



PNAHA General Winter Meeting

January 10, 2004

Red Lion Hotel

Wenatchee, Washington

The meeting was called to order by President, Donna Kaufman at 9:10 a.m

1. Sign-In

- Sign-in sheets distributed and on official record with these minutes.

2. Introductions

- Personal introductions made by the PNAHA Board, Directors and special guests.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- Reading of the September 6, 2003 minutes. Motion by Art Baldwin (SNO) [*to approve minutes*], seconded by Mark Preston (WEN). Motion passed – unanimous.

4. Treasurer Report – Dru Hammond

- A copy of the January 10 Treasurer Report was distributed to the Board of Directors. Balance as of January 10, 2004 is \$12,235.39. Motion by Dave Bittenbinder (PNAHA VP) [*to accept Treasurer Report as presented*], seconded by Art Baldwin (SNO). Motion passed - unanimous.
- Dru distributed invoices to all associations for the first two billings of player fees. She requested that payment be made within 10 days.

5. Special Guests

- Donna introduced Jeff Zornow and Wade Baskin who had traveled from Utah representing the Wasatch Mountain Amateur Hockey Association. Jeff presented a brief history of the organization and shared the various amenities that their organization had to offer. Jeff stated that after much research into other league opportunities that they felt that the PNAHA League was the best fit for their teams and expressed a desire to fully participate in the league during the 2004-05 season. It was emphasized that one of the largest obstacles for PNAHA would be the travel issue. PNAHA can not require teams to take on the burden of the expense to travel to Utah, however, it was stated that some teams might like to travel to Utah. Jeff stated that he understood the travel issue and stated that the Utah teams would be willing to take on the burden of travel for playing local/away games in Washington and Oregon at least during the first season. He did emphasize that he still had hopes during the first season that some of the teams would consider traveling to Utah, if not, then hopefully year two would yield some interest in traveling. During the conversations it was discussed that in order for this arrangement to work that Utah would need the capability of purchasing ice at the local arenas in order to play their home and away games. It was hoped that the potential would exist to play five games in a weekend. However, it was understood that only four games might be scheduled. All ice would need to be paid for in advance to the hosting organization. It was decided that the ice blocks would need to be identified in the June-August time frame in order to make this work. After much discussion our guests were asked to leave to allow for further discussion within the Board of Directors. More discussion focusing on potential obstacles and methods to make an arrangement of this nature work were discussed. Motion by Connie Boyle (PSR) [*to allow Utah to participate in the PNAHA league with a 20 game schedule for a one (1) year trial basis*], seconded by Jeni Ragan (IE). Motion passed. Jeff and Wade were invited back to the meeting. Donna Kaufman (PNAHA President) shared the decision and welcomed Utah to our league. She stated that new and diverse competition into the league should add some much anticipate excitement. Dru and Donna will prepare information for Jeff in the future so that their organization can prepare to abide by the same requirements that PNAHA teams are required to adhere to. It was also stated that representation from the Utah organization would be required at all PNAHA meetings during their participation with the league. Jeff invited everyone to visit their website at www.wmaha.com or www.utahyouthhockey.com.

6. Director's Reports

A. Coaching Director – Rob Kaufman

- **Player Development:** Rob stated that the 2003-2004 Player Development Camp would be held in the Tri-Cities February 7/8, 2004. This year the evaluation team would not be contacting the players individually. Rob said that the invite lists had been distributed to all associations and reminded

everyone that time was of an essence in distributing this information and receipt of confirmations. Each association contact was provided an invitation letter and a list of the invitees. The deadline for confirmations is Tuesday, January 20, 2004. Alternates will be contacted on Wednesday, January 21. The host hotel for this event is the Pasco Red Lion. All games will be played at the TRAC facility. If you have any questions you can contact Rob at pshcrkauf@aol.com.

- The Pacific District Select Camp will be held April 30 - May 2, 2004 in Vancouver, Washington. Rob indicated that it is important for the association coaching director and coaches to discuss the camp with the players and their families so that they are aware of the commitment involved. Those players advancing from the State Development Camp are required to forward a check in the amount of \$350.00 to Pacific District no later than March 1, 2004.
- Rob is staying in contact with state coaching directors. He is encouraged that the practice/game ratio is a minimum of 1/1 with many associations working towards a 2/1 ratio. He has cautioned coaches to not let this ratio become lopsided, especially at the younger ages.
- Rob stressed that associations verify what coaching certification level their active coaches possess. If it has been over three (3) years, they will need to take the next level or current Level 3 (Intermediate) coaches can take a "refresher" clinic on-line at www.USAHockey.com if they do not need Level Four (4) certification. It is imperative that associations evaluate how many coaches will be required to hold Level 4 certification for next season. The certification class will be held in Reno the second or third week of August. Everyone was encouraged to read the USA Hockey Rules for Coaching Certification.
- It was stressed that as of January 1 of this season, prior to the start of the game, all coaches (Head and Assistant) present, from each team, are required to sign the designated area of the score sheet in order to verify the accuracy of the playing roster, as it appears on the score sheet, for that game. In addition, all coaches (Head and Assistant) must include their USA Hockey Coaching Education Program (CEP) card number, their CEP level (1= Initiation, 2=Associate, 3=Intermediate, 4=Advanced, or 5=Master) and the year their CEP level was attained. The CEP card number, level and year attained shall be printed legibly and next to the signature of the coach. It was stressed that score sheets without this information will not be useable for counting towards the 20/10 requirements.

B. Supervisor of Officials – Steve Stevens

- Steve stated that everything was going well from a discipline standpoint. However, he has concerns regarding the behavior of parents and fans in the stands. It was suggested that associations consider using the Red and Yellow cards. Dru will print up an initial set of cards and distribute them to each association. She will also distribute a master to associations upon request. Everyone is encouraged to start implementing controls on fan behavior prior to the start of the State Tournaments. It was stressed that local associations need to educate their parents and work on developing effective measures to deal with these issues as they occur.

C. USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager – Ed Imes

- Ed stated that to date there are 290 teams registered and a total of 5,000 players, coaches and managers. Ed reminded everyone that if your name is not on the roster, then you should not be on the bench. Bantams and Midgets that do not adhere to this are taking a huge risk. Ed also reiterated the requirement to be carded to the correct level. It was stated that coaches can only appear on one roster in the same age division. Any coaching changes to the roster need to occur no later than 24 hours prior to the credential meetings.
- Ed distributed a list of player rosters received and those teams eligible for state competition. One correction was noted; Whatcom Squirt players would not be eligible to participate in the Squirt Festival since they did not participate in the Squirt League.
- Tier II and Tier I credentials will be pre-screened again this year. Dave Bittenbender will assist in the credentialing process this year due to the large number of teams. Ed will credential the Bantams Tier II and the Bantam Tier I teams. The Tier I and Tier II Midgets and Pee Wee's will all go to Donna and Dave. The Squirt Festival will have a credential meeting on Thursday night prior to the beginning of the tournament on Friday. The Squirt division will be required to adhere to the 5/5 rule.

D. League Commissioner – Dru Hammond

- Dru stated that this year was moving along with few incidents. This is the first year that weather conditions have had a major impact on scheduled games. Many games over the past two weeks are being rescheduled due to winter road conditions.

- League game status and standings were presented and everyone was reminded that you can access this information through the PNAHA Website or through www.dynamicstats.com.
- Dru stated that due to the need to draw for the squirt division festival that teams playing the last weekend of February would need to fax the score sheets to her at (509) 735-0333 at the conclusion of the games.

E. Women's Hockey

- No report.

F. Adult Hockey

- Diane shared that they are continuing the league round robin format that they utilized last year. Teams travel once a month. She indicated that they are having difficulty getting ice, primarily because they are the last ones in the order of priority for ice disbursement. She expressed the need for a rink in Yakima.

A. 1st Vice President – Dave Bittenbender

- Dave reported that discipline incidents were down this year. He reminded everyone of the proper reporting process for discipline and focused on “match” penalties.

B. 2nd Vice President – Steve Stevens

- Nothing to report. He has already covered his issues in earlier reports.

G. President's Report – Donna Kaufman

- Donna stated that we should be prepared for changes that may impact our squirt travel requirements. USOC and USA Hockey appear to have different interpretations and philosophies when it relates to restricted travel. Donna will report back to this forum at the conclusion of the Mid-Annual meeting in Florida if any of these changes impact our requirements. She did state that USA Hockey likes what we did. It was suggested that we might want to look at developing a waiver to deal with special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
- The Desert Ice appeal was denied. Donna presented a letter from Doug Palazzari, USA Hockey Executive Director, which stated that the Executive Committee had determined that PNAHA has membership standards that it annually applies to its members. Those standards were appropriately applied regarding Desert Ice. The Executive Committee found that failure to pay vendors or ice rinks, one of the standards set out in PNAHA membership requirements, does affect the good standing of PNAHA members. No other activities have occurred since the partial settlement.
- PNAHA has not received any new Member Team or Association applications. PNAHA requires that these applications be submitted by January 1 proceeding the season the member wants to begin play.
- Donna also presented a letter from USA Hockey regarding the challenge of the 93 Evergreen Squirt team to the PNAHA 400-mile radius travel restrictions. The Executive Committee voted to unanimously table further consideration of this challenge until the 93 Evergreen Squirts had presented the request for travel permission directly to the PNAHA Board, or its appropriate committee.
- Donna presented a copy of a letter that was distributed to all six independent Evergreen teams regarding the Partial Settlement Agreement for reporting financial information. These teams were notified that PNAHA had not received some of the required information necessary to evaluate the team's fiscal management. Each team was given an extension until January 16, 2004 to cure any/all deficiencies.
- Donna discussed her upcoming trip to Miami for the USA Hockey Mid-Annual meeting. One of the topics that Pacific District would present as a united front was a need for USA Hockey to quit making recommendations and to begin making policy change instead. Failure to make policy change makes it difficult for affiliates and associations to implement USA Hockey. The Board also requested that she take back a recommendation to reinstate the tag-up rule. It is felt that the off-sides rule is not working, that re-grouping is easier for the players to understand.

7. Tournament Updates

- Donna stated that a slot for a third bantam team to participate at the Tier II Districts was a possibility. She asked the Board if they would have a desire to send a third team. Motion by Art Baldwin (SNO) [*to approve sending the top three teams*], seconded by Connie Boyle (PSR). Motion passed.
- It was explained that host hotels for State Tournaments are the same hotels utilized during League play. However, additional hotels may be added to the list to accommodate teams as needed.

- Due to the large number of teams participating in the Tier II tournament it was determined that play would need to begin on Thursday. The Coaching/Credential meeting will be held on Wednesday night, February, 18, 2004. Glen Alfaro is the point-of-contact for the teams and can be reached at (509) 220-7631.
- The Squirt Festival will be held March 5-7 in Tri-Cities, Washington. Ryan Ollero is the Tournament Chairperson and can be reached at (509)783-5164.
- Sno-King presented an appeal to allow for a Midget aged female player (Danel Abers) to be allowed to play with the Bantam B team at the State Tournament. Art Baldwin presented the history on this player. She is a house player playing down on the Bantam team. Jeni Ragan (IE) motioned *[to accept participation of the over aged player "Danel Abers" from Sno-King on the B team during the State B Tournament]*, seconded by John Courtney (WHAT). Discussion. Motion passed.
- There are three Tier I Pee Wee teams in the state and that will necessitate a state tournament. Art Baldwin stated that they would be interested in hosting the tournament February 20-22, 2004. Dru Hammond (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) motioned, *[to award the bid to Sno-King with assistance from Seattle Junior in hosting the PW Tier I Tournament]*, seconded by Dave Bittenbender. Motion passed.

8. Association Reports

- None.

9. Old Business

- None.

10. New Business

- Donna discussed the desire to nominate an individual from PNAHA for each of the District Awards. Discussion and names suggested. Everyone was encouraged to submit names prior to Donna attending the District meeting.
- Art Baldwin volunteered to organize the annual golf tournament June 11, 2004.

11. Spring/Summer Meeting

- The Spring/Summer meeting will be held on June 12 in Wenatchee at the Red Lion. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) motioned *[to adjourn]*, seconded by Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA Vice President). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.