

SLMH Emergency Meeting September 7, 2023

Addressing: U18 concerns with tryouts and unregistered player on ice

In attendance: Mike S, Mike M, Jen T, Chris T, Lyndsay B, Sheldon G, Mel H, Tracy B, Travis E, Britney W, Joel B, Nikki V, Nicki W , Deanna S, Keltie A, Kaylinn O

Meeting start time 8:15

Joel background info on issue : Gave background issue of U18 coaches wanting tryouts for group, not first come registered to play. Issues brought forward in Email to Joel asking for consideration on discrepancy of Tiering ability in the group as well as an oversize team. Consider that players are still trying out for other teams and there may be room on the roster anyways.

Mike S: Do we have confirmation if Jonas Lillo is on the current Roster count while he his trying out for other team

Mel: Explained that when she spoke with the U18 coaches she asked them to wait to put an unregistered player on the ice and that because of the likelihood of other players making other teams a spot would open up. The concern is the message has already been sent to these kids that the team is having tryouts.

Lyndsay : mentioned students at school stating that they are “trying out” for the U18 team reaffirming the concern of the message being sent to players

Travis : stated that the situation is unfair to those that have registered and are expecting to play this year

Jen: The roster for u18 was an extended roster last year and it sorted itself out through the season with no shows and kids who didn't commit through the season. She reiterated that Mel advised them to come to the board in the summer months and they did not now, putting them in a situation where change to policy was too late for this season.

Sheldon: made point of not being able to go back on previous meeting minutes, policy has already been voted in

Jen: clarified that minor hockey is all inclusive and that parents have already paid registration fees and gear for the players on the ice

Mike S: asked if anyone knew when Jonas would know if he made another team, thus opening up a spot?

Jen: Jonas should have an answer tonight if not for that team whitecourt team seems like a sure thing

Mike S: Asked if we have an overage that can move down?

Mike M: stated that overage is frowned upon and something we might not want to entertain

Nikki: [Checked Hockey alberta and we do not meet guidelines for over aging players](#)

Mel: Asked if the issue is more the range of tiering within the team?

Joel: reiterated there comparison to school sport and their ability to make cuts

Tracy: stated that cuts were not in alliance with the mission statement of SLMH

Mike S: stated the Tiering is just another issue of rural hockey, unavoidable

Joel: stated he was not comfortable telling 4 kids they wont play when they already think they will be, but has questions about how we would even word it for next year if we agree to go the route of tryouts

Mel: Asked if next year this would even come up with this grad grouping leaving and being the most vocal about it?

Mike M: stated that the bylaws and policies have issues with loop holes and wording. We need to starting refining so that we have options in place to start dealing with these situations better as they arise

Joel: asked to bring the group to a decision and how we would respond? Asked Chris to step in

Chris: Reiterated that he heard all the comments and suggested something for next year, maybe a waitlist for the U18 team. He agreed that the next step as an organization is to review and edit bylaws and improve our coverage. Also stated there is no provision that we hold a tryout.

Suggested we respond as such

- This is the structure for this year
- We will moving forward review policy to implement any changes for nxt season
- Side note was that the majority of players are a tier 3-6, would it be easier to make cuts at the 1-2?

Joel : Asked if we can vote to keep the process status quo for this year?

Mel: suggested we offer to meet with them to explain not just email

Mike: agreed, shows respect, do they need to meet with the whole board?

Jen: asked if that meeting needs to be in person?

Mel: confirmed in person she thought was best

-Group struggled to them confirm at time where everyone would be available

Joel : suggested to send the email and see if they respond to wanting to meet in person before deciding on a time

Mike M: asked if the group thought in that time they would put an unregistered player on the ice again

Jen: clarified that the organizations insurance is invalid during that time

Kris: this is also Hockey Alberta rules and could put whole organization at risk

Nicole : volunteered to contact coaches to explain the safety concern

Mike M: asked if we were addressing a safety issue?

Jen: clarified that the coach was informed the unregistered player could not be on the ice so therefore it would be a conduct issue, and asked should they be able to coach if they can not follow the rules?

Joel: asked if we need to follow the current bylaws on discipline?

Mike M: suggested he call Tyler and be clear the player will not skate if not registered, stated the goal is not to control the U18 coaches but if they can not follow the rules we will have to

Chris: Said he could take this one and send a letter to the coaches

Mike : said he would call coaches off the record

Jen: asked if she needed to send a communication to mom to inform the player can not play? Group responded yes

Decision was made that actions moving forward would be

Chris: send letter to coaches

Mike : make phone call with coaches

Mel: send email as coordinator , with option for in person meeting to discuss

Meeting end time 9:36