

# USA Field Hockey Club Task Force

## Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2012

### **I. Call to order**

Simon Hoskins called to order the regular meeting of the USA Field Hockey Club Task Force at 9:00 PM EST on December 12, 2012.

### **II. Roll call**

The following members were present: Brian Bernatchez, Karen Collins, Tony Gulotta, Simon Hoskins, Richard Kentwell, Kathi Liszewski, Steve Locke, Miki Osherow, Emily Thomas, Nigel Traverso, Barbara Weinberg. The following members were not present: Wayne Gersoff, Lauren Powley.

### **III. Agenda**

#### **1) Festival review**

##### a) Review survey feedback

- i) **Playing Surface** – This received a 4.6 out of 5, most seemed satisfied with the playing surface.
- ii) **Umpire Rating** – This received a 3.74, which was up from last year. This was attributed to an increase in umpire managers, less games per umpire and additional training.
- iii) **Hotel Rating** – This received a 4.04, which is down from last year. This was attributed to hotels having less of a resort feel.
- iv) **Parking Rating** – This received a 3.96, which is down from last year. The parking issue was acknowledged and addressed by USAFH. Changes were made after the first day which resolved much of the parking issues.

##### b) **Review pool policy** – The group discussed the below options of pool formations and decided that the majority liked the 2012 method and would try again for 2013. There was a concern that the college coaches did not like to see the less competitive games but this was not confirmed. It was suggested that teams were given a choice if they were to play in a top pool or a geographical pool but this would have been administratively difficult.

- i) 2010: top teams in pool A (according to previous Festival record)
- ii) 2011: geographical basis, equalized pools
- iii) 2012: equalized by Rankings (using 'snake' format), then took into account geography
- iv) 2013 Recommendation: use 2010 format (according to Rankings), then take into account geography

#### **2) U14 NIT Entry Process Suggestions** – The group agreed that there is a need to hold U14 qualifiers as the below options all have drawbacks. The group agreed to that the best of the below was to use the U16 and U19 qualifiers to select teams. This would ensure teams would play hard through the placement rounds of the qualifiers.

- a) The 6 pool winners from 2012 have automatic entry, then first come first served via Fedex/UPS (as per previous years)
- b) First come, first serve as used last year.
- c) Mail in lottery method.
- d) Award U14 teams based on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place U16 and U19 qualifiers. Additional spots can be filled with clubs from 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers, with no more than 2 teams per club.

# USA Field Hockey Club Task Force

## Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2012

### 3) **Regional Club Championship/National Club Championship**

- a) The group recommended regions with 1-6 clubs participating receive 1 NCC spot.
- b) The group recommended regions with 7-16 clubs participating receive 2 NCC spots.
- c) This provides for a max of 12 clubs going to NCC. The remaining clubs would be awarded to the highest non qualifier from the RCCs in order of preference by the most number of clubs participating. This would allow for a set waitlist.
- d) RCC rosters and NCC rosters must stay the same unless a team is filling a spot for a team who dropped out. The group agreed that roster size of 20 was acceptable.

### IV. **Outstanding Business**

1. Review the current Disney Registration Process. This will be tabled until after Disney.
2. Review and possibly change the number of players required to enter a team into Festival.
3. Any topics submitted by the task force between meetings.

### V. **Next Meeting**

No further meetings schedule

### VI. **Adjournment**

Richard Kentwell adjourned the meeting at 10:45 PM EDT.

Minutes submitted by: Kathi Liszewski

Minutes approved by: *Emily Thomas*