



PNAHA General Winter Meeting

January 5, 2008

Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel & Wenatchee Convention Center

201 North Wenatchee

Wenatchee, Washington 98801

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

1. Sign-In

- Sign-in sheets distributed and on official record with these minutes. Voting delegate sign-in sheet completed with the following delegates present: PNAHA President – Dru Hammond; PNAHA Vice President – Dave Bittenbender; PNAHA Vice President – Mark Preston, Secretary/Treasurer – Katie Kusske.
- Member Organizations; IEAHA – David Nieuwenhuis; KVHA – Les Grauer; KCAH – Jeremy McCann; PSAHA – Kristin Videto, SJR – Jack Chaney; SKAHA – Gordon Brown; SAYHA – Mark Gustafson, TCAHA – Glen Triner; WAHA – Mike Lesky; WCAHA – Randy Bryson; WWFHA – Shirley Williamson, YAHA – Diane Craig.
- Member Teams – WCHC – RL Stephenson 92/94.
- Member Organizations not represented – EYH, MVIA, WWHA, and YAHA.

2. Introductions

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

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- Reading of the September 8, 2007 minutes. Kristen Videto (PSAHA) motion [*to approve minutes*], seconded by Glen Triner (TCAHA). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer Report – Katie Kusske

- Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) presented her first Treasurer Report with a detailed review of the Income and Expense categories. The balance as of January 5, 2008 is \$50,420.64. Motion [*to approve the Treasurer's report*] by Glen Triner (TCAHA), seconded by Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP). No discussion. Motion passed.
- Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) reminded all associations that when they are invoiced by PNAHA they are to pay the amount due upon receipt of the invoice. If associations go into the past due category they are in jeopardy of not being in good standing with PNAHA and can lose their voting privileges. Currently there are three associations that have invoices outstanding for their player fees. Katie will get their statements to their association representatives at the end of the meeting. Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) also reminded everyone that their association tournament fees of \$750.00 are due today and to make sure their checks are made out to the host association and not PNAHA.

5. Special Guests – Donna Kaufman

- Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) announced that Frank Lang (Pacific District Director) was unable to make his flight out of Oakland due to strong weather conditions so he e-mailed his resume to Donna and Dru Hammond (PNAHA President). He requested that his information be passed along at the PNAHA meeting for him so his e-mail was read aloud. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) indicated that Charlie Fuertsch was running for this position as well and he would be providing a resume at a later date. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) announced that “Hockey across America” will be held February 15-18, 2008. The main objective is to provide opportunities for all those who haven't played hockey to try it hoping that more people will start to play our game at all levels. Local associations are eligible to compete for prizes for the best Hockey Weekend Across American Programs. They submit photos, videos with a written description of the weekend to USA Hockey. Grand prize is 40 sets of One Goal Starter hockey equipment, with a retail value of \$6,000.00. Five runner up prizes of \$1,000.00. There are chances to win prizes during the weekend each day by utilizing www.USAHockey.com. Information regarding this event is listed on the PNAHA website. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) said that she will be heading to the USA Hockey Winter meeting in Orlando on January 11-13, 2008. This is a Legislation change year not a Rule change year, some of the committee meetings that she is planning on attending are the Junior

Counsel and the Ways and Means and Rules. Check on the USA Hockey website for any changes that will be posted afterwards. One proposal under consideration is extending the Executive Committee member term to three years instead of a two year term. The intent is to make the term consistent with other elected positions like Vice President, Secretary, President, and District Directors. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) thanked Frank Lang, Bruce Urban and Dick Combs for making her feel welcome and that it's nice to be part of a great team. Access to any of us is always available for any questions or concerns. She went on to note that California has been calling her more than the PNAHA District has been.

6. Coaching Director – Rob Kaufman

A. Player Development Camp – January 26-27, 2008

- The Player Development Camp is approaching soon; this event is being held in Tri-Cities this year. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) stated his concern that only two associations have sent their player lists in, Kitsap and Wenatchee. He stressed that evaluators/coaches need to only send their top player names and how they are ranked. Please remind your coaches to send in these rankings immediately. People are also slow at registering online this year; the camp is an open registration format and this is typical during the first year of this type of change. Make sure to talk with your association coaches as it is a first come first serve basis. PNAHA will evaluate if the open camp format is appropriate for our affiliate. There is something to be said for receiving a personal invite and having the player recognize that evaluators have observed their performance during the season. Coaches need to talk to their top players to encourage them to register for this important event. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) talked about the 20-30 minute registration process reminding people to make sure that they take the time to read the instructions carefully, you need to have Adobe loaded on your computer to perform the registration process. A link to Adobe is provided on the instruction page. PNAHA has invested money to make some of the changes that are important in improving the registration process. Remind your player's parents that are registered to bring their signed forms with them to the camp check in that is on Friday, January 26, 2008 starting at 5:00 p.m. The schedule will be posted on the PNAHA website by the age divisions as soon as the registration is closed.

B. Pacific District Select Camp

- Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) announced that the District brochure will be available at the Development camp this year. There are different contacts listed for all the different participating states. April 24-27, 2008 is the dates for the birth years "93 and 94." The "91 and 92" birth years will be held on May 1-4, 2008. The Pacific District Select Camp will be held at the Kent Valley Ice Centre for all birth years. The cost will be \$475.00 with sixty eight to eighty players in each of the four age groups. Approximately twenty players will be selected at each age group to represent the Pacific District at the USAH Player Development camps.
- The District Camp for girls will be held at the Kent Valley Ice Centre as well. As the numbers are significantly different, Oregon and PNAHA had looked at doing a joint camp but have decided against that. Responses to participate in the first PNAHA Girls Development Camp were low resulting in PNAHA cancelling the camp and returning to the past practice of contacting the girls based on input from PNAHA State Evaluators and Association Coaching Development Directors.

C. Supervisor of Officials – Jason Michelbook

- It was announced that Steve Walsh from Spokane has been picked up by the Western Hockey League. Jason Michelbook (PNAHA Supervisor of Officials) has requested that he receive earlier notification for tournaments. It would help if the referees can get notice on the dates, times and the age divisions earlier so it's easier to start the scheduling process and make sure to include how many rinks will be used as well. More than two weeks notice is appreciated when possible. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) reminded everyone to make sure their coaches are prepared to show their USA Hockey Coaching cards at games if asked. For those that cannot provide them they need to be prepared to possibly leave the bench until proof can be provided to the referees. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked Jason to check the ages of the referees and verify that they have gone through the background screening process if they have recently turned 18 years of age. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) asked if teams that have changed managers can we still get them screened? Anyone who will be 18 years and older and in contact with children on a team must be screened even if they are a team manager. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) said they have 30 days to get it done. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President)

reminded everyone that the list can be downloaded off of the PNAHA website. Always make sure to check the lists prior to registering new volunteers. Also, background checks with the Washington State Patrol need to be done yearly, while the Acxiom background screening is performed once every three years. Remind all of your registrars to send Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) any newly updated names.

- Minors Officiating Adult Games Policy: Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) sent out an e-mail to all the Association Reps formalizing the USA Hockey recommendation limiting the use of youth players for adult hockey games to only players eighteen years old or older 30 days in advance of this meeting. There has been a recent controversy regarding this issue and PNAHA has found it necessary to make this USA Hockey recommendation into an official policy. The desire is to add this policy to the PNAHA Bylaws during the PNAHA June Spring/Summer Meeting. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) stated that this is to be considered official notice of intent to add to the PNAHA Bylaws meeting the 60 day notice requirement. This is being recommended at the National level by USA Hockey to protect young Officials. Les Grauer (KVHA) asked is there sufficient referees available and would the league managers be okay with this being done? Andy Cole (PNAHA Senior Director) is in agreement. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) said that if an Official under the age of 18 years old appears to have officiated an adult game, PNAHA would investigate it. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked for a motion. Motion to *[accept the policy as presented by Jason Michelbook]*, by Floyd Johnson (Kitsap), seconded by Jack Chaney (Seattle Jr.). No discussion. Motion passed.

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

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) announced that Ed Imes was unable to be at the meeting due to storm damage to his property yesterday. The updated list of participating teams going to the PNAHA State Tournaments is not complete yet and she will let all the tournament hosts know when she has the final lists. Make sure all travel teams have their approved and signed roster by Ed Imes in their team notebooks when they are handed in. Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Secretary) reminded everyone that she sent out an e-mail to all the association reps with enough advance notice reminding them to make sure that each association's travel teams bring their credential notebooks to the meeting today. For any teams that did not bring their notebooks today, they have four working days to get them to the appropriate people or their association will receive a \$25.00 fine for being late. Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) and Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) will be doing all the Tier II team notebooks and Ed Imes (Associate Registrar/Risk Manager) and Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) will be doing the Tier I team notebooks. This Credential Process Policy for PNAHA State Tournaments was approved at the June 18, 2005 meeting. All association Registrars received copies of the Policy for this at the PNAHA September round table meeting where they met with Ed Imes to discuss the credentials process.

E. League Commissioner – Glen Triner

- The League website for all the team scores, names and schedules has been re-built. However, USA Hockey did a patch to the software and the end result was that all the work was lost! Dru (PNAHA President) said that the challenges are huge on this new website platform; even USA Hockey has admitted that the learning curve is very steep and it helps to have some HTML background. Glen Triner (PNAHA League Commissioner) traveled back to Colorado with Dru for training class in November so that PNAHA could have additional people contributing to the PNAHA website. There are just a number of bugs in this software (750). The Event Manage Tool is huge, and both Glen and Dru have spent many hours inputting only to have it all crash, or to access it the following day and discover when a bug in the system is fixed that the patch impacts other work and that work disappears. This has been occurring across the United States and is not unique to PNAHA. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) has concerns with the impending tournaments. She has asked Les Grauer if Lew Sellers who has created a great website for Kent Valley Hockey would be interested in discussing a backup plan for posting tournament results should the USA Hockey Tournament Tool fail to operate properly. USA Hockey is looking at utilizing CompuServe as a backup system if the current bugs can not be worked out in time for Nationals. Right now confidence levels are a little shaky for everyone that is using this new platform.

- There still are missing score sheets so reminders are going out to the associations. Glen Triner (PNAHA League Commissioner) has noticed on the Squirt score sheets submitted to date that we have three or four super strong teams. Is this what we want our league to be? Do we want to consider for next season a Tiering process? Do we wish to continue to have the strong teams playing strong and weak teams and the weaker teams playing the strong teams? We are seeing twenty – zero type of scores from games being played. Glen Triner (PNAHA League Commissioner) voiced that he is very concerned on this subject for this age division.
- People are asking about the tournament dates. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) is currently working with Kent to finalize these dates and reminded everyone to communicate to their members that the schedule is not due until two weeks prior to the event. Teams also need to recognize that this meeting is the venue where final commitments for participation are communicated. We recognize that teams are wishing to make their team arrangements, but we ask that they be patient while final arrangements are confirmed.

F. 1st Vice President – Dave Bittenbender

- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) said that as a result of “Abuse of Official” calls there have been several discipline hearings. Jack Chaney (SJR) and Mark Preston (PNAHA 2nd VP) did a great job of clearing up some situations related to this subject, and Dave wishes to extend a sincere “Thank You!” Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) explained what can happen to a coach or a player if they receive a “601G or 601J” penalty call. First someone sits out usually several weeks while the Discipline Committee process gets started, there is lots of paperwork involved, several meetings, set-up the hearings and find the people that can be on the committee. Then it can possibly result in twelve months suspension with one year probation. Tell your teams to be careful of their actions during games, when coaches start to vent they have to realize what a big influence they are on their players and when they show negative reactions, their players pick up on that and penalties occur.
- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) mentioned that the “Rule 14 Waiver” has caused more time and money to be spent this year than in previous years. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) presented his proposal that was prepared on November 19, 2007 for this meeting. The requests for waivers this hockey season have included not only requests for waivers for the several usual reasons envisioned by the drafters of Rule 14, but several other theories of why waivers should or could be granted. These include allegations of unfair or discriminatory or abusive treatment while playing for another association; disputes between adults of two associations that are alleged to have spilled over to a player; and suggestions to re-define the Rule 14 exceptions. This has caused considerable delay in decision making that has not been helpful to any team, player or family in Washington State. The cost in dollars and in the time expended by many individuals and PNAHA Officers is considerable. Proposal: That the PNAHA Board of Directors considers changes to Rule 14 based on the 2007-2008 experience. Options: (1) Do away with Rule 14 all together. On the plus side we will avoid the controversy such as experienced this year. On the negative side recruiting may be encouraged or at least expanded without the limits of Rule 14. (2) Substantially limit waivers further. For example, only players moving into PNAHA or in specifically defined jurisdictions. On the plus side decision making will be much clearer and easier. On the negative side some things that might qualify for a waiver now will be eliminated. (3) Eliminate all waivers; if you have more than “X” players and the team automatically Tier I otherwise you are Tier II. No exceptions. The number could be higher or lower than the current limit of no more than 5 players. This would streamline Rule 14 and make it easy to understand. On the plus side, everyone would know and understand the rule and the consequences of listing more than “X” players from outside of your association. Associations could clearly communicate to members what their plans are for the upcoming season. If you pick up more than “X” players your organization has determined that it desires to play Tier I and can plan its season accordingly. On the negative side, the rule does not permit any consideration of special circumstances and some people envision they have a special case. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) said that if a rule is clear than it is easy to enforce. We need to stay short and clear on rules of this type, or have no rule at all. We need to remember that Rule 14 was created to prevent recruiting. What we have to ask ourselves is if the need still exists, is recruiting still an issue. The bottom line is that the limitations on waivers need to be made clearer. California is an example of a clear and concise policy that is similar to Rule 14. They have identified a number, and if you have that number then your team is classified as Tier I.

In closing, Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) emphasized that this rule was a major distraction this year; it took a lot of us away from focusing on growing hockey in our affiliate.

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) said that Les Grauer (KVHA) has submitted a 5 page proposal related to Rule 14. This proposal was submitted 14 days in advance to the PNAHA meeting which allows for it to be placed on the Agenda for discussion. However, this body has stated and enforced that proposals of this nature that require the body to vote are to be submitted 30 days in advance allowing for the local associations to review the proposal prior to the PNAHA Representative casting a vote. Copies of the Kent proposal were made for everyone to review. Les Grauer (KVHA) agreed to table the vote on the Kent issues until the June 20, 2008 meeting. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) quoted the January 12, 2002 minutes where the current Rule 14 was voted on. Rich Stephenson (West Coast) asked where is the 30 days in advance written? Dru (PNAHA President) responded, in the PNAHA Guidebook, in the Constitution, Article IX- Meetings, Section 7-Agenda. Les Grauer (KVHA) stated that the initial decision to require this rule to be in effect for the League tiering rounds was a surprise. Kent feels Rule 14 favors the larger associations that smaller associations have to compete with. Les stated that he agrees with the format of Dave's (PNAHA 1st VP) comments that Rule 14 should be cut and dry and to the point. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) mentioned that Tier I/Tier II definitions are on the agenda for the USA Hockey Mid-Annual meeting. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) mentioned that in Illinois a player can only move once. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) stated that we want to make a good policy that will last; currently we are working with a 10 year old rule. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) said Rule 14 has many ingredients; we need to make it simpler. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) said the roster request prior to the League tiering rounds was identified as a potential issue last year when the League Restructuring Committee met to evaluate issues from the first season of the League restructuring. During the June meeting it was mentioned that rosters would be requested prior to the League Tiering Rounds this year. An email was sent out reminding members of this prior to the September meeting and discussed during the League Committee meeting in September.
- Casey Jorgenson (PNAHA Legal Counsel) voiced his thoughts regarding the results of the Rule 14 waiver process during a conversation with the PNAHA Executive Board that he assisted with this fall. When requesting hearings he indicated that PNAHA members need to be very careful because it can be costly in many ways. The services donated by Casey to support PNAHA in the Rule 14 efforts this year easily would have resulted in billable hours close to ten thousand dollars! Casey's recommendation was that PNAHA consider raising player fees to help cover administrative hearings costs that could occur due to the recent changes implemented by USA Hockey. It was his further recommendation that members make sure when contemplating an appeal that they consider other options. Most issues can be resolved with administrators without requesting a hearing. The time required to follow this process is burdensome on all parties in time, resources and dollars.
- PNAHA has one of the lowest player fees in the nation and during both of the previous audits USA Hockey has recommended PNAHA raise player fees to a minimum of ten dollars. If the number of hearings continue to rise and if the District Bobby Freeland Memorial Grant Program is approved then it is possible that PNAHA might want to consider raising player fees as high as twelve dollars to allow for a legal contingency fund.
- Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) said we should look at forming an outside review committee to solve this issue or at least bring forward a well formed resolution to the Rule 14 review. Mark Preston (PNAHA 2nd VP) said the Executive Board is supposed to uphold the rules as well as agree to review the rule. Les Grauer (KVHA) stated that the Tier I verses Tier II process is clouded, but it has prevented sandbagging. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) stated that we need to identify what is the focus of the Tier I teams verses the Tier II teams. That needs to be worked on first in order to draft an appropriate Rule 14 Policy. Kristen Videto (PSAHA) disputed the statement made from Kent regarding one of the PSAHA teams from last season. The player count that Kent listed is inaccurate, that only 2 players counted as defined by the Rule 14 Policy. Les Grauer (KVHA) asked isn't that decision up to the PNAHA Executive Board to make? Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) stated we have cleared up that issue so there is nothing more to discuss. When a team has more than five players from outside the association the expectation by PNAHA is that an association will provide PNAHA with the team list and

supporting information on players from outside their association the previous year. Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) moved that this topic be tabled to the June meeting. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) asked if we are going to form a committee first, so this board doesn't repeat the same conversations. He stated that the committee needs to be careful in making this kind of choice as we are clearly not a Tier I state. Recruiting still is an issue in our affiliate.

G. 2nd Vice-President – Mark Preston

- Mark Preston (PNAHA 2nd VP) I haven't written any notes on anything in particular so I'm good.

H. President – Dru Hammond

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) shared that USA Hockey, in cooperation with its affiliates throughout the United States, is staging the "USA Hockey's 24-Hour Hockey Game" beginning at 12 noon ET on Friday, February 29, 2008, to help celebrate the International Ice Hockey Federation's 100-year anniversary. She stated that Wenatchee was the lucky association to be chosen in the blind draw to represent PNAHA during the "24 Hour Hockey Game. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) suggested that PNAHA consider purchasing jerseys/socks for the two teams representing our affiliate during this event. The Pacific District is paying for the ice and the officials needed for this event. Kristen Videto (PSAHA) made a motion [*for PNAHA to purchase the jersey/socks for this event in Wenatchee*], seconded by Glen Triner (PNAHA League Commissioner). Discussion. Les Grauer (KVHA) brought up the subject on getting a logo produced. It was discussed that USA Hockey will be creating the logo that can be used. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) wondered if a press release should be prepared for this event in Wenatchee. Mark Preston (PNAHA 2nd VP) is going to have Linda Hagland work that up. Motion passed.
- "Hockey Weekend Across America" will be held February 15-17, 2008. This USA Hockey sponsored event will coincide with the PNAHA State Tier II Tournament being hosted by Tri-Cities. California announced that the California Governor was notified about this weekend and is going to declare it National Hockey Day in his state, asking kids to wear their jersey's to school, and bring a friend to the rink day. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked if any association in our affiliate planned any activities over the weekend. She indicated that she has sent out memos regarding this upcoming event and that there has been information posted on the front page of the PNAHA website as well as USA Hockey sending out global messages too. To stimulate spirit and enthusiasm she asked if the board would like to host a contest within our state to see which association demonstrates the most spirit and creative events. Kristen Videto (PSAHA) mentioned that they are talking about trying to do something. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) requested that any association that was holding events please send her all the information on the event and she can add that to her report at the upcoming District and USA Hockey meetings. She also encouraged write-ups and photos on events for publication to the PNAHA website. As incentive for the contest, Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) opened up discussion regarding the possible purchase of a set of cross ice bumpers to assist in the development of youth players. If this body decides to host a contest of this nature the submittal date of the entry is due to Dru Hammond by April 15, 2008. Motion [*for PNAHA to host a spirit contest and purchase a set of cross-ice bumpers for the contest*], Les Grauer (KVHA). Seconded by David Nieuwenhuis (Inland Empire). Motion approved.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) reminded everyone that Katie Kusske (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) sent out reminders via e-mail to all the association representatives, to make sure that all their Tier I and Tier II team notebooks come to the January 5, 2008 PNAHA meeting. There is a \$25.00 fine per notebook that is late. If there are any associations that did not get turned in today, tell your teams that they have 4 business days from today to get them to Katie Kusske for Tier II, (3717 Olympic Blvd West, University Place, WA 98466) and Ed Imes for Tier II teams, 451 Ransom Road, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

I. New Member Applications

- West Coast Hockey Association and Moses Lake submitted applications for membership to PNAHA. These two membership applications will be brought to a vote at the June 2008 meeting. Dru (PNAHA President) introduced George Georgeson from Moses Lake Hockey Association and asked him to say a few words. George Georgeson (Moses Lake) explained that the arena has a roof but no walls yet, it's going to be fast ice for sure, full size but not Olympic sized ice and it is part of the Parks and Recreation Center. The Parks Department is operating the Learn to Skate

Program. They were pleased at having so many coaches go to the clinic that was held in Tri-Cities. Inland has agreed to register members this year since Moses Lake failed to submit its application in time for the 2007-2008 season. We have a good website and are looking forward to playing more teams next season. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) announced that she would be traveling to Moses Lake on Sunday to meet with members from the Moses Lake Board of Directors. Rich Stephenson (West Coast) was introduced and asked to say a few words about their proposed hockey association. West Coast has applied and received their approval for 501(c) 3 not for profit organization status. West Coast is currently in the process of securing ice for next year. West Coast plans to operate a Learn to Skate Program in 2008 as well.

J. USA Hockey Mid Annual meeting (Orlando Jan. 11-13, 2008)

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) said that this is the time of year when her meeting schedule is crazy. When she gets back from the Orlando meeting, she heads right off to the Pacific District meetings in Reno, January 18-20, 2008.

7. Tournament Updates

A. Tier I

- The Kent Valley Hockey Association is hosting the PNAHA Tier I State Tournament at the Kent Valley Ice Centre. The dates are February 21-25, 2008. Les Grauer(KVHA) presented their information packet to the PNAHA Executive Board members. All this information will be posted on the website including the host hotels, restaurants, and who to send team photos, team rosters and other pertinent information to for program preparation. The final declarations for participation are today.

B. Tier II

- The Tri-Cities Hockey Association is hosting the PNAHA Tier II State Tournament. The dates are February 14-17, 2008. Tri-Cities did not send a Tournament Director to the PNAHA meeting and therefore information packets were not available at this meeting but PNAHA was informed that the packets will be sent out by the end of the week once final information is available. It was discovered that the Tri-Cities Coliseum had booked a figure skating competition on Saturday and tournament organizers are working with Coliseum staff to mitigate the impact on the PNAHA State Tournament. The host hotels will be the same as the ones posted on the Tri-Cities website. The tournament schedule will be posted on the PNAHA website two weeks in advance of the tournament as required by PNAHA.

C. Squirt B Festival

- The Puget Sound Amateur Hockey Association is hosting the PNAHA Squirt Festival. It will be held at the Puget Sound Hockey Center. The dates are February 7-9 2008. Kristen Videto (PSAHA) apologized for not bringing the information packet to the meeting. She has been in contact with all the teams that are participating and will be sending out additional information by the end of the week and posting that information on the PNAHA website as well as on the Puget Sound website.

D. "B" Tournaments

- The Kent Valley Hockey Association is hosting the PNAHA "B" State Tournaments at the Kent Valley Ice Centre. The dates are March 6-9, 2008. The information will be pretty much the same as whats out there for the Tier I tournament. The schedule still has to be finalized with Les Grauer (KVHA) and Dru Hammond (PNAHA President). When that is completed, the information will be sent out to all the participating association teams by Mark Bryan, Tournament Coordinator.

8. Association Reports

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA) President reviewed the sensitive subject regarding the posting of players names on association websites. USA Hockey would like all associations to adhere to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act and Rule (COPPA). COPPA applies to individually identifiable information about a child and how it is collected and disclosed when it comes to personal information about a child. There are pedophiles out there that make it a hobby to cruise youth sporting websites to find ways to make contact or find children. There are several ways that associations can protect their youth. USA Hockey wants all associations to do all they can in preventing anyone from exploiting our youth. A statement issued by USA Hockey regarding guidelines in protecting our youth says, "USA Hockey encourages you to avoid posting any identifiable information of children under the age of 13. This requires using caution when posting photos alongside any information that could assist a child

predator in naming, contacting, or locating a child. For example, if you are going to post a photo, do not post a name alongside it, or post a photo that does not show a name on the back or a jersey number (if rosters are also on the site). If you are posting rosters with the children's names listed, do not post their home towns. If you are posting a team photo, do not post a corresponding roster that identifies each child by his number. Under no circumstance should you post a child's home address or email address. To be safe, we encourage you to adhere to these guidelines for any youth under the age of 15." If you are going to post this information you are highly encourage to acquire parental consent to alleviate potential liability to your organization. If your local association has a website that frequently shares pictures and status on players you are encouraged to design a release clause in your registration form. If you decide to do this you need to be sure to allow families to opt out of this type of exposure as well. Be sure to inform your webmaster of those families that have chosen to opt out. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked that all association representatives. talk to their webmasters on this sensitive but most important preventive measure! Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) will forward a copy of her information on this to everyone. Donna (Pacific District Director) mentioned that she has a waiver that is being used currently by PSAHA. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked Donna to forward their waiver form to her.

9. Old Business

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) spoke briefly about the Bob Freeland Growth and Development Grant. It is expected that this grant will be approved raising the District Player fee from the current \$.40 to \$1.00 per player. If this grant is approved PNAHA should consider raising player fees to cover this District fee. At both of the last two audits by USA Hockey it was recommended that PNAHA up their player fees to \$10.00. PNAHA player fees are among the lowest in the nation and it was recommended to ensure financial stability.

10. New Business

A. Raise PNAHA Player Fees

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked everyone to really think about the need for the affiliate to raise the player fees from eight dollars to ten dollars. We have discussed this at several meetings and with costs for everything raising it is time to look at this issue. We will revisit this subject at the June or September meeting.

B. Include Player Fees for Adults

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) brought up another subject to consider as well. The Adult leagues have had the largest growth in the state for a number of years. PNAHA has covered the \$.40 per player District fee for adults up to now. If the District fee increases to \$1.00 per player it will no longer be feasible for PNAHA to cover this District fee as it will impact the youth budget dramatically. Since the adults register primarily online she will speak with Rae Briggie about collecting this fee when the adults register. She needs to investigate as to how many adult players do register online and how to identify those that register directly through the local associations. She will report her findings at the June meeting.

11. Spring/Summer Meeting

- The date is for Saturday, June 14, 2008. If it cannot be held at the Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel Katie (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) will send out a notice to all the associations stating where the meeting will be held.

12. Adjournment

- Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) motioned [*to adjourn*], seconded by Diane Craig (YAHA). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:03pm.