

USA Field Hockey Club Task Force

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2011

I. Call to order

Laura Darling called to order the regular meeting of the USA Field Hockey Club Task Force at 8:30 PM EDT on May 24, 2011.

II. Roll call

Laura Darling conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Brian Bernatchez, Karen Collins, Lauren Cornthwaite, Laura Darling, Tony Gulotta, Simon Hoskins, Richard Kentwell, Karen Klassner, Kathi Liszewski, Steve Locke, Andy Muir, Nigel Traverso and Larry Zappone. Tina Reinprecht was not in attendance.

III. Items Discussed

1. **Festival Survey Results** – The below questions were revised and the group complete a new survey on these topics. The group's vote did not change but the number in favor did change.
 - **Player Registration** –The group voted again in favor of one registration period, but this vote resulted in a majority of 7-2 in favor. Nigel raised the question if USAFH could legally restrict member movement from one club to another. Steve researched this with other NGB Directors and this is a common practice in other sports as well. Steve and Simon confirm that USAFH is legally able to enforce this policy.
 - **Eligibility** –We voted on this issue with the change of a 15 player minimum and the group voted unanimously in favor of the new minimum. **No further discussion was needed on this issue.**
 - **Registration Period** –The group voted again, with the choices being January, February, March or April. The group again voted in favor of leaving the registration period in April. There were 6 votes for April, 1 vote for March and 2 votes for February. **No further discussion was needed on this issue.**
2. **Festival Legacy Working Document** – Some Task Force members raised a concern about the required numbers for the proposed registration opportunities. They felt it was a little high. A suggestion was made to slightly reduce those numbers to a new range. The suggested new range was 15 – 75 members = 1 RO, 76-150 members = 2 ROs and > 151 members = 3 ROs. Obviously these would only apply if space permitted. Another suggestion was made that after the 1st RO the remaining spots be allocated via a lottery. The group decided a vote was needed on this. Results will be reported with the agenda for the next call.
3. **Demand > Available Space** – KC wanted to know what the group thought the procedure should be if during the 1st RO period more clubs apply than there are available spaces. In the interest of time the group will be solicited for their thoughts on this topic and the results will be provided to the Task Force with the agenda for the next meeting.

USA Field Hockey Club Task Force

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2011

4. **Policy Enforcement and Consequences** – Some Task Force members felt their needed to be documented enforcement and consequence procedures in place for violations such as clubs who enter USAFH tournament and do not have enough players for the event, clubs who use players that are registered with another club, clubs who use coaches from another club and clubs who make up fictitious names to gain additional teams into USAFH events. In the interest of time the group will be solicited for their thoughts on this topic and the results will be provided to the Task Force with the agenda for the next meeting.
5. **National Club Championship** – We need are working through the workflow of the event and trying to cover all the logistics to ensure a high performance like event with all regions being represented and all teams having a fair opportunity to attend. We did not get through all the items on the agenda and will continue the discussion on our next call. The group did want to vote on one of the topics before proceeding, if a club should be allowed to have more than one team attend a qualifier. The results of this will be provided to the Task Force with the agenda for the next meeting.
 - A. **Define the regions** – The groups seems to be in agreement that we will follow the current USAFH regions. The current proposal is 16 teams from each age group advancing to the NCC so we would have 11 teams, 1 from each region. The other 5 teams are yet to be decided. The group discussed giving the larger regions 2 teams, such as region 5 have a Region 5A and 5B or maybe 5 South and 5 North or 5 East and 5 West. This will be further discussed on our next call.

Region	States	# Clubs	# Athlete
1 - Northeast	VT, ME, NH	8	489
2 - Massachusetts	MA	9	834
3 - Atlantic	CT, RI	7	429
4 - New York	NY	17	1,283
5 - Pennsylvania	PA	50	2,956
6 - New Jersey	NJ	20	1,580
7 - Chesapeake	DE, MD, DC	38	2,329
8 - South	VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, AR, MS, LA	28	1,780
9 - Great Lakes	MI, OH, IN, KY, WV, TN	10	1,390
10 - Central	WI, IL, MO, KS, IA, TX, OK, CO, ND, SD, MN, NE	11	991
11 - West	CA, OR, WA, AZ, ID, MT, NM, WY, UT, NV	32	1,079

- B. Should the Qualifying tournaments lead directly to the NCC tournament or should there be a sectional tournament to ensure the best of the best make it to the NCC?

USA Field Hockey Club Task Force

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2011

C. **Qualifiers** – The group decided unanimously that qualifiers should be regional. I have modified the below items from last week's agenda accordingly.

- How are teams selected/placed - Open to all teams or based on previous performance?
- Will there be a limit on multiple teams from the same club?
- Will regions with a high interest have multiple qualifiers?
- Will regions be combined if there are not enough teams to hold a qualifier?
- What is the minimum and maximum number of teams per qualifier?
- Will the number of teams advancing from a qualifier depend on the number of teams entered and if so what is the ratio?
- When should qualifiers be held?
- What type of playing surface should be used?
- Will there be a requirement for top level umpires?

D. **National Club Championship**

- How many teams should qualify?
- How will the number of teams from each Region calculated?
- What type of playing surface should be used?
- How will pools be assigned to ensure equality?
- Will the roster have to be the same as at qualifiers?

E. **Bid Process for Hosting Qualifiers** - how is this handled if using multiple sites in an area - ie Temple, Drexel, Ursinus, West Chester. There are not many sites with enough turf that can accommodate full field play for a 16 team qualifying tournament

F. **Age Groups** - U15, U17, U19 or U14, U16, U19

IV. Outstanding Business

1. Complete Survey 3 regarding new questions related to the Festival working document and regarding number of teams a club can enter in a regional qualifier for NCC.
2. Submit proposed changes to the Legacy working document. This cannot be completed until the above has been finalized.
3. Finish working through the above NCC topics.

V. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 31st at 8:30 PM EDT

VI. Adjournment

Laura Darling and Richard Kentwell adjourned the meeting at 9:40PM EDT.

Minutes submitted by: Kathi Liszewski

Minutes approved by: *Laura Darling and Richard Kentwell*