

CAHA SPECIAL MEETING ~ TIER DISCUSSION

December 19, 2015 Embassy Suites Hotel - Sacramento Riverfront Promenade

9:00 am

Present:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Steve Laing | 9. Jaime Campbell |
| 2. Chris Hathaway | 10. Scott Allegrini |
| 3. Jeff Blair | 11. Tom Hancock |
| 4. Lance Burrow | 12. Kevin Culbertson |
| 5. John Hamer | 13. Bridget Hopkinson |
| 6. Tyler Shaffar | 14. Rosemary Voulelikas |
| 7. Derek Donald | 15. Laura Cahn |
| 8. Rick Hutchinson | |

Information to review:

- Email from Kevin Culbertson:
 - CAHA Tier Club 5 year records
 - CAHA Tier I 2015 Club records season to date
 - CAHA Tier II 2015 Club records season to date
- Memo from Ben Frank, Wildcats
- USA Hockey 2016 Winter meeting Legislative proposals
- USA Hockey 2014-15 Season Final Registration Reports
 - USA Hockey 2016 Winter meeting Legislative proposals
 - Tier I, Tier II, and Flex hockey program criteria were reviewed

TIER I DISCUSSION

- Open discussion:
 - What is the goal of tier I hockey?
 - USA Hockey has a proposal on the table for High Performance hockey, which is above tier I, separate division, at 16 and 18 only.
 - What about 3 teams, and the other spot(s) be filled through an application process.
 - How far are we going to go? We have to limit it at some point.
 - We have to make sure the allowance is there for the anomaly year. What about tiering events, in addition to the application process?
 - What is the purpose?
 - Is it to win a national championship?
 - Is it about development?
 - Is it about opportunity?
 - We are seeking to create a more competitive and balanced tier program in California.
 - We have to fix tier I before we can fix tier II.
 - The more competitive and balanced we are, the more likely we will also be able to keep the elite players in California.

Mission Statement for tier hockey:

- Goals:
 - Compete nationally
 - Balanced competition
 - Prepare players to play at the highest level possible to represent our state

Steve: Do we agree that the 3 NHL programs are automatically in? Vote: Yes, carried, 11-3. But – they have to meet the criteria of the application process

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The motioned scenario that will be placed on the table at our meeting on January 23rd: we need to draft it.

- Discussion: One motion will be the one that confirms the percentage/number of teams
- Discussion: We need to also have a tier committee that does the deep dive and brings it back to the full board for vote. The full Board is the selection committee.
- Tier Committee: Scott Allegrini (at Large, Chair of the Committee), Craig Johnson or Rick Hutchinson (Ducks), Curtis Brown or Tyler Shaffar (Sharks), Rosemary Voulelikas (Kings), Chris Hathaway (at Large).
- Discussion: The acceptance into the program is not guaranteed. The criteria still has to be evaluated, prior to approval.

The application process:

- Is based on prior year's performance.
- Applications are due prior to CAHA January meeting.
- Teams are confirmed before tryouts.

A motion will be on the table for the January meeting:

- There will be a change to tier I eligibility.
- There will be a maximum of 5 teams allowed at each level
- There will be 3 automatic bids for the NHL programs, and 2 open, at-large spots. All 5 teams must meet the application criteria. The NHL programs will not have to apply if they meet the criteria. If they do not, they will need to apply.
- Tier committee has been named and will discuss and prepare application process for January Board vote.
- Process and application package will be ready after the January 23rd meeting.

TIER II DISCUSSION

Proposal on table:

- PDR moves to 50% (from 25%). Stipulation that players who reside in a club's zip code but now play for other clubs, can move back to their home (zip code) club without affecting the PDR at the home club, or choose to stay with the club they were with last year. **This requires a motion and board approval.**
- If a club has 2 tier II teams, one of them has to be a minor team, and be birth year specific and play in their own division. This should stay in place, because USAH is going more toward the model club program where birth year competition is strongly encouraged.
- Feeder team requirements stay as current (an organization cannot have a second tier II team unless they have an A team in the same division).

Ongoing discussion regarding structure of league play in tier II. Nor Cal is doing a significant amount of travel, and sometimes they travel to So Cal to play a Nor Cal team.

- There are still issues with scheduling; Chris will talk to Laura.
- Nor Cal is willing to do a league schedule.
- Would be nice to create a system where Nor Cal could play games that count in their own rinks.
- If these could be scheduled out, it could over time eliminate one to two CAHA weekends, which benefits everyone.