
- I think it's great.
- Positive
- Different but good
- I like the changes but there will/could be a cost to go to these changes. Will there be any funding to help with costs?
- Novice half ice is a good format.
- Good stepping stone to get everybody on the same page
- I believe half ice is important to get all kids to become better hockey players. I think it should be all year half ice.
- Luseland has a small rink and it is easier for us to use the blue line instead of true half-ice
- I like this. As we will have our 1st Novice team next year. I am interested in finding out how this format looks, plays out in skill development. Good stuff.
- I would agree with the changes. As a first time MHA programs, rules are good in all cases.
- Always going to be tough to convince people on cross ice and half ice. By the time they accept it, their kids are too old for it.
- I would not be disappointed to see half ice all year long.
- I think it is the proper route

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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?

- Good - 13
- I agree in the direction SHA is going.- 2
- Have to work on the AP Process for girls to girls only.
- With more thought into female hockey I feel it will grow. I see no problem with the plan so far.
- It is great for our area. Female hockey is growing every year.
- Agree to make less high-end teams – less teams good idea.
- Like the opportunity for girls

4. Male Midget Program Proposal

Please provide your opinion of the proposed Male Midget Program

Midget AAA

- Good - 7
- I agree with SHA future plans with midget.
- Good. Don't feel it can be totally based on numbers of where registered players are coming from. Still need "close to home" options.
- Might be time but can't see considerable changes as to where the teams will be.
- Not sure if SHA needs to re-evaluate the current League structure.
- I do not know enough about this. – 2
- Less teams makes better hockey.
- I hope to maintain our team in Battleford. It looks to be an important addition.
- Don't want to see too many teams lost.

Midget AA

- Good - 7
- I agree - 3
- Not sure what this will do for League. Mixed feelings.
- No opinion. Need more information. -2



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Midget 15

- Good. – 8
- I don't think this will work. Alberta is struggling to maintain teams but there is a huge difference in all kids in Midget. Good Luck.
- Interesting
- I don't believe the numbers are there. If the better 15-year old's are going to AAA and AA, what's left for this league
- Definitely not a fan of the 15-year old League. Think it would have a dramatic effect on the AA League as it is.
- No opinion. Need more information - 2
- Not a fan of the 15-year-old teams. The only reason being is that it will potentially hurt small communities putting together midget teams.
- If there is enough to play?
- I don't believe with this. Don't believe at that age will have enough players.
- Concern is that it will pull players from other teams. Just enough kids?

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

- Yes – 9
- Like it
- If it makes sense give them a probational period to see if that's where they belong.
- Don't think it is necessary.
- I agree with it. I think all Bantams should play Bantam.
- I feel players should play at appropriate levels.
- I think that this is good and should only be applied to exceptional players.
- If they are good let them play.
- Fine with it if beneficial for the kind
- I disagree. Kids just play in age group that they are supposed to.
- Yes, it should always be open if they are truly Accelerated player.

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

Mandatory use of Helmets on Coaches?

- Yes - 18
- Leave it up to Associations to decide.
- Yes, all coaches should set a good example. - 2
- Leave it up to the coaches.
- Not necessary. - 2

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- Less liability to Association.
- We protect our kids, why wouldn't coaches be required to throw on a helmet.
- Not during games!
- Figure skating and Power Skating both don't use them.

Sanctioned Exhibition Games counting towards Suspensions?

- Yes - 7
- I think this is Ok as long as the games are scheduled before the suspension. - 8
- No, but players should not play until the suspension is served.
- Not sure, might be confusing.
- They should not count. - 4
- Yes, repeat offenders get more games.
- If exhibition game doesn't count for standings, shouldn't count for suspension.
- No as I see many games getting cancelled.

Minor Provincial Playoff Modified Best of Three Series?

- Yes. - 18
- I really like this idea. This will make things a lot more interesting.
- Love modified best of three. Participated in it as a coach and like it. Please clarify if 10-minute game is separate from Game 2. Example: Major penalty in game 2 is player eligible for 10-minute game?
- Yes, and Senior should be Best of Three.
- I think this keeps teams interested in all games no matter the score.
- Works well – parental comments have been good

No icing during short-handed situations?

- No - 13
- Yes, play games with all rules
- Don't change history.
- Yes. Tough to police.
- Would make things interesting.
- Not sure.
- Yes - 4
- No unless NHL Changes
- Penalty for getting a penalty is playing shorthanded, not alleviating pressure.
- I like it old school.

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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.

- No
- I like this idea.
- Yes – 12
- Like it and if the player does come back, he should be given a game misconduct. Seen this abused too often.
- This should work as it does in the SJHL/WHL
- This is gray. The kid could be winded or hurt but bounces back quick.
- No opinion
- As long as the referee notifies coach that the player is not eligible beforehand.
- Would stop a lot of faking to try and get a major penalty for the hit
- Tough for ref to make a call on injury
- If done it should be sit 5 minutes no matter if hurt or not. To hard for refs to have to judge.
- Risk picking up an injured player.

7. Any Other Comments on any Topics?

- Make it mandatory for kids to register in their home town first.
- Mandate midget teams when towns have to combine.
- When you score on a PP don't cancel the penalty