

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday June 9, 2011
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO

In attendance:

Name	Assoc.	Position
Lewis, TC	District	Director
Power, Tom	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary
	District	Coach-in-Chief
Lehto, Mike	ID	Vice President
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
McMann, Bob	District	Referee-in-Chief
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
Pashkowski, Geoff	AZ	Director at Large
Rogers, Jim	AZ	Coaching
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Paolilli, Phil	CO	President
Elwood, Rob	CO	Registrar
Chapman, Alice	NM	Vice President
Hoskins, Mike	OK	President
Hetrick, Anne	OK	Registrar
Skinner, Ted	TX	President
Graves, Bettepat	TX	Registrar
		Dallas Referee-in- Chief
Henley, Daryl	TX	
Stohlman, T.K.	TX	Growthgame.com Founder
Fisher, Geoff	UT	President
Wilner, Fred	UT	Vice President
	USA	
Urban, Bruce	Hockey	Director at Large
	USA	
Briggle, Rae	Hockey	Member Services
	USA	
DiGiacomo, Paulette	Hockey	Member Services
	USA	
Doyle, Joe	Hockey	Administration

Absent:

Bryan Irey, Chris Kenney, District Directors; Dean Brandstetter, ID President; Sammi Owners, NM President; Kelly Grover, District Risk Manager; George Cole, District Webmaster.

T.C. Lewis, District Director, covered for Chris Kenney and called the meeting to order at 6:35 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made.

Dr. Alan Ashare, Chairman of the Safety Committee, reminded us again about the "Heads Up, Don't Duck!" program. Posters are available. Information is still available and there is a brochure at the CDC website, www.cdc.gov/concussioninyouthsports/. Concussions are still a big problem. There is a training video available

at www.nfhshlearn.com, register your name and state, click concussions from the left menu, and take the online course in concussion training.

Minutes

There were no minutes taken of the January 21, 2011 meeting. The minutes of the August 10, 2010 meeting were approved in the January 21, 2011 meeting.

Rocky Mountain District Volunteer Award

TC Lewis presented the 2011 Volunteer Award to Darrell Henley from the Texas Affiliate. He serves as the referee-in-chief in the Dallas area. By trade, he is a dentist and owns an embroidery company. He has played hockey, and is currently a referee. He also officiates high school football. He has made it possible to foster good relations between on ice officials and the affiliate. He says "it's all about making it better for the players".

National Volunteer Award

It was noted that Don Korth, Utah Coach in Chief, will be presented the National Volunteer of the year award at the awards dinner this weekend.

USA Hockey Membership Report

Rae Briggie reported on the availability of online registration of off ice officials. Team managers and others can register and help them access information needed to perform their duties. Birth dates are entered in the system as "verified" making it unnecessary to carry birth certificates of players to tournaments.

Ann Hetrick presented thank you gifts, Brighton handbags, to Rae Briggie and Paulette DiGiacomo for their great support of the Rocky Mountain District.

2011 District and National Tournament Reports

Girls/Women Tier II District – Bruce Karinen reported that the girls' tournament was again a success. He would really like to see more Tier II girls' teams participating. Geoff Fisher said there were no issues in Utah.

Tier I Youth District - TC Lewis reported about the girls' tournament saying that it was very good. Tournament fees were the main concern of the host. Because there were so many out of town officials, the cost was high. Our policy does not cover how many officials are covered and needs to be addressed in the August meeting.

High School National – Kelly Grover was not present to report on the tournament. Fred Wilner, Utah Vice President, attended the tournament and said he felt the tournament was run well. Complaints were made about not-pure teams being stacked. The district was well represented and a Texas team made it to the championship game losing to a Chicago team. Utah will host next year's national tournament March 21-25, 2012.

There was discussion about holding a not-pure high school district tournament. Idaho and New Mexico both reported that their not-pure teams are aware that they can not go to nationals and are okay with it. Scheduling is always the big challenge. It will be added to the August meeting agenda.

Tier II Youth National – There is still room for improvement in slotting teams for competition. Rocky Mountain District really benefits from this tournament. Those that have participated have expressed their approval. Many are not happy about the peewee division being excluded after this year. Cost was really an issue for many U12 teams. That one weekend was more expensive than their whole season. USA Hockey believes that age 11 and 12 is too young for traveling cross country for one weekend.

There will be discussion in August about holding a district tournament for peewees to replace the national tournament being discontinued.

Girls/Women Tier II National – Bruce Karinen reported that a Texas team won the Girls' 19U tournament. It is growing.

District Player Development Camp

TC Lewis reported on the success of the event in Salt Lake City. Mary Davern and Tom Lampl are key to the success of the camp. There is a great volunteer base in Salt Lake. Next year's camp will be May 2-6, 2012 in Salt Lake City, UT. The Rocky Mountain District has earned a reputation with the national camp for sending qualified players. There are 2 years remaining on the contract with the Utah Olympic Oval for the camp.

Not in Good Standing Reports

Ted Skinner requested input on how the affiliates handle their Not in Good Standing reports. Arizona does not post it on their web site. The state board gives the report to each association. Usually an association will find out that a delinquent player is playing in another association and sends emails to those concerned to suspend the player until the dues are paid. In Utah, associations must prove attempt to collect before being submitted to the list. The list is available on the website, but only with administrative passwords. Texas posts online the name and date of suspension only.

2012 District Tournaments

The following dates were proposed for 2012 tournaments. Bids need to be presented at the August meeting. It was noted that national's have been moved up a week.

Tier I Youth – 1-4 March 2011

Girls/Women Tier I – 1-4 March 2011

District Audit Review

Ted Skinner reported that the district books were audited. There are some procedures that need to be set, but things were in good shape.

Rocky Mountain District Grants

Bruce Karinen requested that affiliates get their grant requests for Growing the Game and Adult Tournaments submitted immediately. They need to be paid out before fiscal year end June 30th.

Adult State Tournaments

Jim Rogers, AZ said their 3rd adult tournament had grown. Utah had 4 teams participate in their second state adult tournament.

Hot Button Issues

USA Hockey feels that skills are acquired between ages 9 and 12. But medically, the 11-12 year old brain is more susceptible to concussion. There is a proposal to change the body checking in an A-Z progression in practice with checking in games to be allowed at age 14. There are also icing and off-sides issues.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is 26-28 August, 2011 in Boise, Idaho at the Grove Hotel.

Geoff Fisher made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:25 am. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day
Rocky Mountain District Secretary