

Alaska State Hockey Association
Board Meeting
October 10, 2015

Members present: Justin Marcum, Destry Lind, Jason Dinneen, Tim Zobel, Annetta Powell, David Cacciolfi, Pauline Tise, Dima Kulmanovsky, Jack Tragis, Carlos Gomez, Ted Barton, Joey Merrick, Todd Henderson, Jackie Graeber, Travis Frisk, Sally Wright, Marten Martensen (alt.), Doug Campbell (alt.) and Rick Gregonin (alt.).

Members present electronically: Luther Brice

Officers present: Darryl Thompson, Brenda Luthi, Joe Newhouse, Matt Shasby, Anna Culley, Kirk Payne, Wayne Sawchuk, Carol Hammingh and Bruce Graham

Members excused: Matt Shotenski, Merit Waldrop, Dave Ruiz and John Glover.

USA Hockey official present: None

Visitors present: None

The meeting was called to order by Darryl Thompson, President.

Seating of Board Members:

Doug Campbell alternate for Matt Shotenski
Marten Martensen for Merit Waldrop

Introductions were made of everyone present.

The agenda was approved with changes.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Two magazines were the only correspondence.

Persons to be heard: There were none.

Discipline Committee: Darryl Thompson gave a big thank you to Bruce Graham for his work on the Discipline Committee. Bruce introduced himself and explained how the Discipline Committee works. Last year there were 15 match penalties (9 adult and 6 youth). He asked the adult leagues to talk with their players about consequences for their behavior during games.

USA Hockey Foundation Investment: Joe Newhouse and Travis Frisk reported that ASHA does not have any investment policies in the By-Laws, and we need them there if we choose to participate in the USA Hockey Foundation Investment. We also need to form a committee to look into this investment, which already has Joe

Newhouse and Travis Frisk on it. They explained that it would be a long-term investment. The Pros are that USA Hockey has a professional money manager managing the account, there would be no cost to ASHA to invest any money, we would make between 5-6% on our earnings, and they have heard no complaints about the firm who is doing the investing. The cons are that it does tie up our money and there is always an increased risk of losing money depending upon the stock market. ASHA now has to decide if we want to pursue this investment opportunity.

President's Report: Darryl Thompson discussed the delinquent player accounts and the ASHA process to deal with this. USA Hockey is possibly looking at revamping their policy, which could affect us. He will keep us posted. USA Hockey is also looking into the playing of non-sanctioned games and the effect it has on us. USA Hockey is trying to establish new rules for Tier I teams. Darryl will have an email sent out after October 15, 2015, which will explain the criteria. There will be 17 teams coming up to Anchorage for the District Girls' Tournament in the spring, which is hosted by AHA. There is only one Tier I U14 and U19 girls team in the district, both from California, and they advance directly to Nationals and will not be coming to Alaska for Districts. There is a USA Hockey rule that states there cannot be an invitational tournament within 100 miles of a national tournament, but Darryl received a waiver for the Mac Attack in the spring. SafeSport has had a lag in the updating because of USA Hockey, but it should be caught up soon. Darryl reminded teams that Andrew Good needs the score sheets in order to keep the website updated.

Finance Report: Joe Newhouse went over the financial statements. He reminded associations to pay their travel fund money for the season.

VP Tournaments: Carol Hammingh reported that the comp registrations are due today. She is working on the comp state tournament schedules. The rough draft schedules were distributed to the Comp Council so that individual teams and coaches could make sure they are workable. Once they are set, she will not be making changes like last year. Carol commented that the Bantam Tier III State Tournament is being held in Fairbanks the same weekend as some other events, so be sure to book your hotels soon.

VP Comp Council: Matt Shasby reported that at the Comp Council meeting which was held prior to the ASHA Board Meeting, the Squirt and PeeWee season ending times were discussed. The Comp Council also discussed and came up with new try-out schedules for next year: First Tuesday of August, ice sheet not to exceed 1.25 hour in length and only one tryout per day per division classification. The Comp Council also held a discussion regarding high school hockey. There is a possibility of high school hockey becoming a fall sport (August-November), which would mean comp hockey could start following the high school season with fewer restrictions. They are open to any discussions and opinions.

VP House Council: Anna Culley reported that the House Council held their scheduling meeting last night and it went very well. She needs to know by October 15, 2015 who the tournament directors are for all House State Tournaments. December 1, 2015 is the due date for registration for House State Tournaments, these should be sent to Carol Hammingh.

VP Girls/Women: Kirk Payne reported that they are working on the District Tournament. There will be a meeting on November 9, 2015 at noon at the BP Energy Center.

VP Adult Council: No report.

VP Player Development: Wayne Sawchuk reported that during their recent meeting they discussed the high school hockey issue. The registration for Selects will be November 1, 2015-December 7, 2015. He also needs the name of at least one volunteer from each association, or a fine will be levied.

Associate Risk Manager: No report.

Registrar: No report.

Referee-in-Chief: Tim Zobel reported that there were four females at the Level 1 referee clinic, which is great. The numbers attending Level 1 clinics are down. We are in need of new officials.

Coach-in-Chief: No report.

Junior Hockey: Jack Tragis reported that the season is underway. There are 22 teams in the NAHL (see attached).

SafeSport: No report.

District Report: No report.

National Tournament Committee: The next meeting will be October 14, 2015 at 6:00 at the BP Energy Center.

Old Business:

Brenda Luthi presented some guidelines for conducting business online as compiled by the electronic voting committee (see attached). Comments and suggestions are welcome from the ASHA Board. They will present a first reading at the December ASHA meeting. ASHA now owns audio conferencing equipment. If a committee needs to use it, Joe Newhouse will store it at his office.

Board Member Comments:

Carol Hammingh commented that she was unsure about the GoFundMe accounts that are hockey fundraisers. After much discussion, it was decided that Joe Newhouse would contact the treasurers involved to discuss this issue.

Joe Merrick commented that the information for the Mac Attack will be distributed soon.

Carlos Gomez commented that girls' high school hockey will start next week. There are six teams this year. During the first week of November, there will be a high school alumni hockey game with the winner playing in the annual Guns & Hoses Hockey game. The Pond Hockey Tournament will be held in the spring again this season. Check AKpond.com for more information.

Ted Barton asked for clarification on the Tier II direct bye to nationals – it is for youth teams.

Matt Shasby commented that he welcomed all comments on high school hockey/comp hockey.

Darryl Thompson gave thanks to all of the volunteers who make Alaska hockey work. Hockey is for life☺

The next meeting will be Saturday, December 5, 2015. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Luthi
ASHA Secretary