

UTAH HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES April 11, 2017
SOUTH DAVIS REC. CENTER BOUNTIFUL, UT

ATTENDING in person or conference call: Shannon Woodhall, Mylisa Graham, Courtney Allen, Anna Erickson, Joe Minnock for Ryan Larsen, Jason Sims for Robyn Eyre-Long, Tilly Van Egmond for Brandon Swenson, Jeremy Ady for Chris Wendt, Gina Capps for Jared Rutter, Jeff Elwell, Mike Maero, Dana Combs, Alisha Hill, John Teynor, Ally Brickley, Alisha Hill, John Teynor, Vennice Robinson, Brian Blum, Michael Williams, Bryan Boam for JoLin Johnson, and James Soderborg

ABSENT Jennie Jenson, Richard Linton, Connie Tilk, Matt Prucka, Jason Hall, and Kerry Fain

ALSO PRESENT in person or on conference call: John Murdock-Treasurer, Tim Tate-WIHOA, Cami Murray-Scheduler, Brian Murray-Registrar, Moe van der Sluys-Oquirrh/Juan Diego, Sara Miller-Stars, Eric Capps-East, Lacy Sappington-NUI

Meeting called to order at 7:04

Approval of March Minutes: Jason S made the motion to approve the March minutes, James seconded, all approved, motion passes.

New Trustees: Shannon introduced Joe Minnock as the new Trustee for Brighton. Jason S made a motion to approve Joe as the new Trustee, Dana seconded, all approved, motion passes.

WIHOA: Tim Tate, no games since last meeting, so nothing new.

Nationals Report: Mike W. Uintah had a great time at Nationals. In their first game, their JV goalie saw over 60 shots. In their other games, Devin saw over 60 shots. The players and coaches all felt it was a great learning experience.

Jeff, Murray had no wins, but two one goal games. The players did well and the competition was good.

From both, Nationals is A LOT of work. The roster and reviewing of the roster is detailed and takes time. Both would definitely do it again and felt it was a great experience for the players.

Treasurer: John has decided not to bid for treasurer for next season due to personal reasons (letter included at end of minutes). He would suggest that we look for a treasurer that has more than a basic understanding of Quick Books. John has worked with Brian and Cami to make a spreadsheet for tracking ice time. Brian Blum wanted to thank John for all his hard work this year. Also, for all his hard work on the Taxes. John stated that the tax accountant has filed an extension for UHSH taxes, but they should be done by April 18th. The taxes on the Hixson Scholarship account have also had an extension filed. The 1099's for contracted workers should go out this week. We still owe about \$800 to WIHOA, John and Cami are working to verify the amounts and then will make the payment. We are currently about \$53,000 to the positive on the 2016-2017 budget. We will discuss more in the next meeting on how to best utilize these excess funds.

If you received an invoice for background checks, please pay those ASAP.

Stansbury still owes \$5700, Vennice commented that it is hard to ask the players for money, when they paid their fees. John suggested that they set up a plan to pay off their debt over the next two years. Yes, there is still a criminal case against the Mills.

UAHA: Jason S informed us that State Camp is this weekend, and registration is completed. There will not be walk up registration allowed.

State Board elections are on April 29th. There are four positions up for election. UAHA NOMINEES
Executive Vice President:

Jason Empey

Sean Wilmert

Youth Travel (Tier) Vice President

Kevin McClosky

Dewey Reagan

Unopposed: Girls Womens Vice President - Derrick Radke / VP of Discipline- Carol Strong

Treasurer - No nominations - will be appointed by UAHA Board of Directors.

There have been changes to the UAHA Policies and Procedures. These are also on their website and will be finalized before our next UHSH meeting.

USA Hockey has given UAHA limits to the number of tier teams allow, based on the number of USA Hockey registered players. There will now be Tier I, Tier II, UYHL Travel, UYHL DI, and UYHL DII. There was much discussion about this, and Shannon and Jason both suggested that this is not a discussion for the UHSH meeting, but if you have suggestions, attend the UAHA meeting.

There will be a Level 4 Coaching Clinic here in Utah in August. Jason will bring the specifics as soon as they are available.

UHSH needs to have a member representative to cast our votes at the State Board election on April 29th. This person will cast our votes based on our majority. Dana will send out the bios for those we will be voting for, and each trustee will send their vote to Dana by April 27th. Jeff made a motion that Dana be our UHSH member representative, Ally seconded the motion, all approved, motion passes.

Schedule: Cami thanked us for voting her in as scheduler again. Cami suggested that in order to have 14 JV games and 15 Varsity games, we would need to start JV games the week of Sept. 5 and Varsity games the week of Sept. 18. This would allow for JV to be completed by Jan 6 and Varsity to be completed by Jan. 17 with playoffs starting the first week in Feb. This will allow for no JV games during playoffs. All of this will be dependent on the number of teams and all the league and team's blackout dates.

Cami would like to have a scheduling committee that would help with oversight. Mike M. would like to know the exact purpose of the committee. That has not yet been decided.

P & P changes: We need to have a committee to review the P & P's to ensure that all new P & P's have been properly updated. There are several P & P proposals for discussion.

This rule applies only to playoff games.

30.4 Period Length

A. All periods will be no more than sixteen (16) minutes and will be stop time. The third period shall be shortened to end the game within the allotted time.

Example: If ten minutes are left in the allotted time, the third period clock shall be set at five

(5) minutes, etc.

PROPOSED CHANGE

30.4 Period Length

All periods will be no more than sixteen (16) minutes and will be stop time. ~~The third period shall be shortened to end the game within the allotted time.~~ Games will NOT be curfewed.

~~Example: If ten minutes are left in the allotted time, the third period clock shall be set at five (5) minutes, etc.~~

Jeff made a motion to approve this proposal to move to next month for a final vote, James seconded, all approved, motion passes.

Dana made several proposals: To align team declarations with the request of the scheduler to have the schedule ready four weeks in advance of season.

To make new teams more viable from the beginning

UHSB Team Divisions

27.2 Provisions

A. It is recognized that this is a framework and should be considered a living document. Changes should be incorporated to enhance the desired success of the league. As such there is no stated goal of dealing with every “possible” contingency.

2. A vote will be taken at the ~~August~~ **July** meeting to approve the Division II teams by a 2/3 majority vote.

James made the motion to approve this proposal to move to next month for a final vote, Mike W seconded, all approved, motion passes.

27.3 Declaring a Team

A. A team shall be eligible to register with UHSB once they can field a minimum of ~~11~~ **13** players. If, at any time during the season the number of eligible team members falls below 7, the team shall be disbanded. If one school has a minimum of ~~11~~ **13** players attending one particular school then they are required to field an affiliated team. An independent team may be fielded with ~~10~~ **12** players and 1 goaltender but only if approved by the UHSB board with specific boundaries. **Any affiliated team can choose to declare with fewer than 13 players at their own discretion.** All teams and their respective division are declared at the ~~July~~ **June** trustee meeting.

After much discussion about the number of players that would make a viable team, James made the motion that this be changed to 15 Varsity players, there was no second.

Dana amended this proposal to 15 players, James seconded. Mike M reminded us that there will always be unintended consequences to P&P changes. All approved, motion passes.

27.5 Varsity Division II

1. Eligibility for Varsity Division II will be at the discretion of the trustees subject to the following conditions: 12/13/2016 Rev03 UHSB Policy and Procedure Guide Page 47 a. Any varsity team that wishes to compete in Varsity Division II must declare the desire before the trustee meeting in ~~July~~ **June** of each year; submit a roster to the eligibility committee.

Bryan Boam made the motion to approve this proposal to move to next month for a final vote, Dana seconded, 16 approved, 2 opposed, motion passes.

27.6 Junior Varsity Division

A. Composition

3. JV teams will be allowed to combine for the season based on board approval. The two (2) teams wishing to combine have to declare their intent at the ~~July~~ **June** board meeting.

It was decided to leave this as written. JV teams that wish to combine will declare their intent in the July meeting.

Shannon brought the proposal for Playoffs:

PURPOSE: To give an opportunity to all ice arenas in Utah to be the host of the 2017-2018 UHSH playoffs. This will help the UHSH be an even better experience by allowing UHSH to work in conjunction with the rink and by the rink taking ownership of being the host. We want the UHSH playoffs to be important to the rink they are held at and for the rink to have the desire to be a part of the experience.

PROPOSAL: To send out a proposal request to all the rinks in Utah with the following information, set a date for the deadline. The UHSH board can then review the proposals and decide the best option for the 2017-2018 playoffs to take place. Proposals would include the following requests:

1. Would your rink be willing to offer ice during the playoffs at a discounted rate? If so, what would the rate be?
2. Would your rink be willing to guarantee ice during the whole 2017-2018 UHSH playoffs, to be held in February?
3. Would your rink be willing to guarantee early ice spots, starting at 530 pm during the 2017-2018 playoffs?
4. Would your rink be willing to have concessions stands open during all playoff games and have them remain open for the duration of the game?
5. Would your rink be willing to donate a room for the UHSH Board Members to utilize during the UHSH playoffs?

UHSH wants the UHSH playoffs to be a great event for the rink and the players. What, if any, other things can your rink offer to make the UHSH playoffs a great event for the UHSH league and the rink?

Jason made the motion to approve this proposal to move to next month for a final vote, Alisha seconded, all approved, motion passes.

Shannon reminded us that any proposed changes to the P & P's need to be submitted soon if we want them included for next season.

Nominations: It is time to nominate persons for the UHSH Executive Board. President, VP's, and Secretary need to have nominations. Chris W will be leaving as DCI trustee and Connie will not accept a nomination, Dana asked to not be nominated for Secretary as her travel for work has increased.

Sara Miller was nominated for secretary, she accepted this nomination, Jason made a motion to approve Sara as a nominee for secretary, Ally seconded the motion. There were no other nominations for secretary.

Bryan Boam nominated Ally for Independent VP, she refused the nomination and nominated Mike W as the Independent VP. Ally made the motion to approve Mike as a nominee for Independent VP, James seconded. There were no other nominations for Independent VP.

Jeff was nominated for the Affiliated VP. Jason made a motion to approve Jeff as a nominee for Affiliated VP, Ally seconded the motion. Mylisa Graham was also nominated for Affiliated VP, and declined the nomination. There were no other nominations for Affiliated VP.

Shannon was nominated for the President, Mike W made a motion to approve Shannon as the nominee for President, Jason S seconded the motion.

Since there is only one nominee for each position, Jason S made a motion to set aside the bylaws and vote to approve all nominations for the executive board tonight. Dana seconded the motion, 17 approved and one opposed, the motion passes.

Proposals: Webmaster will be voted on in May. All RFP's have been distributed to trustees. We currently have no nominations for Treasurer, so we will accept RFP's until April 30. Both positions will be reviewed and voted on in May.

Proposed eligibility: Gina Capps presented her proposal to align UHSH eligibility with UHSAA eligibility (included at the end of the minutes). She explained that Kathleen Smith, President of UAHA, and Kelly Grover, from USA Hockey Rocky Mountain District, approve of this proposal. This proposal would still allow teams to be eligible to play at Nationals. When questioned about this, she stated that Kelly Grover was fine with the proposal as written and that charter schools, online schools, private schools, and home schools are all eligible to play with their neighborhood teams and the teams will still be eligible to play at Nationals. Jeff requested that Gina obtain a letter from USA Hockey stating this fact. When it was noted that the current USA Hockey rule book does not include charter schools as eligible to play for neighborhood schools, she said she was aware of that, but that Kathleen and Kelly both agreed that charter schools should be included to play with neighborhood schools because they have nowhere else to play. When it was made very clear that they did have a team to play for, she said most players just don't play if they have to play for an independent team. Gina also suggested that students that attend private schools should also play with their neighborhood schools, but they may not be eligible for Nationals. After much debate and discussion, Tilly made the motion that we support the proposal without including the private schools, pending an approval notice from USA Hockey that as written, the teams would be eligible for Nationals. Mike M seconded the motion. Eight trustees approved, 10 opposed. The motion failed.

From the Floor: Shannon suggested that we get a PO Box for UHSH so that we do not have to change the address every time there is a change in the treasurer.

Ally let us know that her son Daniel was named an All American and named to the Men's National Team.

Moe asked about team declarations, do we know of any teams that will not be affiliated next year?

Brian M discussed some information from ESPN Sports Radio about advertising as a way to grow youth hockey in Utah. He will send out information for us to review.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30

Letter from John:

I had intended to "re-enlist" but of a sudden got a strong impression that was not to be, despite multiple attempts to convince myself otherwise!

It was a nearly equally strong impression I got that impelled me to apply last year, even though in looking at my business and other commitments doing so was on the verge of ludicrous. The amount of time spent reconstructing the books, working with scheduling challenges, and coordinating the ad books (even with terrific assistance and efficiency from Team Murdock) easily pushed that over the edge to ludicrous! I can see now, however, that given my prior trustee experience, and having done similar reconstructions of books for other organizations, I needed to serve in that capacity to help an organization that I have appreciated being a part of. The right individual at a needful time was available, and I'm pleased I could help.

The books now are in terrific shape. There are processes developed in the bookkeeping realm, and hopefully more efficiently so in the scheduling area, that will make the job far more manageable and enjoyable. I believe that even the ad books - if the trustees will deliver ads and payments on time and we get a new printer - will be much more reasonable to manage.

Of course everything being so much better in place makes it all the more difficult to leave, but I must trust my mind and heart.

Dear UHSH Trustees:

I have attached a copy of a proposal for UHSH to align more closely with UHSAA in regards to eligibility of players attending online high school, a charter school, a private school, or home school to be eligible to play for their neighborhood high school affiliated team. After careful consideration for UHSH unique needs and demographics we devised this proposal to align closely with UHSAA while making some changes to better suit UHSH needs.

The purpose of the proposal is to help further grow and develop Utah High School Hockey. The path to growing high school hockey in Utah goes through growing and supporting affiliated teams. I apologize for how lengthy the proposal is. This was necessary to provide adequate explanation of anticipated action, oversight, and how this change will affect affiliated Division 1 teams eligibility for the USA Hockey High School National Tournament.

With the proper checks and balances in place our affiliated teams will remain eligible for the National Tournament. In addition, this proposal will allow the growth of affiliated teams, helping to support their numbers, and allow players to play for neighborhood schools in whose boundaries they reside. This proposal may eventually help affiliated teams to achieve the goal of moving in to Division 1 by helping to strengthen their numbers.

The hope is to also grow UHSH hockey numbers. Currently there are some players who choose not to play UHSH. There are a variety of reasons players make this choice, however, some players choose not to play because they would like to be part of the affiliated team in whose boundaries they reside, while attending school online, at home, at a charter school, or a private school. UHSH current bylaws do not allow players to make this choice to play for their neighborhood school.

As you may remember, permission was asked to form an exploratory committee to explore the need and desire for this change while carefully assuring our UHSH affiliated teams will remain eligible to play in the USA Hockey National Tournament. The committee has determined there is enough interest and desire to make this change from several involved in UHSH including trustees, players, parents, and coaches.

This proposal had representation and input from several UHSH trustees and coaches, including affiliated and independent trustees. We also consulted with Kathleen Smith UAHA President and Kelly Grover our current UHSH District High School Representative. They were instrumental in helping us to clarify many questions and to help us put guidelines in place to assure we maintain our Division 1 affiliated teams eligibility for nationals.

I hope you will give this proposal consideration.

Sincerely,

Exploratory Committee:

Mylisha Graham, Alta Hockey Trustee

Jared Rutter, East Hockey Trustee

Anna Erickson, Bountiful Independent Hockey Trustee

Connie Tilk, Olympus Hockey Trustee

Gina Capps, Parent Volunteer East Hockey

ACTION

Proposal to change in Utah High School Hockey (UHS) Manual from aligning charter schools, home schooled students, online students, private school students from currently playing on Independent Utah High School Hockey Teams to playing for the High School in which boundaries they reside.

Purpose: To grow and develop Utah High School Hockey Affiliated Teams.

Background:

This proposal has been prepared in response to concerns that UHS Guidelines for inclusion of charter schools, online high schools, private schools, and home schoolers should align as most other State High School Hockey programs do, with their respective High School Activities Association.

The change requested affects UHS Policy and Procedure 18.1 Section C under Player Eligibility which states:

The individual is a full time high school student enrolled at a three or four year accredited Utah high school which does not sponsor an affiliated (pure) team or where insufficient participants are available to field an affiliated (pure) team shall play for an independent team,

and to change UHS Policy and Procedure 18.7 Players Registered in a Home School Program:

“charter school students will play on independent teams” to stating instead that, charter school students will participate on the hockey team for the affiliated public high school which is the permanent residence of the parent/guardian of the student is located.

Utah High School Athletic Association (UHSAA) bylaws reflect inclusion of all charter schools, home school students, online students, and private school students “to play varsity sports at the High School whose boundary is that in which the permanent residence of the parent/guardian of the student is situated.” Accordingly, this rule would allow players to participate on a Utah public high school team within their neighborhood, as defined by the rule, if the school they are attending does not offer that particular sport. Re-aligning UHS player eligibility as proposed results in consistency among high school sports across Utah, and supports the development and sustainability of Affiliated Utah High School Hockey programs. This change would allow affiliated schools to remain “pure” and fully eligible to play in Nationals per USA Hockey guidelines.

The only exception is If a private school or public charter school offers a single varsity sport of any kind, the student attending such a school is eligible to play for their neighborhood school, however, that student **may not** participate in USA Hockey High School National Tournaments if their team should win the invitation to represent Utah at the National Tournament. Currently, this affects those teams and players participating in the Division 1 Affiliated State Championship.

See section IX District Playoffs and National Championships High School Varsity Division and/or Prep School Division-Varsity Division (male and female teams)

Following are the definitions to be used for each Division: High School/ Prep School Division 1: Formal high school and prep school teams or non-varsity teams consisting of full time students attending the same high school or prep school **or full time students that are eligible to play sanctioned varsity sports at that school.**

UHS Board Strategic Plan:

This proposal supports the following imperative and strategies in the Strategic Plan:

1. To continue to grow Utah High School Hockey.
2. To send an affiliated (pure) team to represent Utah in the USA Hockey National High School Tournament who are in compliance with USA Hockey Guidelines.
3. To align with UHSAA vision for High School participation and eligibility requirements, while remaining in compliance with rules set forth by USA Hockey for participation in High School Nationals.

4. Preparing High School Hockey to be adopted by UHSAA as a recognized sport in Utah public high school.

Anticipated Action:

It is proposed that the Utah High School Board of Trustees consider approving this change.

Proposed Change:

The proposed action aims to amend the UHSB Eligibility Policy, 18.1 and 18.7 specifically and related UHSB procedures to align directly with Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) player eligibility requirements for participating in high school activities.

The eligibility of the players includes full-time students enrolled in grades 9-12 of the following schools, which do not provide a hockey program to their students:

public charter schools
home schools
online schools
district alternative schools
private schools

The players who attend such schools may participate in the hockey program of their local public high school in which boundary their permanent residence is located. **This rule only pertains to students whose schools do not offer a hockey team affiliated with UHSB.** If the neighborhood school within whose boundaries the player lives does not offer a hockey team the player will play on a UHSB designated independent team.

Oversight – The Utah High School Hockey Board of Trustees and/or Eligibility Committee are the entities designated to monitor, review, and provide general supervision of player eligibility and boundary designations.

A. A student establishes initial eligibility to play at the high school in the boundary the student resides upon the first day of attendance at any high school or Junior High by providing to the Trustee of the Utah High School Hockey Team:

1. Evidence of current school enrollment at a charter school, online school, home school, or private school in the form of a copy of current school year registration and/or transcript validating current attendance. Evidence of current enrollment at the school shall be validated at the beginning of the school year and before playoffs begin.
2. Evidence of residing within the boundaries of the public school is the responsibility of the student/player and their parents or legal guardian to show proof of address. A utility bill, copy of paid property taxes, rental agreement etc. will suffice. Transfer Rules outlined by UHSB Bylaws will apply.

B. Eligibility to participate in Nationals; Applicable Only to UHSB Division 1 Affiliated Teams

1. Upon registering for UHSB at the beginning of each season parents of any student attending public charter schools, and private schools will fill out an additional section on the registration form which reflects the following:

If your player attends a private school or charter school with a single varsity sport your child will be ineligible to play in the USA Hockey High School Nationals Tournament, should his/her team win the invitation to represent Utah in the National Tournament. I understand this is USA Hockey Rules and agree to these terms. This does not apply to Division 2 or Independent Teams.

2. In the event the player attends a school with at least one varsity sport, while playing hockey for a Division 1 affiliated team, the trustee of the affiliated team shall notify the player and the player's parent or guardian, and head coach of the player's ineligibility for the high school hockey national tournament. Notification shall be given before the beginning of the

season. A player who is determined to be ineligible for the High School National Tournament, due to participation on an affiliated team where the player is not a student shall remain eligible for regular season participation on a UHS team.

3. The team trustee shall verify the full-time status of every player on their team. This shall occur prior to the first game of the season as requested by the UHS Eligibility Committee. Full-time student is defined in the UHS guidelines.

4. The team trustee shall provide the team roster to the State Registrar who will then verify eligibility of all players. If a player is ineligible the player and his/her parent or guardian will be notified; this player will be taken off the roster.

C. A player may appeal their eligibility for a team to the UHS Eligibility Committee. The Eligibility Committee, in the event of unique or extenuating circumstances or unusual hardship on the player or family, may choose to waive the boundary rule when it is in the best interest of the player.

Grandfather Clause

A 2016-17 UHS player currently rostered on an independent team will be given the option to stay on the independent team or move to his/her neighborhood affiliated team. The player must declare for one of these options at the beginning of the 2017-18 season. Once they declare they will remain on this team for the duration of their high school eligibility.

1. All new players or incoming freshman will be eligible for their neighborhood affiliated school team only.

2. If a player's boundary neighborhood school does not field a hockey team, that player will play for an Independent Team.

3. If at the beginning of each new season a school loses their affiliated status, the player will be eligible and shall play for an independent team.

4. If at the beginning of each new season a neighborhood school forms an affiliated team, any player currently playing on an independent team will be given the option to play on the newly affiliated team in whose boundaries they reside. Once they declare they will remain on this team for the duration of their high school eligibility.