

## **Minutes of OSSA Safety Task Group Conference call**

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Meeting called to order: 8:02pm

Present: Vince Carruthers, Jeanne Preudhomme, Dave Hickman, Sarah Leslie

Absent: Anne Marie Malcolm, John Van Lierop, Janique Gagnon, Mark Miyasaki

Previous meeting minutes approved.

### **1. Status of injury report submissions**

- Discussion about the lack of report submissions. Cambridge and KW have several they will send in. The form doesn't appear to be too detailed but clubs don't have a reporting system or assigned person in place. Plan is to assign club liaisons at the OSSA AGM.
- Jeff Watson from Oakville has been identified as club liaison.

### **2. Do No Harm recommendations**

- We have received positive feedback from meet organizers and Technical Committee about increased crash awareness. Any skater who falls at a meet is to be greeted at the gate by a FA Responder. This practice was done at Barrie and Cambridge meets. No complaints and minimal injury reports. To be continued remainder of the season.
- Referees and coaches do need to be more vigilant of their skaters and respectful of safety practices. Messaging to continue to reach targets.
- Blue card system was discussed and Jeanne mentioned that people were hesitant to use this method. Concern about misuse and making skaters feel uncomfortable. Agreed that current Do No Harm will continue and seems to be sufficient. Blue card system will not be pursued at this time.

### **3. OSSA Coaching Symposium**

- A 30 minute block is being assigned to safety issues for OSSA and SSC. Concussions, EAPs, and safety assessment will be quickly discussed. Highlight resources available to clubs online.

### **4. OSSA AGM**

- A 60 minute block has been allocated to the STG. Jeanne will likely take the lead on the presentation as Vince might not be available. The use of half mats in Toronto and Cambridge will be discussed and some injury trends. Also ice quality practices (see below).

### **5. Ice quality and monitoring**

- Vince has been speaking with Calgary since 2007-2008 about their practices for best ice quality. He would like Ontario clubs to start developing their own best practices for ice quality. This can be done by collecting data over a season and working with ice maintenance staff. All arenas track their temperatures relative to outdoor temperatures. Clubs can work with staff 3 days prior to a meet to have the best ice possible.

## **6. SCAT 2 implementation**

- Jeanne reported problems encountered at Toronto this season. There is support to use this tool but also much resistance and volunteers are not comfortable testing and assessing. All agreed that continued education is key and needs to continue. Families are focused on the immediate impact to the skater (withdrawal from a meet) rather than the lifelong impact.
- Dave Hickman reports that a new report will be published soon about SCAT3 – will wait to what changes have been made.

## **7. To Do List**

Vince still to write up comments about half mat usage.

Sarah to speak with SSC re: clarifying Long Track equipment guidelines.

Vince to have safety display at Provincial A Championships and SCAT2 forms.

Meeting end at 9:50pm.