

# Rink Hockey Conference Call

Tuesday July 30, 2019

8:57 pm PST

## Attendance:

**Committee Members:** Jim Jost (Chairman, Treasurer, and 2019 Team USA Men's Manager - Voting), Pat Ferguson (Committee Member, and 2019 Team USA Men's Coach - Voting), Scott Ferguson (Athlete Representative, and 2019 Team USA U19 Coach - Voting), Tom Hughes (2019 USA Team Ladies Manager, and At-Large Board of Directors – Non-Voting), Bryce Robinson (Regional Rep. - Voting), Duane McMinn (Chairman of Referee Committee - Voting), Rachel Trussell (Female Representative - Voting), and Rodrigo Calvo-Leni (Secretary, Athletic Representative, and 2019 Team USA U19 Manager - Voting)

**Non-Committee Members:** Kylie Hughes (Rink Hockey Athlete Representative to the Board of Directors – Non-Voting), and Brent Benson (USARS Staff Advisor – Non-Voting)

**Invited Participants:** Jimmy Trussell, Tiago Alfonso

## 1. Elections Proposal

1.1. There's no "rink hockey" position on the board, it's "at large", so anybody to take it. Has to be a team USA member.

1.1.1. Brent Benson is confirming why other "at large" positions state "Inline Hockey Expertise" or "Derby Expertise".

1.2. Board Athlete Rep is voted on by eligible voting athletes.

1.3. Add a timeline to make sure we have enough time to review applications.

1.4. Will be treated as confidential and applications will not be shared with the at large community.

## 2. Discussion on hockey cards and money owed for players at nationals

2.1. Confirmed that all players at nationals are eligible to participate even if website is not updated.

2.1.1. Some website issues make it seem like there are some players at nationals without cards.

2.1.2. Eligibility list needs to be updated regularly and be correct.

2.1.3. Brent Benson will follow up with RSports.

2.1.3.1. Eligibility list is currently updated manually every Friday.

## 3. Team USA Applications

3.1. Applications for rink hockey 2019-2020 team USA staff for men, women, and U19 are due Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.

3.2. Announcements will be made during the tournament.

3.3. Committee will likely have 2 weeks after the Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to make recommendations.

3.3.1. Final approval on positions will be made at the fall Board Of Directors meeting.

## 4. Development Camps

4.1. Jimmy Trussell

4.1.1. Part of committee long term goals

4.1.1.1. One of the goals is to develop coaches, and Jimmy believes we missed a bit on player development.

4.1.1.1.1. Need to start grassroots movement to develop younger talent.

4.1.1.1.2. Recommend self funded programs throughout the nation. On going national team development program

4.1.1.1.2.1. Players will pay for camps, which will also rotate around rink hockey hot spots throughout the nation. Potentially charge \$100/player, which will provide funds to bring in talent from overseas to train.

4.1.1.1.3. Coach's training can be included simultaneously as players.

4.1.1.1.4. Program will allow players to take drills back to their clubs.

4.1.1.1.5. Need to develop skilled players and look at the long-term goals.

4.1.1.1.6. This training program is not a world team development program. Goal of the program is to develop kids so that they are ready for world team once their time comes.

- 4.1.1.1.7. Camps will be in the East Coast, West Coast, and Texas about 3 times a year.
- 4.1.1.1.8. Ultimately, our committee should be responsible for the plan of development, and use the international talent and knowledge to help.
- 4.1.1.1.9. Biggest issues in US Rink Hockey is youth development.

#### 4.2. Tiago Alfonse

- 4.2.1. Suggest better marketing for Rink Hockey in the US. Lived in the US for 2 years before finding hockey here, even though he searched. Visibility of US Rink Hockey is low.
- 4.2.2. Believes this country is big enough, that there are players from throughout the world that are here and do not know there is Rink Hockey available.
- 4.2.3. Must start working with the youth to improve the future.
- 4.2.4. Knows people who would love to come for summer tournaments, who may be retired from professional Rink Hockey and live throughout the world who would be competitive with US World Class category.
  - 4.2.4.1. What are the possibilities of bringing international teams into our nationals?
    - 4.2.4.1.1. Would like to bring his team from Lisbon to participate at nationals.
    - 4.2.4.1.2. International guest teams will help improve the level.
      - 4.2.4.1.2.1. Time constraints limit how many extra teams we can invite. Would look into possibilities like having an adult only tournament.
  - 4.2.4.2. Spreading the word of Rink Hockey in the US is crucial, as it's currently too hard for international players living here to find teams.
    - 4.2.4.2.1. Recommends looking into sponsorships with a hotel and dormitory, which will help international teams to visit.

#### 5. Meeting with Daniel Martinazzo member of World Skate Rink Hockey Technical Commission

- 5.1. Meeting was requested by Daniel Martinazzo, and attended by Jim Jost, Pat Fergusson, and Rodrigo Calvo-Leni during the 2019 Challenger's Cup of the 2019 World Roller Games in Terrassa, Spain.
- 5.2. Can help send a trainer from Argentina as long as we cover housing and food.
  - 5.2.1. About 3 times/year.
  - 5.2.2. We must come up with what we want out of our training camps, and they will run the training.
  - 5.2.3. Ongoing online training between camps between players, coaches, and trainers, so that the camps are not repeats and all keep improving.
  - 5.2.4. Suggestion to have Jimmy Trussell to come up with what we want training help on.
  - 5.2.5. Training will be for players and coaches.
  - 5.2.6. Similar to Jimmy's proposal above.
    - 5.2.6.1. Suggestion to charge players, but free of charge for coaches so that they can learn.
    - 5.2.6.2. Alternative, provide incentive for coaches that no fee will be charged if they bring kids with them to the camp.
  - 5.2.7. Camps can be used for promotion. Can make a professional video of the camps.
    - 5.2.7.1. Live stream the camps?
  - 5.2.8. Kids should be the focus, but all should be invited. All ages and genders.
  - 5.2.9. **Motion 1** - Duane – Jimmy to write up a proposal regarding training camp plans.
    - 5.2.9.1.1. Seconded by Pat.
    - 5.2.9.1.2. Unanimously passed.
    - 5.2.9.1.3. Jimmy will provide a proposal by the September committee meeting.
- 5.3. Club Pan American Games in San Juan.
  - 5.3.1. Late Oct/Early Nov.
    - 5.3.1.1. Argentinian federation May be able to help with housing for visiting team. Important for committee to contact him as early as possible if any teams are interested.
    - 5.3.1.2. Tiago will be in Argentina by then and can play for keeper for any US team interested.
    - 5.3.1.3. Committee will spread the word to see if clubs are interested. Need a real commitment in order to obtain the Argentinian federation's help.
      - 5.3.1.3.1. Will be announced during nationals and email blast.

**5.3.1.3.2.** Team should be in contact with committee to go to the tournament. Argentinean federation wants communication to go through our Committee in order to start a partnership.

**5.3.1.3.3.** Committee would like a commitment by September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to begin communication with Argentinian federation.

#### **5.4. North American Partnership**

**5.4.1.** Allow Canadian and Mexican teams to participate in USARS tournaments

**5.4.1.1.** Could we lift the 3 sanctioned tournaments to allow them to come to nationals? Or they have their own sanctioned events in their country.

**5.4.1.2.** Other sports invite teams from other countries as long as they're part of their federation

**5.4.1.2.1.** Mexico federation doesn't recognize rink hockey

**5.4.1.2.2.** Could we make an international membership card?

### **6. Andorra Exchange Program**

**6.1.** High Performance Programme with NACE schools

**6.1.1.** Partnership with FC Barcelona for Rink Hockey.

**6.1.2.** School team will play in the Catalan Rink Hockey league.

**6.1.3.** Follow NCAA athlete and academic standards.

**6.1.4.** Estimated €20,000/year. Costs cover school, training, food, and housing.

**6.1.5.** School has dieticians so that athletes eat well.

**6.1.6.** School is willing to work with a US student's current school to make sure their academic goals align.

**6.1.7.** School has SAT tutors.

### **7. Trouble Getting Amateur Cards**

**7.1.** Can we do a multiple year armature card with a potential cheaper rate if you buy a 3-year card?

**7.1.1.** Would guarantee numbers for certain years and incentivize people to get them early.

**7.1.2.** Would need a proposal to submit to the board.

**7.1.3.** Scott will provide a proposal by Sept. meeting.

**7.2.** Can we add a fee for people who miss deadlines?

**7.2.1.** We are currently turning people away while we could be charging them more.

**7.2.2.** Discussion: Would be hard to get accurate numbers of rink hockey players without deadlines.

**7.2.2.1.** Can deadline be a set date every year instead of a month before nationals?

**7.2.3.** Rachel to provide proposal of new fee system by Sept. meeting.

### **8. Next Committee Meeting: Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**Minutes Approved By** – 6 approved, 2 no response, 1 absent from meeting.