

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** **ABOUT SAHA**

### **CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

There are two (2) distinct corporations involved at the Superior Ice Arena: 1) Superior Amateur Hockey Association (SAHA); and 2) Superior Rink Management Corporation.

The Superior Amateur Hockey Association's (SAHA) purpose is to administer the hockey program. While SAHA's Board of Directors may meet year round, most of its programs and activities occur between October 1 and March 1 of the following year. SAHA's revenues are primarily from ice fees paid by parents and/or participants, concessions, tournament fees, sponsorships, and authorized fundraisers. SAHA owns the rink and building where the activities occur.

Superior Rink Management Corporation was established for the purpose of operating the rink and building. This corporation was originally established at the request of the City of Superior which required an independent board to operate the rink. It is similar to an agent that rents out the rink for SAHA. Its revenues are primarily from the rental of ice, advertising signs, and video games in the lobby area.

The Board of Superior Rink Management Corporation is comprised of the immediate past president of SAHA the chairperson of SAHA's Rink Committee, the City Parks and Recreation director, plus some private individuals. By its nature,

Superior Rink Management Corporation must function on a year round basis.

Superior Rink Management Corporation employs the arena manager and maintenance personnel. These people are not employees of SAHA.

### **CORPORATION STRUCTURES**

#### **SAHA**

- Elected Board
- Runs hockey programs and tournaments
- Operates less than year round
- No full-time employees

AND

#### **SUPERIOR RINK MANAGEMENT CORPORATION**

- Board is not elected
- Operates the rink and premises
- Rents the ice to SAHA and other groups
- Employs arena manager and custodial staff

#### **SUPERIOR IS DIVISION 1**

Beginning in the 2002-2003 season, the Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association classifies rinks as Division 1-4. Superior is Division 1, meaning that it is considered one of the top associations in the state based on size. Under the WAHA system, the top team in the association is the 1A team, the second is 1B, etc.

### **EQUIPMENT RENTAL/FREE STICK**

For a nominal fee, SAHA will rent to Termites some basic equipment including a helmet, knee pads, and elbow pads. At the time of rental, a deposit is required; when all of the player's equipment is returned at the end of the season, a majority of the deposit will be returned.

All Termites renting equipment will receive a free stick.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

SAHA provides financial assistance to eligible players through the Harrington Fund. For further information, see Policies and Procedures under Harrington Fund.

### **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Parents are required to donate twenty (20) hours per year for each child/participant in SAHA with a required maximum of forty (40) hours per family. These hours can be met by a number of activities including coaching, managing, working the concession stand, flooding or shoveling outside ice, score keeping, running the time clock, or occasionally assisting with maintenance or cleanup activities which the rink manager or Board may give to

an individual. Volunteer hours can also be obtained by selling extra calendars.

\* \* \* \*

This is our arena. We can all make this a better place for our children if we each do our share.

### **CANDY SALES**

SAHA offers the option of permitting any player or player's family to purchase candy from SAHA and sell it. The candy may be purchased at one-half (1/2) of the price for which it is sold (for example, purchasing candy bars for 50¢ and selling them for \$1.00). The player and family keep all money after they sell the candy. The sale of candy permits a family to reduce the expenses of hockey. Candy sales are not required.

### **CALENDAR SALES**

In order to defray the costs of hockey to our families and to assist with long term capital improvements, we sell calendars which are raffle-type calendars. Each calendar has a certain number assigned to it. On each day of the calendar year, there is a corresponding sum of money which will be given away. Drawings for each day of the year are held, usually on a monthly basis. A winning stub or ticket number can be eligible to win more than one time during the year. Checks are mailed directly to the winners from SAHA.

At sign up, every family must purchase not less than three (3) nor more than four (4) calendars (three for one player and four for two or more players). Calendars are then sold for their purchase price or the family can retain the calendars for their own use.

A family can sell additional calendars and receive credit towards its required volunteer hours.

**IMPORTANT:** The calendar stub with the name and address of the person purchasing the calendar must be turned in before January 1. Otherwise, the purchaser's name will not be in the drawings until it is submitted. Stubs can be placed in the mail slot at the SAHA office.

### **FUNDRAISING/USE OF FUNDS**

**SAHA GOLF OUTING:** This is a yearly event held at the Nemadji Golf Course. The funds are raised by teams entries, hold sponsorships and raffles. At this time the funds raised will be earmarked by the SAHA Board for the upcoming hockey season.

**CALENDAR SALES:** At this time, the sale of registration calendars is going for the purchase of land for the future addition of another hockey rink.

**ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION:** At this time, the money raised by this fund is going for the purchase of the trailer and future registration of new hockey players (Super One Foods parking lot).

**MEMORIALS:** Family and friends are leaving donations to SAHA on behalf of their loved ones. These memorials should be earmarked by those individuals so the donations go to the proper hockey needs.

**GRANTS:** These are available on a yearly basis. People, companies, and organizations are giving out chances to receive those grants. If you see or hear of any grants, please let a Board member know.

### **PRESEASON CLINICS**

Our participants are placed in preseason clinics for practice purposes. The particular group number (for example Squirt 6) is based on an alphabetical (or other arbitrary) breakdown. Placement in a preseason clinic is in no way determinative of a player's skill level or prospective team placement. Preseason clinics are solely for the purpose of assisting players in improving their physical shape and skating abilities prior to the season.

### **HOW TEAMS ARE CHOSEN**

**AA Bantams, Peewees, and Squirts:** All SAHA level teams are selected by a group of independent evaluators and/or the coach. However, if the coach has a child who will play at that coach's level, then the AA team will be chosen by a group of independent evaluators and the coach. In that situation, each evaluator and the coach have one vote and the voting process will determine the AA team. Every effort will be made to place players in the same age groups.

**Bantam and Pee wee B-1 teams:** After the AA teams are selected, players then try out for the B-1 team at their respective level. The B-1 teams will then be picked in the same manner as the AA teams described above.

**Bantam and Pee wee B-2 level teams:** After the B-1 team is picked, there may be one more on-ice evaluation. Since all players have been evaluated, the B-2 level coaches then pick their **Squirt B teams:** After the AA team has been selected, the players are generally kept in their neighborhoods. However, since these players have been evaluated, some adjustment may be made to assist in the equalization of ability of teams.

**Mite teams:** SAHA has made a conscientious effort not to have a Mite or Mini-Mite AA team. All teams at these levels are considered rink teams and generally neighborhood boundaries are the major factor in team placement. However, there have been occasional adjustments to help equalize competition and team leadership.

**Mini-Mite teams:** SAHA has made a conscientious effort not to have a Mite or Mini-Mite AA team. All teams at these levels are considered rink teams and generally neighborhood boundaries are the major factor in team placement. However, there have been occasional adjustments to help equalize competition and team leadership. Mini-Mites will play the Cross Ice Program set out in the Policies and Procedures.

**Evaluation:** Skaters are evaluated on a variety of skills. Each evaluator has a sheet to evaluate a player in nine (9) general categories: 1) forward skating, 2) backward skating, 3) stopping right, 4) stopping left, 5) crossovers to the right, 6) crossovers to the left, 7) stick handling, 8) shooting, and 9) game knowledge which judges a skater's ability of play in a scrimmage or game type of situation.

teams. If there is more than one B-2 team at the same level, then the coaches draft players using the evaluations as guidelines.

Prior to evaluation, each player to be evaluated will be given a number. Numbers will be assigned based upon the alphabetical order of the participants or other basis which has no bearing upon a player's ability or potential level of play.

As a practical matter, each evaluator may be asked to pick a team. If the same player shows up on each evaluator's team, then that player will be chosen. There will be players who are not on every evaluator's team and in this case, the evaluators must decide who will be chosen based on the criteria above.

Evaluators are free to discuss matters among themselves. It is improper for parents to discuss a player's evaluation with an evaluator during evaluations.

SAHA claims a proprietary interest in all evaluations. The evaluations and their results are the property of SAHA and are considered confidential in nature. Evaluations will not be disclosed to any participant or parents.

Please bear in mind that the evaluators are doing the best they can under the circumstances. This is not a perfect process, but it is the best available. All efforts are made to be fair and impartial in evaluating each child and skater.

## **STREET HOCKEY & HORSEPLAY IN BUILDING**

Activities such as street hockey, football, hacky-sack, racing toy cars in the building, playing catch, and other similar activities are not allowed in the SAHA facility. Any children caught doing these activities will be asked to stop. Parents are reminded to stop their children from participating in these activities as well.

### **IN HOUSE ICE TIME**

Ice time is divided as equally as possible at each level. Ice time hours are based upon hockey registration fees and team levels. Each level is allocated the number of games they can play on SAHA's inside ice. In-house games involving other SAHA teams and league games scheduled at SAHA all count against the allocated number of inside games. Tournament games at SAHA do not count against the allocated number of games.

NOTE: The number of in-house games allowed each team is subject to change based upon the number of players and teams and other factors considered by the scheduler.

**Assigned Practice Time:** The in-house ice schedule is written about a month in advance. It is the responsibility of each team to notify the scheduler well in advance of the days the team will not be available to use the ice for practice, inside or outside. **Continued abuse of this responsibility may result in disciplinary measures by the SAHA Board, to include being eliminated from the inside practice schedule.**

**League Games:** Bantams, Peewees and Girls teams play in the Minnesota Hockey District 11 league; the Squirt A and B teams play in the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association league; and the Mite teams play in an in-house league. All of these games are scheduled early in the season and take precedence over other commitments that any team may wish to make. Teams

Further, parents should not allow their children to run in the stands and bleachers since this could result in serious injuries. No animals or pets are allowed in the building.

participating in either the District 11 league or the DAHA league must observe league rules and be at the designated arenas for league games. **Failure to follow the league rules or deliberately missing league games will result in severe disciplinary action by the SAHA Board.**

### **OUTSIDE ICE**

SAHA makes outside ice available for its members, provided that parents and volunteers sign up, as required, to maintain the outdoor rink.

- Practice times are scheduled by the Arena Manager. Weekend times are on a sign up basis. Teams may sign up for the weekend times on the bulletin board.
- Scheduled time on the outdoor ice is 75 minutes in length: **60** minutes are for practice and **15** minutes are allowed by plowing the rink. Unless the coach for the next scheduled time slot says otherwise, the team must plow the ice. *Failure to do so may result in the teams forfeiture of further outdoor ice time.*
- The first team on the ice in the evening turns on the lights. The lights take about 10 minutes to get to full capacity. (The light switch for the outdoor lights is in the shack, clearly marked on the circuit breaker box.) The light switch for the outdoor lights is clearly marked on the circuit breaker in the shack.

- Each team is encouraged to clean up after themselves and treat the facility with respect.
- To receive credit for volunteer hours on the outside rink, a time slip needs to be filled out. (The time slips are on the bulletin board in the small office or in the outside rink chairperson's mail slot.) A monthly tally of these slips will be posted on the bulletin board.
- It is the team's responsibility to contact another team to switch times should a conflict arise.
- If you know your team is not going to use the scheduled ice time, please designate that on the schedule, so another team may use it. A team representative should notify the scheduler if his/her team is unable to use the outside rink at the designated time.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Mel Mattson or a board member.

### **GETTING AN ITEM BEFORE THE BOARD**

The SAHA Board is here to address needs, concerns, and complaints. In order to insure that concerns are properly weighed, investigated, and discussed, the following procedure has been established:

1. The concerned individual should contact any Board member to find out the name of the proper committee chair for this issue.

- If needed, the snowblower is located in the main building, where the Olympia is parked. The rink attendant is knowledgeable of the snowblower. PLEASE USE THE ELECTRIC START.
2. The concerned individual should contact the appropriate chair to find out when the committee meets, and ask that the issue be placed on that committee's agenda for discussion. The committee chair will inform the individual of the next committee meeting so that the individual can attend.
  3. If the matter is referred to the SAHA Board by the committee, the committee chair will insure that the matter is placed on the SAHA Board agenda at least 10 days in advance of the next SAHA Board meeting..
  4. At the SAHA Board meeting, the committee chair will bring the issue to the Board under the proper committee report and will give the committee's recommendation regarding the matter to the SAHA Board.
  5. The individual who brought the item to the SAHA committee (or a group spokesperson if this matter involves more than one individual) will have up to five (5) minutes to discuss and present a position on this issue to the SAHA Board.
  6. The SAHA Board will discuss the issue and may pose additional questions to the individual or spokesperson regarding the matter in question.

7. If the SAHA Board believes that a full investigation has been completed, it will decide the issue or concern.

Most work of SAHA should be done at the committee level where full discussion, investigation, and recommendations are formulated. The issue will not be addressed, discussed or decided at a SAHA Board meeting without compliance with this procedure.