

ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 21, 2017

Members present: Sal Follo, Dave Harackiewicz, Tom Malin, Greg Maxey, Marty Roos, Steve Trifone, George Hall (tournament director), Tom Neagle (chair), Joe Tonelli and Steve Wysowski (CIAC staff).

Dr. Tom Neagle called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Tom made some general comments about the tournament and thanked the committee for their efforts in supervising many of the games. Tom also thanked George for the excellent job he did during the tournament, especially with the rescheduling because of weather issues and the dedication ceremony in honor of Tom Cross, the longtime coach of Simsbury. Tom Cross and his family were very appreciative of the honor that was bestowed on him by the ice hockey committee.

The only agenda item for this meeting is usually to formulate the proposed divisions. However, Joe mentioned that Nick Boorman, Suffield/Granby/Windsor Locks coach requested to share his thoughts regarding increasing participation limits for ice hockey co-op teams. Although the issues raised by Nick regarding co-op teams are predominantly under the control of the CIAC Cooperative Team Committee, as a courtesy, his request to meet with the Ice hockey Committee was honored. Nick, accompanied by the athletic directors from the three schools, Mike Bosworth, Kim Chamberlain and Jim O'Brien, addressed the committee and re-emphasized the points in his previously submitted written correspondence that the committee received. After the presentation was concluded, Nick and the athletic directors thanked the committee for the opportunity to share their views. Tom thanked the group and the meeting resumed. If there is interest by the committee to further discuss this concept, it will be a future agenda item.

Minutes – On a motion by Sal Follo the minutes of March 2 and 3, 2017 were approved.

In the interest of time, Tom deferred all of the agenda items under old business to a later date. Tom turned the meeting over to George Hall to begin the process to formulate the proposed divisions for 2017-18.

Consistent with past practice, the CIAC Ice Hockey Committee annually reviews the status of all teams to formulate the potential divisions which best demonstrates competitive balance, fully cognizant that the strength of teams within a division will vary from top to bottom. The Ice Hockey Committee is charged with the responsibility of assessing the competitiveness of teams as well as projecting the ability of teams to compete in the assigned division for the upcoming tournament. To make the determination, the CIAC relies heavily on the expertise of the committee to review and consider all the pertinent information.

After a lengthy review and discussion, by consensus, the proposed divisions were approved. The proposed division changes were as follows:

- Guilford moved from Division II to Division I
- The NFI (New Fairfield/Immaculate) co-op moved from Division II to Division I
- Woodstock Academy moved from Division III to Division I and since no Division I teams moved down, the number of Division I teams increased from 16 to 19 teams
- The Hall/Southington co-op was moved from Division III to Division II
- Staples and the Enfield/East Granby/Stafford co-op were moved from Division II to Division III; and since Guilford and NFI were moved up from Division II to Division I, the number of teams in Division II was reduced from 20 to 17 teams in the proposed divisions
- With the moves described above Division III remains at 19 teams in the potential divisions

Joe Tonelli will distribute the proposed divisions for the 2017-18 season at the CAAD conference and inform the athletic directors that the appeal deadline is Friday, March 31 and the appeal hearings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 4 starting at 3:15 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m. The next meeting of the ice hockey committee will be Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. Hopefully, all committee members can attend the appeal hearing and the wrap-up of the 2016-17 ice hockey season.