

October 28, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: SHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM: KELLY MCCLINTOCK
GENERAL MANAGER**

RE: Zone Meeting Feedback

The following is a summary of all the communities that were present during the six rural zone meetings and the feedback received;

Communities present;

Montmartre
Kipling
Balgonie
Estevan
Weyburn
Radville
Carlyle
Bienfait
Wawota
Ponteix
Swift Current
Glentworth
Gull Lake
Hodgeville
Gravelbourg
Shaunavon
Melfort
Tisdale
Shellbrook
Prince Albert
Porcupine Plain
Star City
Hudson Bay

Balcarres
Yorkton
Melville

Langenburg
Canora
Lanigan
Wadena
Watson
Watrous
Humboldt
Colonsay
Martensville
Wynyard
Biggar
Maidstone
Meadow Lake
Elrose
Macklin
Hillmond
Rosetown
Battlefords
Unity
Edam
St. Walburg
Turtleford
Kindersley
Paradise Hill

Their feedback is as follows:

1. We want your opinion of the SHA Cross Ice “IP” Initiative.

Do you agree with making Cross Ice Mandatory for IP?

- Yes
- Yes – Good Skill Development
- Yes
- Yes, done
- Yes
- Yes, absolutely
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes

- Yes, it very much needed
- Yes, the more it is explained makes more sense
- Waiting to see first year
- Will see after this season
- Yes
- I agree with this and think it should be implemented to Novice as well. Maximize skills and ice usage
- I believe with the idea
- Yes, 100%
- Yes
- We are starting have the cross ice mats and small nets
- Yes
- Absolutely more touches, less best skater goes down the ice to score.
- Yes, it will help them focus on skill development

- Yes, gonna make our kids skills stronger
- We started this program in 2015/16 season and after one month parents really liked it. Our parents see the benefits and fully support HMHA direction with cross ice. We are running this going forward.
- 100% agree. Great for development of the basic fundamentals
- Yes
- Yes, I think it is a great idea for improved skill development
- There's good and bad, worth trying
- Absolutely
- Yes, I do
- 100% I think it will be great for hockey development
- Yes, the concept is great
- Yes, I do. It makes sense for Development
- I agree it will strengthen our players in many ways
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, it will help the weaker kids
- Yes
- Mandatory is a bit much. We have a lot of small communities surrounding us with one team. Some of their ice surfaces are smaller already. Extra Expenses for dividers is a cost that is high for their Association.
- Still on the fence about it. We only had our 1st skate today.
- Yes
- I like our traditional format. We have the ice time to utilize full ice
- Yes – Very strongly
- Agree – Tough to get some parents on board once they read the handout, they were definitely more receptive

- Yes, it is only going to increase stick handling/skating skills
- Yes, we agree with cross ice
- Originally no! However, this will see an increase in the fundamental skills for the kids
- Yes, looks like a good program!
- No, I think we have had successful IP in the last 8 – 10 years the way we have done it.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, kids enjoying it more
- I'm neutral
- Juries out yet, feeling better about it
- Yes
- Yes

How do you find the resources that have been developed by the SHA?

- Knowledgeable
- Good
- Not familiar enough
- Great, thanks
- Good
- Good
- Very informative, excellent videos
- Very good. Wish the SHA would have a pricing rebate for equipment (Bumper pads) to get started.
- Website
- Excellent

- Proactive always looking at ways to make things easier for all volunteers
- Good. Should be advertised more or somehow sent out to coaches
- Seem good
- Good
- I like the IP Mentor. I am excited to have a relationship like that.
- I believe there to be a positive for all involved
- I agree with the idea

- Very helpful. We will be relying on them and referencing them often throughout the season.
- Very good. Helpful with overcoming parent's objections.

- Very well
- Fine, we knew it was coming.
- Good
- Good, just have to convince coaches to use them.

- Very well done, informative
- Very helpful. More guidelines would be great to improve consistency from association to another
- They are very helpful, even coaches without experience can use them to help them out
- So far so good
- All gonna be helpful in making it work & buy in from kids and parents
- Excellent
- Promote our coaches to follow the SHA/CHA practice guides
- I believe they are well developed and useful to minor hockey coaches and managers. I use as presentation material (handouts) at annual coach meeting
- Would like a little more on game structure, shift length, but overall very good
- On the website, good material
- Good
- Pretty good
- Info and Research done has been good
- Very good
- Very Useful
- Good
- Very helpful. We had an intro to coach clinic where a lot of ideas were also shared
- N/A
- No complaints
- Very good
- I find them very helpful
- Very helpful
- Great
- Informative and helpful
- I found the IP booklet good but maybe a bit over some parent's heads
- Haven't used any so can't say
- Very good, they really help explain it to the parents and helps the coaches. Managers love it!
- We are hosting a jamboree, Been helpful
- Some are good, some hard to follow
- Very Good
- So far very informative
- Will provide good knowledge to coaches and associations
- They're ok with it
- Fine

Do you agree with the IP Coach Mentorship Initiative?

- Yes
- Yes, it is the best way to get it going and gain acceptance
- Yes- great resource
- Yes, and No, great for beginners
- Yes

- Yes, getting direction from an experienced person will help with transition
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, we've been working this way for 3 years
- Agreed as all coaches can learn more no matter what level or how long you have coached
- Yes
- Yes, mostly to help convince and encourage coaches/parents that it is good.
- Yes
- Yes, more knowledge is never a bad thing
- Yes
- Yes, Great Program to help new coaching hockey coaches
- Yes, the focus is on the kids and we want to make sure we are doing things right.

- Yes
- Should work very well
- Yes
- Yes
- Great idea for towns with unexperienced coaches
- Yes, developing coaches, develops kids
- Yes
- Helping our local coaches is great, we have 4 coaches on each of our IP teams
- Yes, getting the kids and parents, as well as coaches comfortable with the direction of SHA mandate is a great idea. Building better coaches t this level improves hockey @ higher level
- Yes
- I think this will help greatly with the transition to Cross Ice
- Yes, I do

- I like the idea we just haven't heard from anyone to my knowledge
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, I believe it will be quite helpful introducing this program
- Yes, any help for young coaches is always a good thing
- Yes
- If it is going to be mandatory, then I agree with having mentors to help out
- Yes, I think that would help Minor Hockey Assoc.
- Yes, sounds as though it should help a lot not only beginning players but often times beginning coaches and managers
- Yes
- Very good idea to get the IP coaches on the same page throughout the province
- In theory absolutely but will depend greatly on the mentors
- Yes – glad SHA is working to get the program going and people to buy in
- Yes
- Yes, really like that you have mentors with credentials
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- First I have really heard about it
- Yes
- I do
- As long as it is applied properly
- Don't know yet
- Yes, very much so

What suggested changes/alterations would you recommend to the initiative?

- None
- None
- Nothing as it goes forward everyone will be on board
- Cost, pricing incentives
- I would like to see more clinics for coaches on teaching skating and basic drills.
- Go with what SHA is doing
- Get this info to parents. The issues seem to be there more than coaching or kids.
- I would make this mandatory in Novice. I think we all need to work on skills rather than playing games.
- More of a structured understanding of what is expected. As there are many new coaches at this level, we need a specific rules/leagues/games to go by.
- I really can not think of any at this time

- I am excited to implement cross ice
- None
- Make sure follow up is done- we all know that we can be lazy and if kept up to date and on ones toes they will always try to do better.
- Nothing at the moment. Still pretty new may have suggestions next year.
- I have none at this time – first year involved
- Expand to Novice
- See if you could get the parents out to the ice just to see how it really makes the kids interact during the game
- None at the moment. Will see how the year goes
- None
- Not sure. Just excited to get the cross ice going in our community
- Would like to see it laid out more clearly as far as rules for some of the games. Just for explaining it to parents. Example: time of games/shifts/penalties/etc.
- It is great everything seems well thought out
- Some help with the logistics of implementing this will be helpful
- None at this moment
- None
- No changes as haven't dealt a lot with it. I think the toughest thing for coaches to learn as beginners is practice planning
- To early to tell after this year I may have an opinion
- Haven't been involved so can't say
- None
- I think it is on the right track. See it through/review
- None
- None
- None
- Should standardize rules within leagues to make easier on officials
- Nothing right now let's see how it goes for the nest couple of years

2. What are your thoughts of the SHA Season Plans for Age Groups?

- I think it would make it a lot easier for schedule and I also agree that the kids could use more skills and practice at the beginning
- Great suggestions but no way to make playoffs work starting mid to the end of March
- Positive- practice and skill development are important
- I think it is great- easier to get parents to buy in
- Good keep them that

- Agree
- Great ideas, but for some communities' date are a struggle with regards to having ice in
- I think they are good but sometimes I will progress a little faster to push the kids a little harder
- Good idea it will help volunteers learn the game and how they can improve.
- Very good idea
- Think in smaller town it has to be a coach's decision depending on type of team they have they may have 10 keeners that want to play more or reverse also where they don't want to play or travel much.
- Good
- I think its good if its followed
- I like the idea even if coaches/MHA's use it as a guide
- It gives a good idea for starting coaches a guideline
- I think it is useful. I would like a SHA representative at our MHA meeting in the Spring. To start discussion in face meeting to suggest following season plan.
- Good
- A lot of it depends on league and ice schedules some are attainable but some are tough, it still seems its shame driven, so some are still tough to change.
- Very well thought out. Tough to sell to "old School" mentality.
- Good, but I think need to get leagues to buy in.
- Some leagues think more games are better
- They make sense and are a practical guide on how to run your season. I believe in the development season very much.
- Definitely some possibilities of continued skill development first
- I like the idea of more practice at the beginning of the year. Tough part here would be trying to get the Town to open the rink earlier in the year and later in the spring to accommodate.
- I think its good just a lot depends on your community and if they are willing to put ice in earlier or not, sometime you just don't have the ice
- Supported but as a guide and phased in
- I don't agree with them. We run through lots of practices and games in Wynyard. Our league is struggling to play games as it is.
- Interesting idea. I prefer the way it is now
- We have discussed this before at the Board level, look at ways to implement but getting league on board will be tough – Centre Four league may be the easier to start with
- I agree with early season practices plan however getting the number of games suggested is difficult as regular seasons are compressed and the amount of travel required
- Agree with IP. Novice might be a little second half heavy
- Sounds very logical, maybe a tough sell to not play games right off the bat

- I think it is a good idea for Initiation to Atom
- I do see the benefits of practicing at the start of the season. I just think it will be a huge task to convince the parents in our community to buy in
- Love it! League play doesn't need to happen until after. Maybe exhibition games (a couple) as measuring readiness but focus on skills
- It's the right idea and I'm not opposed to see something like this become mandatory. Start dates could be a problem with our lack of Sept ice.
- It would be easier for the Association to follow something province wide. Takes it out of our hands puts it on the SHA
- Starting league later makes a more level playing field and attendance is more important and if serious they will attend practices and games. Hater will be the bonus for attendance.
- A development section to start the season would be nice but hard to implement unless it is on the league level.
- Like them. It's good to have something to follow as a league and team.
- I personally like games all through the season.
- I agree that practice is very important but I still like being able to play games before Christmas if teams are done early in February, then try to play more exhibition games.
- I think that it would improve our Saskatchewan player's skills and skating abilities to play the game
- Could be a few more Ex games or even inter-squad. A lot of the kids seem bored as they are all geared towards games. Might help to make development more competitive for these kids. I do understand development idea is geared away from game. Just a thought.
- Interesting, agree with it. There are too many games and too much focus on games. Kids lose interest/play in other sports and Sept/October is too early to be in the rink.
- Could work if implemented by leagues in incremental segments
- I think it is a great idea, would be hard to get buy in from others possibly
- Looks like good guidelines for new people on local associations
- I don't agree with the season plans, leave it up to the leagues
- Good for younger ages
- I think good guideline. What baseball has done, works well
- I think they are a good idea
- I like it
- My experience has shown more practice time in younger ages to be beneficial
- They are something to think about
- Can definitely see some positive within it
- Good
- Makes sense
- We have already started this in a small way with our novice group

3. What is your community doing for Cameco Hockey Day in Saskatchewan?

- All minor hockey teams are playing games in town
- Every team has a game including a Senior Team. Draws, puck tosses, raffle table, Corporate Sponsor, 50/50 and Beer Gardens
- Regularly scheduled games
- Planning on Games for every age group
- All teams play that day in Bienfait
- It's a secret

- To be discussed at next meeting
- We will be discussing and want to be a part and will have a plan
- All age groups try to play that day
- Games at home
- Not sure
- Hockey day; having all levels play a game at home
- Not sure but I will be discussing this with our Executive. Our arena is in need of some upgrades so this could be a good opportunity for our community.
- Nothing that I know of
- We would love to host next year!!
- We are holding a banquet and games on the 14th of January as we lose ice that weekend due to women's curling.
- Hockey Tournament
- We are going to apply to host for Arena upgrades possibly new arena.

- We do the entire weekend. Special games, outdoor street hockey, pancake breakfast for all WMHA Families
- Nothing
- Playing games all weekend
- Nothing planned yet
- Nothing but are starting up Humboldt Minor Hockey Day Saturday in February
- N/A we are waiting to do something big when we finally get a rink
- No plans for 2016
- Nothing
- No plans
- Full day of games – BBQ- hardest shot competition with speed gun
- Nothing
- Minor hockey Day, January 28th with all teams have a game. Teams go to other towns to play on the actual Hockey Day. We still submit our info to SHA.
- Full day scheduling of games and draws at the end of the day.
- Nothing planned
- Local hockey games
- Not sure yet.
- All ages playing games.

- All age groups, all local teams playing
- All age groups are playing in town with the exception of the midgets due to time.
- Nothing
- Not a lot
- Nothing as of yet, out AAA and Junior teams are taking part
- Not a lot
- Nothing this year
- Hosting a game in our community for each of our teams
- All minor hockey teams will play home games as well as out initiation and novice teams being involved with the Senior hockey team game.
- Hosting Atom tournament
- Tournament
- Our arena will be hopefully sporting some games
- Playing hockey
- Nothing planned
- Our Bantams playing in Hudson Bay
- We will be helping out Shellbrook with League All-Star games and scheduling

4. SHA Registration Regulations

What changes, if any, would you like to see with Registration Regulations?

- SHA to grant releases (no release)
- Maybe earlier registration to help surrounding towns with numbers
- Remove Atom AA and Pee Wee AA or need no "Black and White" the Atom and Pee Wee AA
- Look at the Tamper rule 6.04.02 because NO organization follows it as it is written
- Releases have been becoming a larger issue each year.
- 1st week of September- SHA handles releases
- Nothing
- None
- Rules on Females playing both Male and Female teams
- I like the idea of SHA taking over releases after discussion with the specific MHA
- I like the concessions for lower ages
- Atom and lower SHA can decide releases with Association contact
- Good idea to make releases go through SHA
- Have SHA handle all releases relieving pressure from Minor Hockey Associations
- SHA to decide Atom & Lower releases
- None
- Not really any problems
- None
- Releases of Atom and below be dealt with by way of SHA Concession request.

- I like the idea of concessions being reviewed and recommendations/approvals by the SHA rather than local Hockey Associations.
- None
- None
- Maps available for AA centres to determine closest centre. Would cut down on confusion
- When combining teams for provincial play not allowing an AP to play is going to hurt our program. We keep lots of our top players in Wynyard b/c of our usage of AP's
- None
- HMHA would like to see SHA make the call under our direction
- I don't have any recommendations at this time
- For SHA to look after all releases Atom age and under with communication from the minor hockey representative
- Having a set date or hard line for teams – you have a team or not
- Regarding girl's hockey – I'm all for it but as we approach more even numbers with boys we need to level the ability to go. Example: Girls leave to play and now boys can't play because the numbers aren't there
- Girls hockey should be allowed but the same rules should be with the boys after March 1 only.
- None
- I like the idea of a committee. It is very tough to say no for a release in a small town. But I think there needs to be a rule where Pee Wee's and Bantam's must play in nearest center. We are having a problem in our league with teams stacking their roster in league to win provincials.
- Have SHA step in
- Atom and down releases deal directly with SHA
- None
- All good
- None
- None
- Less involvement from parents (opinions and headaches)
- None
- More Info from SHA put out to Assoc regarding all types of releases
- Closer control of concession granted to Novice and Atom players this would go a long way to eliminating "AAA" super teams in these age divisions
- None

5. Hockey Canada Playing Rules

What is your opinion of the changes suggested?

- No for icing rule for house and younger ages
- Yes, for opposite face off
- Disagree
- In favor of Offending Zone Face Off- Bantam and Midget
- Don't recommend changing to no change icing
- No change only in older AA Teams
- Like Face off in penalty teams end.
- There are pros and cons to both suggestions
- Like no change icing and penalty face off rule. Make the rule mandating Bantam/Midget/Senior
- On the fence

- Be consistent all around
- Good idea to change so the complete province is the same
- Like face off in Offending teams zone for penalty
- Good
- Bantam AA and up, icing changes
- Icings for Bantam AA, Midget "AA" and all "AAA"
- I would like to see face offs in defensive end after offensive penalty at all ages
- I like them, especially the face-off following penalty
- Like the penalty in offending zone
- Icing Bantam AA and up
- They must be uniform to prevent confusion
- The icing could be tinkered with
- Not sure with the no change icing
- Let you know after the season

- Keep the no change icing above Bantam AA
- I like no change icing being consistent
- Would like the no change ice to be only in own zone
- I agree with face-offs in the offending teams end
- I like the face-off in offending teams zone
- Like the offending zone face-off
- None
- I like the offending team face-off rule
- No change icing.
- I like the offenders end faceoff after penalty
- I like the idea of faceoff in Dzone after a penalty. The no change icing is very tough to do in the lower age groups with the young officials. I like both rules for Senior although icing the puck is my go to move as a coach
- I like no change Icing from anywhere. I like face offs in offending zone

- No change icing from Bantam up
- I like them for older groups (icing); Penalties thru out
- Yes, for penalty face off location
- Not agree with Bantam below for post Icing change, complicated for Officials, will have coaches abusing it and feel that it will lead to more verbal abuse/opportunity to yell at officials as officials will be forced to direct player's back
- Like the face off in penalized teams end
- I like the icing left in and like having to have face off in own end.
- Could go either way
- I like the offensive end face off
- Icing – fine at older levels
- Face off/Penalty – good
- I like face off/penalty rule
- No change icing in AA
- Not sold on no change icing
- I like face off in your end after penalty
- No line changes on icing should only be for the highest levels
- All good
- Icing is good for higher age groups
- Penalties in own zone face off is good
- Like no change icing for Pee Wee or Bantam and up
- Defensive zone faceoff on penalties – Like it
- Like the face off in the penalized zone
- Like the no change icing in Bantam and Midget, not for the younger groups
- The face off idea is good
- Icing should be red line in
- Good
- All good
- I think they are good
- I don't think they are necessary at all in any minor hockey
- Standardized rules should be done easier training
- It would be nice to have it. Standardized over the whole divisions
- As discussed it would be nice to have uniformity in OT, no change icing, etc.

Are there other Playing Rules that need to be addressed?

- N/A
- Checking to the head
- No

- No change icing for Bantam AA and up
- Head Contact
- None
- No

- None at this time
- None that I can think of
- I agree with the suggestions brought up of being stricter on contact to the head
- Have three head penalties then game or combination with stick penalties
- No
- No
- Do something different with the contact to the head. Refine it somehow
- No
- No
- No
- None
- Sometimes we may be putting too much bubble wrap on kids.
- I would prefer the Head Contact to be when a player “targets” the head
- None
- I still don’t like the fighting rules in Senior Hockey
- Overtime “AA/AAA”
- As always Body Checking in my mind should be implemented from Atom up
- ? Unsure
- Head Contact, Check from Behind

6. Other Topics

Do you believe that you could create a working relationship with the local skating/figure skating club?

- Yes
- Don’t have one
- No
- Yes
- No LOL
- Yes, but unsure if there will be a club this year

- Love the idea of Power Skate instructors
- Nope but willing to try
- Yes
- Yes, and we are trying

- N/A
- We have in Swift Current
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, good idea
- Yes

- Yes, we have one
- N/A
- Yes
- We already do
- We continue to make progress in cooperation
- We do work well with them
- We encourage Can Skate to all players
- Yes – with some continued help from SHA
- We have a pretty good one with ours
- Possibly
- Probably not, could try.
- We've been trying for a couple of years
- We do have IP prac for 45 mins then they Can Skate for 45 min every Mon Wed
- Yes
- Yes
- Try but not east to do
- Yes
- Yes
- We are
- Yes, we know. Both clubs are full capacity
- Yes
- Yes
- We could do that here
- Yes
- Uphill battle for our community but it is possible to get something going
- No
- No
- No
- Yes, I would love to have Can Power
- Absolutely, I would love to see some simplified options for Power Skating Certification. Could Sha build a program on this or Skate Canada shorten theirs?
- We have a decent relationship

- No we don't have a figure skating club
- We already have, we use a skating instructor to run a couple of general sessions for our coaches benefit throughout the year

Any other comments on any topic?

- Would like to discuss rule 6.04.02
- Kelly is getting really grey and old looking
- Not at this time
- That rural Sask is different than urban- deal with calibre and skill levels and playing games
- None
- They seem to be taking hitting out of hockey
- Good meeting and informative
- Thanks for coming
- None
- Please open the floor next meeting to discuss the Habs!
- Our Junior A Players help with skating
- Coach Certification – Ref Certification – are always hard as it makes it hard for us to find coaches and refs
- Nope