

Rink Hockey Conference Call
Wednesday December 18, 2019

Attendance:

Committee Members: Jim Jost (Chairman, Treasurer - Voting), Tom Hughes (At-Large Board of Directors – Voting), Bryce Robinson (Regional Rep. - Voting), Duane McMinn (Chairman of Referee Committee - Voting), Pat Ferguson (Committee Member - Voting), Don Allen (Committee Member, Coaches Committee, Non-Voting), Rachel Trussell (Female Representative - Voting), Jim Trussell (Committee Member – Voting) and Rodrigo Calvo-Leni (Secretary, Athletic Representative - 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).

1. Nominations:

1.1. Chairman

1.1.1. **Motion 1** Rodrigo nominated Jim Jost

1.1.1.1. Seconded by Duane

1.1.1.2. No other nominations

1.1.1.3. 5 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain, 1 absent

1.1.1.4. Chairman will be voted on after the 2020 fall USARS board meeting

1.2. Treasurer

1.2.1. **Motion 2** Jim J. nominated Duane for treasurer for 1 year term

1.2.1.1. Seconded by Rodrigo

1.2.1.2. No other nominations

1.2.1.3. 6 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, 1 absent

2. Treasurer's Report: Jim J. (5 mins)

2.1. Current Balance: \$7,038.39

2.2. Activity: None

2.3. Motion 3 Pat to accept treasure's report

2.3.1. Seconded by Duane

2.3.2. Passed unanimously

3. Referee Director Report: Duane (10 mins)

3.1. Waiting for World Skate dates in order to pass information to US referees in hope to get US representation in international tournaments.

3.2. 2021 World Roller Games will be in Argentina.

4. Club Representative Committee Report: (10 mins)

4.1. No call this month

4.2. Per USARS rules on sub-committees, committee members cannot be chairs of sub committees any longer.

4.2.1. A current committee member can be on the committee but cannot be chair nor hold a leadership position in the sub committees.

4.2.2. Discussion on referee and coaches committees considered sub committees?

4.2.2.1. Are our referee and a coaches representative more of a liaisons, director, other?

4.2.2.1.1. What are the responsibilities for these positions?

4.2.3. Brent will confirm the exact rules and expectations from the USARS board and will report back to the committee before we move forward.

5. Coach Director Report: Don/Jim T. (10 mins)

5.1. Coaches test

5.1.1. Draft of Level 1 test is on its way.

5.1.1.1. Will be shared with committee before January committee call.

5.1.1.2. 25 question test of basic and technical pieces of rink hockey.

5.1.2. Recommendation of each club to have a CPR and First Aid certified person, preferably the Level 3 coach.

5.1.2.1. Could it be a requirement for Level 3 coaches?

5.2. Future Coaches and Officials' program

5.3. Test, sub-committees, Nationals, Education, and Posting **Brent**

5.3.1. Sub committee rules were discussed above.

5.3.2. Brent will provide the coach breakdowns used in other disciplines to the committee for discussion during January's call for rink hockey to use as a tool as we update our system.

6. Old Business

6.1. Update on Brent Sisson's proposal for the multiple year cards to include all USARS disciplines.

6.1.1. No updated from Brent Sisson yet.

6.1.2. Jim J. will follow up with Brent S. for an update to his proposal. Updated proposal is needed before spring USARS board meeting.

6.2. Team USA Coaches and Managers approval **Brent**

6.2.1. Executive committee needs to approve the committee's picks during their meeting on Sunday Dec. 22nd

6.3. Live streaming for 2020 National Competition **Brent**

6.3.1. As of now, Rink Hockey will have to stream through the iPad unless we obtain donated camera equipment.

6.3.2. Stream will be through USARS site, not Facebook live.

6.3.3. Will be same as 2019 National Competition.

6.3.3.1. We may be able to offer discounted entrance fee for persons helping with live stream.

6.4. New online membership registration program **Jim J.**

6.4.1. Upcoming demo of new system.

6.4.2. There are three vendors being discussed.

6.4.3. Unsure of deadline for decision and new system to be in place.

6.5. 202 National Competition site update **Jim J.**

6.5.1. Jim J. visited the facility.

6.5.2. Floor shown was made of 24" X 36" composite pieces of material, which are placed over the ice. The pieces are not secured to each other.

6.5.2.1. Ice Rink is a sand based facility over coolant pipes so ice can not be melted and will be under the rink hockey floor during the national tournament.

6.5.2.2. Facility was informed of the issues that the ice would create by being under the floor instead of melting it.

6.5.3. There is no seating in the rink area. There is a view mezzanine approximately 100' from where the rink hockey floor would be. Jim has requested portable bleachers be used on the ice rink area for spectators.

6.5.4. There is another potential floor ice cover.

6.5.4.1. Jim J. and Danny Brown will visit when the new floor is in place.

6.5.5. Hotels are 15-20 minutes away driving from venue. There are many restaurants within walking distance of hotels.

6.5.5.1. No hotels within walking distance of the venue.

7. New Business:

7.1. National Team Development Program **Jim T.**

7.1.1. Proposal will be attached below.

7.1.2. Purpose to develop talent throughout the country for players and coaches.

7.1.3. Holding at least 1 training camp per year in each region for all divisions.

7.1.3.1. East, West, and South.

7.1.3.2. Each camp to be self-sufficient through fees

7.1.3.2.1. Fees should cover expenses for staff and help coaches who want to be trained.

7.1.3.2.1.1. All left over money will be deposited into the Rink Hockey Foundation account.

- 7.1.3.3. As program grows, we could bring outside talent to train.
 - 7.1.4. **Motion 4** by Pat to move National Team Development Program forward with Jim T. as program director, and to allow Jim T. to reach out for rink hockey community members to help in creating and managing the program.
 - 7.1.4.1. Seconded by Bryce and Duane
 - 7.1.4.2. Passed unanimously
 - 7.1.4.3. All members in leadership of the program must be an active member of USARS, have an approved background check, SafeSport, and in be good standing with USARS.
 - 7.1.4.3.1. International assistance will be allowed exceptions on a case-by-case basis from some USARS requirements.
 - 7.1.4.3.2. Brent may be able to provide all rink hockey USARS member's email in order to begin promotion of program.
 - 7.2. Late Fee Proposal **Rachel**
 - 7.2.1. Proposal for late fee additional costs to allow for last minute athlete additions to national tournament. Extra fee would go towards US rink hockey committee or national team development.
 - 7.2.2. Proposal must include specific language rewarding USARS requirements such as SafeSport.
 - 7.2.3. Proposal is only for late entry of players, not teams.
 - 7.2.4. Rachel will update the proposal with committee recommendations and will be discussed and voted on during January call.
 - 7.3. Ethics form submissions to Peggy by end of the year.
8. **Next Committee Meeting: January 22nd**

Approved by: 8 approved, 1 no response

NATIONAL TEAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NTDP)
Proposal by Jim Trussell

Program Goal:

To provide training and development forum and opportunity for all athletes seeking greater knowledge and skills in regard to playing Rink Hockey domestically or internationally.

Program Objectives:

- 1) To develop and train athletes of all ages in a weekend regional training camp; utilizing skill building, technical, and tactical training methods to enhance the abilities and talents of each player. This will provide National Team Coaches with a better pool of talent and skilled players.
- 2) Teach and prepare coaches for international competition by allowing them to participate in yearly training camps. Provide national team concepts and training technics while also giving coaches opportunities for advancement in coaching level.

Summary of Program:

The NTDP will conduct 3 training camps in 3 different regions to give potential players of any level opportunity to receive technical skill building training and give potential coaches opportunity to learn and grow in their ability to coach.

Implementation:

- Arrange three training camps at a designated site for each region.
- The camps can be from Thurs or Friday to Sunday. 3 or 4 days
- Each Day the camps will consist of categories:
 - 10 and under (boys and girls) *2 hour training*
 - 11 to 13 (boys and girls) *2 hour training*
 - 14 to 19 and (Ladies 14+) *2 hour training*
 - Men's 20+ *2 hour training*
 - Evening will be a coaches Meeting. *1 hour*
- Training can be tailored to the time available each day.
- Training should start out as drills, technical development, and skill building
- Training can be become tactical and have scrimmages later in the week.
- Coaches and choose what level they'd like to participate. And then attend the nightly meeting to discuss coaching technics and advancement.
- Utilize National Coaches and World Team players within the region to assist in training in each age category.
- One head coach trainer assigned to each category.
- Possible bring in outside talent to assist us in training our players and coaches.

Financial Cost: (0) Self- Sustaining Funding

Program will be totally self-supporting and no additional funds will be needed. Donations are welcome, but a separate fund for this program could be created.

1) How it will works financially:

- a. Each participant player will pay a fee for the training received over the weekend. As an example say \$150.00 for the training, which is very cheap in respect of Ice Hockey Training camps. $150 \text{ (fee)} \times 30 \text{ (players)} = \4500 . Coaches will \$50.00 for training in addition.
- b. This would create enough revenue to fly some lead coaches to the venue and possibly pay for a foreign coach to be housed.
- c. This is a self-supporting program in which earned revenue could be used to support our National player travel and coaches expenses.

Reasoning:

There is a clear consensus that our hockey program is lacking skills and development. We have fallen so far behind other European and South American teams that we are at the bottom threshold of international competition. The only way to improve is increase our training of players at younger ages. Also, we have a coaching issue in this country. First we have a lack of qualified coaches, and then we have coaches that have little experience and expertise in training athletes. Many coaches don't do drills and the ones who use out dated drills. We often train with just a few balls on the floor, giving players even less time to develop talents skills. Most coaches focus on scrimmages and forgo drills. While scrimmages are fun, we need to change our mentality of coaching and teach coaches and players that drills and training are essential to developing into an international player.

Secondly, as a roller hockey committee it's our duty to assist the development of players and coaches. This should be our number one priority if we want to have a future and fill our National Team pipeline with quality talent that can compete respectably in international competitions.

Conclusion:

This is a proactive way for us as a committee to give back to the very players/coaches that support our organization. People will pay for the training and for the opportunity to learn, improve, and be recognized as potential future National Team Members.

I would be honored to head such a program and develop a team of players, coaches, and committee members to assist us in the development program. I believe such an effort is not only important but also essential to the growth and development of American Hockey in general. Without such a program in place as you can expect our program to dwindle further to where we are no longer competitive internationally.