

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**
Saturday, August 17, 2013
Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid, Albuquerque, NM

In attendance:

Name	Assoc.	Position
Kenney, Chris	District	Director/Chairman
Lewis, TC	District	Director
Brandstetter, Dean	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary/Treasurer
		High School Section
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
Pariseau, Gary	District	Referee-in-Chief
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
Pashkowski, Geoff	AZ	Director at Large
Rogers, Jim	AZ	Vice President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
Chapman, Alice	NM	President
Reimer, Tina	NM	SFHA President
MacGillisray, Melanie	NM	Vice President
Hoskins, Mike	OK	President
Hetrick, Anne	OK	Registrar
Graves, Bettepat	TX	Registrar
Thompson, Darla	TX	Registrar
Wilner, Fred	UT	President
Smith, Kathleen	UT	Vice President
Urban, Bruce	USA Hockey	Director at Large
	USA	
Lukken, Mike	Hockey	Coordinator
	USA	
Holmgren, Katie	Hockey	Coordinator

Absent:

McKibbon, John	District	Director
	District	Coach-in-Chief
Lehto, Mike	ID	Vice President
Ballou, Patrick	District	Webmaster
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Hall, Reggie	TX	President

Chris Kenney, Chairman of the Council of Presidents, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 6, 2013 meeting were reviewed. The only correction was that John Heinrich was present, but noted as absent on the minutes. With that correction Fred Wilner made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District Reports

Chris Kenney and Dean Brandstetter submitted written District Director reports. There are written reports from the Officials and Disabled representatives as well as a report on the 14 High Performance camp and an announcement from American Special Hockey Association about separating from USA Hockey.

Chris Kenney reported that the Junior Council has two sections now, separating Tier 3 from 1 and 2. They are really working hard on strengthening rules for fighting, and trying to eliminate 15 year old waivers.

TC Lewis is in the last year of a 3 year term on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is operating very transparently. TC spends most of his time on appeals. He attended national team tournaments, and Youth Council and Player Development Committee meetings as well as many, many other meetings.

District Referee-in-Chief

Gary Pariseau has a written report. He said that registrations are down, but they aren't concerned. This is a rule change year and they are extending the rule book changes from every two years to every four years. There is a power point presentation that will be shown at all referee seminars this year.

District Treasurer

Bruce Karinen reported that there was \$63,000 in the bank at the end of his service. Grants to affiliates were not utilized this past year. Last year reports and the new year budget will be compiled by his replacement and presented in a future meeting.

District Risk Manager

Kelly Grover reported that insurance for next season is in place with no changes. USA Hockey's insurance does not start until you have incurred \$1,000 of out of pocket expense. Claim forms will be distributed by local registrars and not the risk manager. Kelly also reported that the High School will have the 5th National Tournament in 2014 in Omaha, NE.

Affiliate President Reports

Written affiliate reports were turned in by Colorado and Utah.

AZ Jon Brooks – AAHA is getting along well. The NHL Coyotes are staying in Arizona

CO Randy Kanai – Absent

ID John Heinrich – Registration is steady.

NM Alice Chapman – Many changes on the hockey boards. Registrations are down. Tier hockey is more positive. High School has fewer teams and only 2 pure teams. The El Paso request is still on hold.

OK Mike Hoskins - See Disabled report in packet.

TX Reggie Hall - Absent

UT Fred Wilner – There are new rinks in Utah, and the USOC is holding a summit in Park City in September. Fred also reported on the annual Utah Volunteer Awards Dinner. Utah feels it is a wise investment to thank the volunteers and feel very lucky in Utah to have Kelly Grover, Jill Day, and Bruce Karinen in Utah. A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bruce Karinen.

Growing The Game

Mike Lukken with USA Hockey talked about the 2 and 2 Challenge. He handed out a pamphlet describes the Challenge of retention, acquisition, and conversion along with the timeline. Welcome back week helps retention by using email messages and phone calls as reminders to register. They are using NHL players and female Olympians to make the initial phone calls and then are followed up by local volunteers. To increase acquisition, there will be a Try Hockey For Free Event November 2nd and the host associations will be given 40 goodie bags and jerseys, with trick or treat cards to advertise it, and a discount program for 1 year free USA Hockey membership for the participants. There will be a second Try Hockey For Free Event on March 1st in conjunction with Hockey Weekend Across America, a week after the Olympics. NBC will air promos during the Olympics with links to Try Hockey for Free. There was a 15 percent increase this year.

Conversion - low cost-low commitment programs to get the kids started. There will be One Goal hockey starter sets awarded to 26 associations in the RMD.

Adult Women's Hockey

Katie Holmgren with USA Hockey shared handout of adult registration history. Women's hockey is continuing to grow. She talked about upcoming events including a "Women and Wine" tournament and a couple of NHL events. LaBatt Blue is still a very prominent supporter. The Adult First Goal Program was introduced. It is a free for registered adult hockey leagues equipment program. It is intended to introduce new adults to the sport. Contact katieh@usahockey.org.

2013 Western Regional Camp

Bruce Urban submitted a written report on the successful camp. A Twitter account was set up for the camp and ended up with 165 followers. Tom Lampl does a contest to challenge the players to learn names and hometowns of their teammates and it is very well received by the participants. A verbal summary evaluation is given to each player. Mary Davern is very appreciated for her organization of the event. Officiating camp was held in conjunction with it so there were officials for the camp games. They are trying to bring in 20 foreign players and a few foreign coaches to participate in the 2014 camp.

A discussion about growing the youth girls' programs followed. Bruce Karinen is holding a meeting in October to discuss these issues.

Girls' High School Showcase

Geoff Pashkowski presented the report from last year's team. The expenses were about half again more than the District funding. There were only 14 players from the district that went and 3 players were borrowed from Southeast to complete the team. The district requested that Geoff get it started again now for next year. Fred Wilner made a **MOTION** to reimburse the Arizona affiliate \$1,622.57 for the additional cost of the event. Alice Chapman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Fred Wilner made a **MOTION** to contribute \$3,000.00 plus the entry fee for 2014 Girls' Showcase Team. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Participant commitment must be made by the January meeting.

AAU Team Registrations

K C Jorgensen joined the meeting by conference call regarding the AAU issue. Fred Wilner reported that Salt Lake County Youth Hockey has decided to register with AAU instead of USA Hockey this fall. He's afraid the adult program will follow. This is a way for them to be in charge of their program and not have to follow USA Hockey rules. Jon Brooks reported that an organization is doing a Christmas tournament with Mite's using full ice. They really need to separate the groups to identify the USA Sanction vs the AAU group. Teams must have separate jerseys, bank accounts, websites, etc. for USA Hockey and AAU registrations. USA Hockey registered teams can be suspended for participating in non USA Hockey sanctioned events. Also, USA Hockey officials should not wear their USA Hockey crest or expect USA Hockey insurance coverage while officiating non-USA Hockey sanctioned events.

Girls/Women Grant Request

Bruce Karinen requested a \$3,000.00 grant to hold a meeting with one or two representatives from each affiliate to discuss growing girls and women's hockey in the district, plan for the district tournament, and improve communication between the seven affiliates in the district. USA Hockey Section Director, Donna Guariglia, will attend this meeting. Her travel costs represent the increase in the grant request this year over previous years. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to fund the grant request. Fred Wilner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Tournament Banner and Awards Grant Request

Kelly Grover reported that the district has been providing banners and awards to the district tournaments since 2006. For the 2012-13 year, the budget was \$3,800 and the actual cost was \$2,923.65. Kelly requested a \$4,500 budget for the 2013-14 year. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to approve a \$3,800 budget for the 2013-14 year. Chris Kenney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

General District Grant

There was discussion to make the district grant available for whatever an affiliate wants to use it for. It should be a matching funds grant and be submitted for prior approval by the District Directors. A report outlining the success or failure of the grant, and receipts for costs would be required before funds are released. Fred Wilner made a **MOTION** to allow a maximum \$2000 grant per state. Requests for reimbursement of funds under the grant must be submitted by June 1st to fit into the current fiscal year.

501c(3) Status Report

Dean Brandstetter reviewed the status of the Bylaws needed to complete the non-profit filing. Input from members and USA Hockey have been taken into consideration. Since Colorado and Texas aren't represented today, the changes will be emailed to all and approved by a conference call so the application can be filed. The bylaws were reviewed item by item and changes made. A revised copy will be issued to the board. Elections will take place at the winter meeting. Chris Kenney made a **MOTION** to appoint Jill Day as interim District Treasurer until elections are held at the January meeting. She will prepare the 2012-13 Actual vs Budget report and the proposed 2013-14 budget for the January meeting. Fred Wilner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District Tier 1 Tournaments for 2014

Geoff Pashkowski presented a proposal from The Ice Den in Phoenix to host the Boys Tier 1 tournament Mar 6-9 2014, three weeks before National Tournament. As usual, there was a lot of discussion on the date, knowing that you can't please everyone all the time. Colorado has requested to become the permanent host of the Tier 1 tournament. The scouts from the 3 colleges in Denver are always there. It was suggested that the non-traveling team put in funds to help defer the costs of the traveling teams. Dean Brandstetter made a **MOTION** to make the date of the Tier 1 tournament so there are three full weekends after the end of the district tournament and the beginning of the national tournament starting in 2014 and ongoing. Jon Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** for Ice Den in Phoenix to host 2014 Boys Tier 1 District Tournament. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The host needs to secure 5 rooms for the officials. Phoenix doesn't have a host for the girls/women tournament so the rotation goes to Colorado. A call will be made to Colorado, who was absent, to find out if they will host Tier 1 and 2 for Mar 7-9, 2014.

These are the dates were determined after the meeting ended.

Boys Tier I 6-9 March 2014 Scottsdale, Arizona

Girls Tier I 28 Feb - 2 March 2014 Denver, Colorado

Girls Tier II/Women 7-9 March 2014 Denver, Colorado

New Business

Geoff Pashkowski requested that the district create a definition of RESIDENCY to determine who can be represented at a player development camp.

John Heinrich announced that an ADM symposium will be held September 13-14, 2013 in ID. Please let him know if you are interested in participating.

Bruce Karinen talked about hosting an event during the World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend to see if there was any interest.

Next Meetings

A historical report was handed out on the location of District meetings from 2000 to 2013. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to approve the below meetings. Fred Wilner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Thursday, January 16, 2014 dinner meeting during the USA Hockey Winter Meeting in Orlando, Florida

Thursday, June 5, 2014 breakfast meeting during the USA Hockey annual meeting in Colorado Springs, CO

Saturday, June 7, 2014 afternoon meeting after the close of the annual meeting in Colorado Springs, CO

Texas would then host the August 2015 meeting.

Ode

Kelly Grover read his Ode to the Annual Meeting.

Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day
RMD Secretary