

Minutes of OSSA Safety Task Group Conference call

Date: Monday, June 17, 2013

Meeting called to order: 8:00pm

Present: Vince Carruthers, Jeanne Preudhomme, Anne-Marie Malcolm (left at 9:30pm), Sarah Leslie, Mark Miyasaki (arrived 8:40pm)

Absent: John Van Lierop, Janique Gagnon, Dave Hickman

Previous meeting minutes approved.

1. Feedback from OSSA Coaching Symposium and OSSA AGM

Sarah reported that awareness about the STG and its activities were not well known but with discussion at the coaching symposium and the AGM, there is a new momentum of interest and awareness. The OSSA office has received many communications in the past month about safety measures at the clubs.

2. Crash mats

- Discussion around tying mats at competitions. Concern about more mats encroaching on straights space (<7m across) with new mats recommending 28 inches thickness.
- Clubs concerned they cannot meet the recommended standards. STG to investigate mat sharing program among nearby clubs. Regional meets should only require Level 2 protection based on KEF but perhaps Level 3 needed for 1st meet of season.
- Discussed costs and creative methods to minimize such as sharing and sponsorship (Cambridge).
- Clubs should be encouraged to shadow STG members at Provincial Series in Cambridge.

3. Track markings and ice maintenance

Club has asked for information about marking track on ice and paint quality. Vince is quite knowledgeable in this and could recommend products and practices. Discussion with facility management 2-3 weeks before event is crucial. Developing relationship with ice technicians and recognizing their efforts benefits everyone.

4. Access to information

- There are many informative documents currently available (track steward document from Quebec, ice quality from Calgary) but they are not highly visible. STG to gather as many resources as possible and make available to Ontario clubs.
- Ontario should consider creating a best practices document for ice across the province. Discussion about tracking ice quality in 2013-2014 season at Provincial Series meets as a starting point (temperature, thickness, humidity, etc. leading up to and during the event).

5. Registration forms

At OSSA AGM it was suggested that club registration forms identify any skaters who have medical or injury concerns. This would be to assist the First Responders and not be used to disadvantage a skater.

6. Safety Task Group members

- Members were reminded that they joined the STG on an 18 month term in August 2012 and are encouraged to continue with the group (different than 1 year committee terms). Vince has agreed to continue to chair the STG.
- At the next meeting, the members shall determine what should and can be accomplished in the upcoming year. Topics so far include: concussion protocols, crash mats, developing the safety book, ways to offer more practical help, risk management, FA/ CPR requirements, and club EAPs.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 30th at 8:00pm.

Action items

- Mark and Vince to film mat tying process to post on YouTube or website for other clubs.
- Sarah to post AGM presentation (completed).
- Sarah and Vince to compose document for clubs to preserve details gained through years of experience and make available to all clubs (track markings, ice quality, best practices for transport of mats, sponsorship)
- Vince to send Sarah form for documenting ice quality for events.
- Sarah to ask SSC about mat inventory list provided a few years back.
- Jeanne to work on registration form wording surrounding skater previous injuries or medical concerns.

Meeting end at 9:50pm.