



A quorum being present, a Massachusetts Hockey Annual meeting as listed in the Massachusetts Hockey Guide Book 2013-2014 Calendar of Events, was called to order at 8:41AM on Saturday, June 14, 2014, by Keri-Anne Allan, President, at the Radisson Hotel, Plymouth, Massachusetts with attendance recorded by the Secretary including 59 voting members having signed in.

**I. PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:** Welcome to all.

**II. SPECIAL GUESTS/REPORTS:**

**Ron Digregorio:** Proud of what MA hockey is doing. Thank you to the leadership for all they do. He sees a very bright future for MA Hockey.

**Dave Ogden:** Proud of MA Hockey who is considered a leading affiliate of USA hockey. He appreciates our commitment to ADM.

**Mike Lukken:** Appreciates attending our meeting. Congrats on 40 anniversary. He discussed the membership department. Nationally, 8U are up 1%; MA up .2%. He will focus on growing girl's hockey into 2014-15 and the 2 and 2 challenge. Regarding retention: welcome back week will be 9/15-21. In late August an email will be sent to 8U parents reminding them to register etc. Voice message sent out early September.

Try hockey for free: last year 28000 participants. This year's dates Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. Host sites receive 40 USA hockey jerseys, 40 goody bags, and will be provided sanctioning (secondary insurance)

Transition; finding better ways to convert kids from try hockey to teams. Associations should have low cost, low commitment ways to move families into hockey. Coupons given for registration to USA hockey.

Associations will receive acknowledgment, banner, 4 sets 1goal starter equipment. Silver status: additional 6 1goal starter sets. Gold status: many additional rewards offered.

**Roger Grillo:** discussed ADM and showed video of adults playing on oversized ice surface. Thanked Bruins for the help with promoting ADM. Discussed how an association can become a "Model Club" and the benefits of attaining this status. No "Model Clubs" in New England as of yet.

**Mike Dargin:** Book sent out showing what Bruins did in the community for youth hockey. Launching new program called "Little Bruins"

**Tom Babson:** discussed having 13 concussions in his lifetime. He is now involved in research of concussions in hockey. Research is done on what led to the concussion during the game and what was available to protect players. Players, coaches, refs: who has the authority to control the acts that lead to concussions? Refs have control over what happens during the game.

**III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Kevin Kavanagh: This past year our communications platform continues to grow. 18 newsletters sent out with a 38% open rate. Articles on sports nutrition and psychology etc. are of interest to parents. He is also involved in player development activities. 1300 players came through festival. Managing relationships with CCM, Pure Hockey, Becker Arenas. He will expand communications this year. Website will be expanded and cleaned up. Will be an easier navigation and streamline getting information. We will expand our Twitter feed. Twitter will reach players whereas emails go to parents. Sun Valley Consulting is surveying our membership and will report sometime over the summer as to what we do well and what we need to work on.

Felix Constanza proposed a merger between PAT and Groton. The new association will be called Crusaders. Motion to accept merger made by John Tobin and seconded by Greg Sophis. 59 voting members with 90% in favor, 7% opposed, and 1% abstaining.

Affiliated with USA Hockey, Massachusetts Hockey Inc., is the nationally recognized body responsible for the administration and development of ice hockey in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



## **USA HOCKEY MEETING REPORTS:**

**Don Derosia:** now ADM state coordinator working with Roger Grillo. Player Development committee approved a few waivers in other states. Ring binder practice plans are being shipped to him from Ken Martel. Working with NY, CT. Putting together a Veteran's Day jamboree. Looking for up to 90 teams. Will be held at Olympia rink in W. Springfield. Looking to secure a date for a jamboree for up to 68 teams. USA hockey has offered support.

**Mike Bonish:** Youth Council. Highlights: proposals that were voted on will be distributed next week. Progressive penalties will follow the player in effect next season. Tom Smith gave presentation on look up line. Discussed national championships and 2015 sites. Received bids for 2016 nationals. PD camps boys in Buffalo, girls in St. Cloud.

**John Tobin:** The Legal Council met. Compliments to Doc and Tom Smith on their look-up line presentation.

**Tom McGrath:** revisiting tier 1 status. HS committee would like to explore how these players can get involved. Invest more resources in Heads Up Don't Duck.

**Mark Lissner:** GW section meeting discussed 2016 nationals host sites. Revamping girls PD camps to cut down on number of girls going to national camp and expand to east and west regional camp – 2-3 years before in will be implemented.

**Rick Fask;** Disabled section: looking at adding a veterans discipline. Next festival 4/9-12, 2015 in Buffalo.

**Paul Moore** CIC: 24 clinics last year 2400 coaches went through the program. Added additional associated CIC's. Will add additional clinics. In Colorado decided to change level 1...shorter less than 4 hours – more interactive. Level 4 will be condensed to 2 days and should reduce cost.

**Steve Palmacci:** We are up 70 players even though there were losses at u8 level. Looking for unclaimed players to get them registered.

**Steve Fitzgerald:** Risk Manager: Discussed injuries and claims to make sure USA offers the right benefits to the members. Asking for district risk managers to be educated about the insurance protection. Insurance is also available for refs.

**Chris Meyer:** Safe Sport: focus on keeping kids physically, emotionally and socially safe. Also focus on medical safety training. Biggest issue across the country is locker room monitoring. Coaches will not be allowed on roster if not taken Safe Sport. Sexual abuse accusations will be handled at the national level – not local.

**Dennis Doherty:** ref registration starts August 1. Have to take modules before seminar. Last year 1800 went through seminar; 1671 completed and received their crest. He would like to see coaches come to referee clinic. Joe Higgins, Chip Bradbury, Peter Giuliano spoke about their visits to Colorado.

Video on USA Hockey Volunteer Awards and also on Shamrocks sled hockey open house.

Keri acknowledged Charlie Bobish for his work putting together wounded warrior game at Tsongas Arena. Almost \$90,000 raised and contributions made to Travis Roy Foundation and the One Fund Foundation.



Adjourn for lunch: 11:49pm. Meeting called to order at 1:45pm.

Keri would like to reconsider the 8U rule voted on in March as a topic of discussion. The rule would have allowed three 8 years olds to move up to 10U. She would like a 2/3 vote to reconsider the rule.

Don Derosia: discussed how the rule was already voted on. He feels the girls should have a separate rule.

#### **RULE VOTES:**

Allen Wright: Proposal 1 & 2 will be discussed at the end because if passed people would lose their vote

Proposal 3 Amendment: hand vote: motion carried by majority. Proposal 3 as amended passed by majority

Proposal 4: 91% in favor 5% against 3% abstain

Proposal 5: vote to table until 8U rule is discussed. Table passed by majority

Proposal 6: in favor 93% against 5% abstain 2%

Proposal 7: in favor 95% against 5% abstain 0%

Proposal 8: in favor 97% against 3% abstain 0%

Proposal 9: in favor 100%

Proposal 10: in favor 83% against 15% abstain 2%

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Motion to approve May general meeting minutes by Mike Bonish second Allen Wright approved by majority.

**TREASURE REPORT:** Clean audit. Proposed budget projects a \$4000 surplus. Need to vote on FC authorization budget of \$50000 for \$500 to be sent to rinks implementing the look up line. Motion by Mike Bonish , seconded by John Tobin. Motion to approve budget by John Tobin second Rick Fask.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Dennis Doherty:** Discussed payment scales for referees and a vote for rate increases. Motion to accept new pay scales by Phil Zona, seconded by Rick Fask. Motion carried by majority.

**Rick Fask:** Spoke about the Disabled Festival. Thank volunteers.

**Tom Troiano:** Long range planning committee has been working on what changes need to take place. Once survey results are known, we will reconvene.

**Don Derosa:** subsidized 35 sets of dividers. Application will be back on the website soon.

**Keri Allan:** Discussion on general meeting venues. Hilton garden will not contract for the whole year and prices have gone up. Restaurante Marsollino in Waltham has hosted committee meetings. The only require us to purchase food. Majority approved to try restaurant in September.

Motion made to recess until tomorrow and approved by majority.

Sunday, June 14, 2014: Meeting called to order at 8:31AM by Keri Allan.

Motion to take Proposal 5 off the table; Seconded and approved.

Amending proposal 5 to add in for 3 players to be moved and additional 3 with a waiver. Against 71% favor 27% abstain 2%

Proposal 5 amendment by Mark Lissner: 55% in favor 43% against 2% abstain



Motion to accept original proposal 5: 35% in favor, 57% against, 9% abstain

Motion to accept proposal 2: favor 31% against 67% abstain 2. Proposal 1: favor 26% 70% against 4% abstain

Seating of new officers: Allen will become Director at Large. John Tobin will be First VP. Eric Davis & Steve Rizzo will be At Large.

Closing comments from Keri.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08AM

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy O'Neil  
Secretary

Reviewed and approved,

Keri-Anne Allan  
President and Presiding Officer