

1. Call to order

Miki Osherow called to order the regular meeting of the USA Field Hockey Club Advisory Task Force at 8:00 PM EST on February 17, 2015.

2. Roll call

The following members were present: Steve Locke, Emily Thomas, Karen Collins, Tyler Parthemer, Bree Gillespie, Plunket Beirne, Yasser Hayat, Miki Osherow, Joan Johnson Lauren Powley and Lynn Hoepfner. The following members were not present: Simon Hoskins.

3. Agenda

- Disney Survey Results
 - USA Field Hockey compared this year's Disney survey results to the 2014 National Hockey Festival survey results:
 - Festival received better organization ratings
 - Festival received better merchandise ratings
 - Festival received better atmosphere ratings
 - Festival received better hotel accommodation ratings
 - Committee members prefer Global JBS services rather than Disney Sports Travel citing that the requirements of Disney Sports Travel are cumbersome and take them away from their coaching duties of the team.
 - Disney received better playing surface ratings
 - Disney received better spectator viewing ratings
 - Overall, Festival received a better rating for Value for Money which can be attributed to the fact that Disney is focused on their parks, stores, hotels, etc and Festival is solely focused on field hockey.
- President's Day Showcase
 - Registration System
 - Yasser and Joan suggested a registration system which gives preference to long-standing clubs (percentage given to old clubs/ then new clubs).
 - Bree, Miki, Lynn, and Lauren suggested giving all (new/old) clubs same opportunity by using the existing Festival system.
 - All agreed the process should be easy for the customer with no limitations such as internet connection.
 - Joan suggested an affiliation transfer deadline to stop club hopping right before an event.
 - Tournament Format
 - Members suggested a pure showcase environment free of competitive prizes such as awards.
 - Coaches like knowing schedules before, crossovers deter this.
 - Discussion surrounding if rankings should be awarded to clubs if the event was purely for showcasing their athletes.

- Members suggested the idea of an “A Pool” made up of the best clubs in the country and so on to fill all pools. USA Field Hockey reminded the committee members this was the process for Festival around 5 years ago and clubs complained that college coaches only attended the top pool games. Members suggested having a combine to solve that issue.
 - Any other questions
 - Age groups should play in waves.
- NIT
 - Schedules
 - Being sent to Committee Members first for review.
 - How we aim to better service our clubs, athletes, parents, college coaches, etc:
 - Pools in waves so less people coming into the space.
 - 4 courts on each side, so more space. Court length is 115-118 ft x 70 ft.
 - More concessions for food.
 - A new vending area, more space for camping.
 - Water hydration stations.
 - Suggestion for more warm up area.
 - Any other questions
- Festival
 - Rebalancing of the # of U16 teams and U19 teams (96 and 96)
 - May limit clubs because 16s can play up to U-19s.
 - Registration beginning in March with affiliation report.
 - Any other questions

4. Any Other Business

Disney club rankings need to be finalized.

5. Next Meeting

After NITs, possibly mid-March

6. Adjournment

Miki Osherow adjourned the meeting at 9:11PM EST.

Minutes submitted by: Emily Thomas