



Meeting was called to order by President Dave Margenau at 8:00 AM.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Rhonda Madsen.

Board Members Present:

President Dave Margenau	Vice President Scott Gray	Vice President Dave Stigen
Treasurer Doug Kephart	Secretary Rhonda Madsen	Director Tom Mickus
Director Jake Reinseth	Director Nicole Brodersen	Director Jeremy Reed
Director Steve Gapinski	Director Rich Rakness	Director Tom Christensen
Director Colleen Donovan	Director Pete Hill	Director Steve Oleheiser
Director Dennis Bushy	Director Mark Elliot	Director Brad Hewitt
Girls HS Director Tim Morris	Boys HS Director Mark Manney	Director Disabled Hockey Antonia Gillen
Director Women's Hockey Nancy Wefler		

Staff Present: Executive Director Glen Andresen and Marketing/Communications Manager Derek Ricke

Minnesota District Representatives Present:

Dave Margenau, Director	Doug Kephart, Director	Steve Oleheiser, Director
Toni Gillen, Disabled Hockey	Scott Gray, Director	Todd Elmer, Registrar
Steve Tatro, Referees	Travis Johnson, Risk Manager	Chris Lonke, High School Rep

The voting quorum was announced. With 22 voting members present, simple majority was twelve (12), two-thirds majority was sixteen (16).

Moment of Silence in memory of Clarence Tatro (Steve Tatro's Father), Margaret Seby (John Perry's Mother-in-Law), Walter Bush (Past MH President, USA Hockey President and Chairman of the Board), Bruce Kruger (MN District Risk Manager, MHL Treasurer), Mary Lou Terwilliger (Mike Terwilliger's Mother), and Ted Fenske (D2 Director and MNH VP).

Minutes for the September 18, 2016 meeting were previously distributed electronically. With no changes or corrections, the minutes stand as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kephart reported the Financial Statements through December 31, 2016. Revenues reported were \$978,851.79 and expenses reported were \$506,740.19 resulting in a net income of \$472,111.60. The financial statements will be referred to audit.

A motion was made to adopt the audit report that was completed by Smith Safer. Director Oleheiser seconded the motion. Discussion: Cost of the audit is approximately \$7,200 based on a two year contract.. In addition to the audit, Smith Shafer provides other services.. Motion carried.

President's Report: President Margenau referred his letter in the Annual Report highlighting the areas of growing the game, developing players, and providing a safe environment for players and thanked the board members for their participation in yesterday afternoon planning exercise

Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Andresen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes. Director Andresen shared that after the Strategic Planning exercise held yesterday, there was a discussion that staff would like to attend District meetings to establish commonality between Staff and the Districts.

Committee Reports

Administrative Management: President Margenau reported that the Committee reviewed and approved a merit increase for Executive Director Glen Andresen after completion of his annual review. The Committee looked into the health insurance benefit that is provided for the staff and after investigating, decided to offer a Group Health Plan through Health Partners and to increase the contribution from MNH towards the premium.

District Directors: Director Oleheiser highlighted the following topics that were discussed during the District Director Committee meeting: Participation Rule, which will be referred to the Rules Committee; AA Process, which will be referred to the Competition Committee; and Mite Rostering criteria.

District 1 – Director Mickus reported that the Girls Try Hockey event went well..

District 2 – Director Reinseth had nothing to report.

District 3 – Director Broderson reported that she is the new District Director and thanked Scott Dornfeld and Todd Elmer for all their assistance transitioning her into the position.

District 4 – Director Reed reported that February 12th their league will be ending. He also and extended a thank you to Glen Andresen for assisting him with players leaving to play AAA and then returning. D4 is incorporating a once-a-month program for Mites.

District 5 – Director Gapinski reported that his position is up for election this year; and they are preparing for Districts and Regions.

District 6 – Director Hewitt had nothing to report.

District 8 – Director Rakness reported that he has had fighting penalties at the 12U-A and Squirt C levels.

District 9 – Director Christensen reported that he encountered their first SafeSport issue and thanked Scott Gray for his assistance.

District 10 – Director Donovan reported that they are hosting 5 Region and 2 State Tournaments; that her position is up for election this year; and she extended a thank you to Scott Gray and Steve Oleheiser for the assistance with the issue that was encountered with one of the Associations.

District 11 – Director Hill reported that he is preparing for the 4 Region and 1 State Tournament they are hosting.

District 12 – Director Oleheiser reported that he has had a couple of match penalties, as well as a parent ejection; and February 12th their League play will be ending.

District 15 – Director Bushy reported that he will be having a seeding meeting on February 8th for his District Tournament; and he is doing some housekeeping with the elections coming up.

District 16 – Director Elliot thanked Scott Gray for his assistance with incidents they've encountered.

Diversity: Director Mickus has received one grant application that was submitted from the Dyno Mites that has been approved.

Executive Committee: President Margenau highlighted agenda items that were discussed in the committee meeting:

- USA Hockey Appointments: The Committee received two applications for the Registrar position and recommended that Todd Elmer be appointed. Todd Elmer was subsequently appointed to the USA Hockey, Minnesota District Registrar position. . Four applications were received for the Risk Manager position and made recommendation of Travis Johnson to USA Hockey. Travis Johnson was subsequently appointed by USA Hockey to the Minnesota District Risk Manager position..
- Junior Teams: There are currently 14 Junior teams in MNH. Applications have been made for additional teams in Forest Lake and Isanti . USAH Junior Council have turned down Forest Lake and the decision for Isanti is pending.
- MNH currently has a Junior Director on the Board. After discussion, the Executive Committee is proposing that the Junior Director position be removed. MNH by-laws will need be amended to remove the position and will go to the Rules Committee to bring to the Board in April for consideration.
- MN Fire: The MN Fire team operated outside their special agreement. MNH will be taking action against the team.
- Fall Meeting: The fall meeting will be held at Eddy's on Mille Lacs September 22-24, 2017.

Finance and Budget: Finance and Budget Committee Chair Kephart brought forth two action items needing Board approval: A motion was made to invest \$300,000 into the USA Hockey Foundation in addition to the \$500,000 we currently have invested there. Motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to purchase additional \$500K crime and social engineering insurance at a cost of \$608 per year.. Motion was seconded and carried.

Girls: VP Stigen reported that 15U-A will have three Region Tournaments (American, National and Olympic), in which they will need to be seeded. 15U-B league will have two Region Tournaments, both hosted by District 10.

Grievance Committee: Director Oleheiser reported that the Committee is currently dealing with one on-going grievance.

High School Boys: Director Manney reported there was a fall clinic in which they partnered with the Wild that was very popular and are looking to expand it further. Their partnership with the State of Hockey and the Wild will provide live streaming for all the boys and girls section finals, which MNH will have 30 second spots during the broadcasts. The Hall of Fame Banquet has moved from March to September.

High School Girls: Director Morris reported that their Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on February 25th. A committee was formed to review the Girls 15U Pilot Program, which will be voted on in April. Committee members are Dave Stigen, Scott Dornfeld, Tim Morris, and Nancy Wefler.

Handbook: Committee Chair Halverson had nothing to report.

MIAMA: Director Rakness reported that MIAMA will be partnering with ISI (Ice Skating Institute of America) for the spring conference being held in April in Bloomington; and the one day workshop has been moved and will be held in December in Duluth.

Marketing and Communication: Vice President Gray's report stands.

Membership Development: Marketing/Communications Manager Ricke submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes, highlighting the new record for 8U players is 17,767.

Nominating: President Margenau asked Director Emeritus Jim Bullard to Chair the Nominating Committee for the upcoming election for the VP of Hockey Operations (One year remaining of three year term), Treasurer, and Secretary MNH Board positions and two USA Hockey Director positions. Director Emeritus Jim Bullard has agreed to Chair. Election will occur at the annual meeting in April.

Recreational Hockey: Director Mickus reported that there are approximately 670 current players and that they didn't count on kids aging out; however, the program is continuing to grow and no player is ever turned down. There will be a festival on March 25, 2017 at the Bloomington Ice Gardens. The Recreational Hockey Board is expanding.

Referees: Referee Section Director Olson was not in attendance but submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes. MN District Referee Representative Steve Tatro reported that all seminars have been completed; out-state officials are down by 33; and they need to work on recruitment and retention of officials.

Regional Coordinators: Vice President Stigen reported that the tournament brackets have been distributed.

SafeSport/Screening: Director Gray submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Scholarships: Deadline for the Jr. Gold Scholarship is February 28th. Directors are asked to promote this scholarship in your District meetings.

Tournament/Awards: District Directors should get their Director Awards order submitted to Tim Sweezo. Each Director is entitled to two awards.

Submit any nominations for the Wm Tutt Award to Glen Andresen, or if you'd like to be part of the selection committee, let Glen know. The nomination selected will be submitted to USA Hockey.

USA Hockey Reports

Director Margenau submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Director Kephart submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Director Gray submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes. Also reported was a By-law change to adopt USCO to take on SafeSport Center for SafeSport incidents.

Director Oleheiser submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Girls' and Women's Section Rep Foster submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Disabled Committee Rep, O'Brien-Gillen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

District Registrar Elmer reported that next year if coaches that haven't completed their SafeSport training, the program will not allow Registrars to put those coaches on a roster. Consent to treat forms will not be required any longer effective next year. There will be changes to the waiver of liability.

District Risk Manager Johnson had nothing to report.

New Business:

Proposed Bylaw and Youth Rule Changes

B1. *We presently state that female players may participate on either Girls teams or Youth teams. Apparently some Associations are trying to mandate that female players participate on Girls teams, claiming that "may participate" does not mean they *have* to let them. The Rules Committee is proposing to strengthen this language so it leaves no ambiguity.*

B2. *Add Adults to the exceptions for playing on more than one team.*

ARTICLE 5 – REGISTRATION

- A. Affiliate members whose team(s) intend to participate with any other MH or USAH team(s) must register all of their players and coaches and all of their teams in accordance with the rules and regulations of their respective playing division, and list all of their players and coaches on an official USAH Roster.
- B. Out of state and Canadian teams playing in leagues under the jurisdiction of MH shall comply with all regulations of this Article of these By-Laws.
- [B1] C. ~~Female players may participate on either Girl's/Women's teams or Youth/Adult teams.~~ **Male and female players shall be allowed to participate or try out for all Youth and Adult teams while only female players are allowed to participate or try out for Girls and Women's teams.**
- [B2] D. No player shall be registered with two or more MH/USAH teams at the same time regardless of division or classification. Exceptions may be made for House League teams, MH Tier 1 teams, **Adult** and Women hockey players only. (Refer to Youth Rules and Regulations and to Women's Operating Rules)

B3. *Remove legacy reference to "open teams" regarding Canadian players.*

ARTICLE 10 – CHA RELATIONS

- 1. CHA (Canadian) teams playing in the US must have permission to do so. Likewise, US teams playing in Canada must follow similar procedure. Permission can be obtained from the USAH Minnesota District Registrar. Failure to obtain permission may subject the team to suspension.

[B3] ~~2. Open teams and leagues should be certain that transfers from the Canadian Hockey Association have been procured for any Canadian players and/or foreign players on their teams.~~

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as B1, B2 and B3 to be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Youth Rules Changes

R1. *Need to update our Age Certification paragraph to account for the USA Hockey database.*

III. CITIZENSHIP AND AGE REGULATIONS

E. AGE CERTIFICATION - Government issued (state or county) birth certificates or passport must be

[R1] presented for all players for inspection by the proper authority at the time of player registration **a player registers** (except as provided in paragraph I-A herein) ~~and prior to each district, region and state tournament~~ **unless the player is already on the age/citizenship verification list provided by USA Hockey.**

R2. Our Youth Rules presently require a skate sharpening service to be available at all District, Region and State Tournament sites. It is proposed to ease this to a recommendation.

R3. Rather than repeating the team check-in process in the Tournaments section of the Youth Rules, it is proposed to refer to the process that is covered elsewhere in the Handbook. The reference to coach/manager meetings and CEP verification should be retained, since these are not included in the normal check-in process (page 69).

X. DISTRICT, REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

O. MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS – The following minimum requirements shall apply to facilities used for MH Region and State Tournaments. Any exceptions to these requirements must be requested in writing to the Tournaments Committee Chair for consideration by the Tournaments Committee.

1. The ice sheet shall be a minimum of 200'x85', refrigerated (artificial), enclosed in a building which seats a minimum of 500 spectators.
2. The facility must have a mechanical resurfacers (Zamboni) in good operating condition. If propane or gasoline powered, a catalytic muffler should be installed and adequate building ventilation provided.
3. Four dressing rooms (minimum) are required. They must be...
10. A public address system in the arena is required.

[R2] ~~11. Skate sharpening service must be provided at the arena.~~

11. A full service concession stand is recommended. Miscellaneous supplies such as mouthguards, tape, sticks, and skate laces should be available for sale, **as well as skate sharpening service.**

Q. CREDENTIALS - A Credentials Committee, including an official of MH such as a District Director or his/her

[R3] designee, shall check each team's credentials prior to their playing of any games **in accordance with the Team Credentials Package section in the Handbook.** ~~Each team participating in invitational, district, region or state tournaments must present the following credentials package to the Credentials Committee prior to tournament participation. Any team that does not have a properly completed credentials package is not allowed to participate in the tournament. A meeting of the coaches and managers of the participating teams should be held before the tournament starts.~~

Amended to read: A meeting with each coach and manager of the participating teams should be held before their first game.

- ~~1. Player Roster must be approved by an individual that is authorized to approve rosters.~~
- ~~2. Waivers for any players who are not members of the team's affiliate, based on the Participation Rule. Waivers apply only to MH teams. Invitational Tournaments are not required to check waivers.~~
- ~~3. An approval letter from the Minnesota District Registrar for any player that is playing in a younger age group than is implicit based on the player's birthdate.~~
- ~~4. High School attendance certification form for Junior Gold and Junior Gold 16 teams.~~
5. For MH District, Region and State tournaments, the Coaching Education Program certification requirements shall be checked for all coaches prior to the first game of the tournament.

R4. Due to some rearranging of paragraphs in the Conduct section, the 3-game suspension rule for spectators removed from the arena was inadvertently placed so it only applied to removal by the district director or his/her designate at District/Region/State Tournaments. Since this was not the intent, the revision below is proposed and is intended to become effective immediately on its approval by the Board.

XIV. CONDUCT

C. If spectator conduct becomes so abusive that, in the referee(s) opinion, it is distracting from the game or inciting the players, the referee(s) will stop play and:

1. Ask the coach(es) to control their spectators and/or;
2. Ask the coach(es) to request specified individuals to leave the arena.

Disruptive use of artificial noise makers will be considered abusive conduct. Possession of a device that could be detrimental to the players or to the conduct of the game, such as a laser pointer, will be considered abusive conduct and reported to local law enforcement officials.

D. During MH playoffs or invitational tournaments, the District Director, designated district personnel or the tournament director shall have the authority to take actions as necessary to control spectator conduct.

[R4] ~~Any spectator removed under this paragraph will incur a mandatory minimum 3-game suspension from that team's games and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.~~

E. Any spectator removed under either Para. C or D above will incur a mandatory minimum 3-game suspension from that team's games and may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R1, R2, R3 as amended, and R4 to be approved as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Minneapolis West March 31 – April 2, 2017.

With no further business, President Margenau adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda J Madsen, Recording Secretary