



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	Scott Riopolle for Director Mark Elliot	Director Brad Hewitt
Dir Adult Hockey Dave Swenson	Dir Disabled Hockey Antonia Gillen	Director Women's Hockey Nancy Wefler
Section Referee Director Eric Olson		

Staff Present: Executive Director Glen Andresen, Financial Administrator Kathy Hayes, Marketing/Communications Manager Derek Ricke, and Hockey Program Manager Mike Terwilliger

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	Doug Foster, Section Director Girls

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

Moment of Silence was observed in memory of Jeff Sauer, US National Sled Hockey Coach; and Denis Altman, spouse of Ginny Altman.

Minutes for the January 29, 2017 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 February 28, 2017. Revenues reported were \$1,204,745.38 and expenses reported were \$938,835.10 resulting in a net income of \$265,910.25. The financial statements will be referred to audit.

President's Report: President Margenau reflected on the Annual Award Dinner celebration that was held last night and the passion for the game of hockey exhibited by all the awards recipients. Thank you to everyone for your dedication, love, and passion for growing the game and providing player development opportunities in a safe environment for all our players.

Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Andresen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Committee Reports

Administrative Management: Nothing to report.

Adult Hockey: Director Swenson announced that he will be stepping down from his position. An election for the Adult Director will be held in April. Brandon Koontz was introduced as a candidate for the Adult Hockey Director position. President Margenau recognized Director Swenson for his 12 years of service.

Adult Women: WHAM will have ten (10) teams participating in the Over 40 League running from March through May. Four (4) teams will be participating at Nationals in Florida and two (2) teams will be participating in the Senior Nationals. A Hockey 101 class will be held May 2nd at the Plymouth Ice Center.

Business Development: Mike Terwilliger submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Disabled Hockey: Director Gillen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes, highlighting that five (5) teams will be attending the festival in California.

District Directors: Director Oleheiser highlighted the following topics that were discussed during the District Director Committee meeting: Spare Goalie Rule for Region and State Tournaments, Jr Gold Eject Rule3, and the proposed Concussions rule, which were all referred to the Rules Committee; and Region Tournaments changes to increase team fee, eliminate gate and MH subsidy, which was referred to the Tournament Committee.

A motion was made to eliminate the Pilot and continue the Girls 15U Program. Motion carried unanimously.

District 1 – Director Mickus had nothing to report.

District 2 – Director Reinseth reported that they are working on getting better volunteers and that D2 will be hosting the 2018 Bantam AA East Region Tournament currently assigned to D4.

District 3 – Director Broderson reported that they are working with their Officials on fan and coaches conduct. They will continue to provide education on the severity of kicking penalties.

District 4 – Director Reed reported that there has been improvement in their Associations with the ADM/Player Development at the 8U Level.

District 5 – Director Gapinski reported that D5 had a record year sending eleven (11) teams to the State Tournament. Elections are being held Wednesday, April 5, 2017. Next year D5 will be hosting four (4) Regions and two (2) State Tournament.

District 6 – Director Hewitt reported that the Region and State Tournaments D6 hosted went well.

District 8 – Director Rakness reported that he received a letter from Red Wing requesting to move from District 9 to District 8 for 2017-18.

District 9 – Director Christensen reported that there has been some turnover on the Board and that D9 had three (3) teams participating in the State Tournament.

District 10 – Director Donovan reported that the five (5) Region and two (2) State Tournaments D10 hosted went well. The D10 Annual Meeting is Monday, April 3, 2017 and that she is up for re-election.

District 11 – Director Hill reported that the Region and State Tournaments D11 are hosted went well. Next year D11 will be hosting two (2) Region and one (1) State Tournament.

District 12 – Director Oleheiser reported that the season went well and to remind Invitational Tournament Directors to check rosters.

District 15 – Director Bushy reported that they had six (6) teams participating in the State Tournament and will be hosting three (3) Region Tournaments next year. He is up for re-election this year.

District 16 – Scott Riopelle had nothing to report.

Diversity: Director Mickus reported that there is \$1,500 remaining in the 2016-17 Diversity budget and does not currently have any requests.

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

- MN Fire Team: it was alleged that the MN Fire team participated in a tournament in Florida without being sanctioned, dual rostered players, participated in scrimmage games with USA Hockey sanctioned teams and were not being registered in MN. MNH conducted a hearing and concluded that the team was a registered AAU team and that the dual rostered players were in error and those that played were not dual rostered. A cautionary letter was issued.
- The Committee will be seeking support for adopting a policy regarding school teams initiated by school administration.

Finance and Budget: Finance and Budget Committee Chair Kephart brought forth an action items needing Board approval: A motion was made to approve \$17,000 for the Hockey Director Conference April 22-23, 2017. Motion was seconded and carried.

Budget request forms will be distributed within a two-week's notice and will be due on May 19, 2017.

Girls: VP Stigen reported that everything went well this season.

Grievance Committee: Director Oleheiser reported that it was a good year with only a few grievances filed.

High School Boys: Director Manney submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Handbook: Committee Chair Halverson had nothing to report but asked that the District Directors have their sites for 2018 Region and State Tournaments identified by the Summer meeting.

Hockey Operations: Written reports are attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

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 the fall.

Marketing and Communication: Vice President Gray's submitted a summary of his report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Membership Development: Marketing/Communications Manager Ricke submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes, highlighting that the State record was broke for 8U players at 18,000.

Recreational Hockey: Director Mickus reported that there continues to be growth in the program. There was a Rec Hockey Festival held March 25, 2017 at the Bloomington Ice Gardens. They are currently planning for next year.

Referees: Referee Section Director Olson submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes. Mike Mannin was introduced as the new MOHA President.

Regional Coordinators: Vice President Stigen asked that selected sites be submitted.

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

Tournament/Awards: Committee Chair Nyhus reported the final number for Invitational Tournaments was 675, with total MH Invitational fees collected of \$70,050 including late fees of \$4,750.

New Business:

Proposed Bylaw and Youth Rule Changes

Bylaws Changes

B1. Remove the voting Board position of Juniors Director.

ARTICLE 7 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[B1] Adult **and** Women ~~and Junior~~ Directors: Adults **and** Women ~~and Juniors~~ shall each have a representative Director on the Board. These Directors shall represent their respective areas, perform such other duties as assigned to them by the President and shall be elected at a caucus of the representatives from the registered teams in each classification.

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

Youth Rules Changes

R1. To streamline the registration process, the USAH Minnesota District Registrar would like players participating at the "House" level to provide proof of date-of-birth and legal residency.

I. TEAM REGISTRATION

A. **Team Rosters** A USAH Roster Form must be completed for each team and submitted along with proof of date of birth, proof of legal residency for non-US citizens and other required

documentation (refer to paragraph entitled Credentials hereinafter) to the USAH Registrar or designee for approval.

[R1] Players on teams categorized as "~~House~~" or "Recreational" are exempt from submitting proof of date of birth or proof of legal residency for non-US citizens. Documentation may be required by the Director, Registrar or local association on an exception basis where citizenship, gender or age is questioned.

The Committee recommended changes defined as R1 to be approved as amended and presented. **Motion carried, with one opposed.**

R2. *At the Winter Meeting, we looked at a proposal to refine our definition of "Residence". The group was OK with what was presented, with the exception that they wanted to strike the language regarding living with closely-related family members, and the reference to where the majority of their personal possessions are located. This proposal is presented now for official Board consideration:*

R3. *The verbiage regarding schools that normally include students from more than one youth hockey association was placed in para. 3, which is about mandatory waivers. It is proposed to move this provision to the definitions section, along with some modifications to clarify the intent.*

IV. PARTICIPATION

2. Definitions

[R2] ~~**Residence** – the community in which the parent(s) or legal guardian(s)/custodian(s) as confirmed by a court, having primary custody live(s) the majority of time when tryouts begin. A pending move is not considered unless the parent or legal guardian has closed on the sale of a new residence. Players moving after tryouts begin can be assigned to teams on a space available basis.~~

Residence – *The legal dwelling of the player's parent(s) or court-appointed legal guardian(s) having custody of the player as substantiated by sufficient evidence to establish the location of the legal dwelling such as a valid driver's license, lease, property tax bill, utility bills or other persuasive evidence as to where the player lives. A pending relocation is not considered to be the player's residence unless the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have completed the purchase or executed a lease and moved into the new residence. In the case of foreign exchange students, the place the player resides while in the USA shall be considered the player's residence. Players moving after tryouts begin can be assigned to teams on a space-available basis.*

Association of Residence – the association whose boundaries include the player's residence.

Association of School Attendance – the association whose boundaries include the location of the school the player attends.

[R3] ~~If a player attends their normally assigned public school, and that school normally includes students from more than one youth hockey association, the player shall be assigned to their Association of Residence and is not eligible for a school attendance waiver.~~

Note: A player attending a public school that encompasses the boundaries of more than one youth hockey association has the following options:

- **Participate in his/her Association of Residence**

- **If the player does not live within the boundaries of the associations the school feeds, the player may pick one of the associations as his/her Association of School Attendance on a one-time-choice basis.**

Home Association – either the Association of Residence, or the Association of School Attendance to which a player has been properly waived and continues to attend school.

School – the primary educational provider of the student to achieve progress towards a high school diploma, the equivalent of a high school diploma, or any post high school degree. If the provider does not instruct the student at a physical facility, the location of the school shall be the student’s primary residence. High school students taking post high school classes shall not be deemed to be attending school at the post high school provider’s location.

Mandatory Waiver – neither the releasing nor the accepting association can decline to approve a school attendance waiver that meets the requirements as described below.

Discretionary Waiver – an agreement between associations to transfer a player for reasons as agreed to by the affected associations and District Director(s). Any of the approving parties have the authority to reject such a waiver.

R4. Clarify para. 5(a) and add provision allowing 9th Graders to change schools without penalty.

IV. PARTICIPATION

5. Changing Schools

- [R4] a. ~~Players who change schools without a related change of residence~~ **do not live in the attendance area of the school they attend** shall elect one of the following:
1. Have full eligibility to compete at any division in their Association of Residence; or
 2. Be eligible at all except the highest division in their ~~new~~ Association of School Attendance for one year beginning with the first day of attendance in the ~~new~~ school, **with full eligibility thereafter.**

Exception: Players enrolling in 9th Grade for the first time are immediately eligible to compete at any division in their Association of School Attendance.

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

R6. The following clarification is proposed to clarify the Fair Play tie breaking rule.

VIII. PLAYING RULES

5. If two or more teams are tied in final standings, the following process shall be used to determine position in the standings. If the tied teams played an unequal number of games, the formula results stated below must be determined by a percentage of available points in the games played. When the tie involves two teams, the tie breaking formulas shall be used in succession until the tie is broken beginning with 5.a. When the tie involves three or more teams, their position in the standings shall be determined using the

same process, except when one formula establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in the applicable position. Once a team(s) is placed, the tie-breaking process shall be restarted at formula 5.a for the remaining tied teams.

- [R6]
- a. **Total points from** head to head competition among tied teams including Fair Play points.
 - b. Most wins in league play.
 - c. Fewest losses in league play

The Committee recommended changes defined as R6 to be approved and presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

R7. The Jr Gold EJ Rule G (pg 27) says that if a player receives his third penalty and continues to play, he is considered an ineligible player and the game is forfeited. The official, scorekeeper, coach and player have joint responsibility to enforce this. However, the Protest Rule (pg 30) says if the official fails to enforce an in-game suspension, the player is not considered an ineligible player. The below rule change is proposed to resolve this conflict.

IX. PROTESTS

No protests relating to the playing of the game are allowed in any MH play. This includes scrimmage games, league games, invitational tournament games and MH tournament games with the following exceptions:

- A. Districts or Leagues may establish a protest policy/process for their district or league games. If such a policy/process is adopted, the district director shall be the final authority - no further appeals are allowed.
- B. Ineligible player protests will be accepted in MH sanctioned competition. The protesting team must furnish evidence substantiating the ineligibility of the player in question. The protest must be made to the cognizant district director or tournament director who will rule on the player's eligibility and whose decision shall be final. If the player is ruled ineligible, all games in which the ineligible player participated will be forfeited. If the officials fail to assess an in-game suspension to a player who should have

- [R7] received one under USAH or MH rules, the player is not considered an ineligible player, **with the exception of a Junior Gold Game Ejection for a player receiving his third penalty in a game.**

The protest must be filed within one hour for tournament games and twenty-four hours for league games after the completion of the game in which the alleged violation occurred.

The Committee recommended changes defined as R7 to be approved and presented. **Motion Failed.**

Proposed Changes To Non-Governing Documents

NG1. The change proposed below would allow the District Directors to determine the levels of play for Pee wee A/AA and Bantam A/AA teams rather than that authority being controlled by the Competition Committee. Refer to page 38 in the Handbook.

Pee wee & Bantam AA Region/State Tournaments

Peewee A and Bantam A teams will be split into "A" and "AA" sub-divisions at the end of the season for the purpose of State Tournaments and associated playdowns. The process to do this will be as follows:

1. The AA sub-division started with the 2012-13 season. The default sub-division for teams (A or AA) was determined by the Minnesota State HS League classification of the boys' HS programs that the association served. Associations were allowed to request a change from AA-to-A or A-to-AA sub-divisions.
2. Going forward, teams will be assigned to the same sub-division as they were the previous season - the process as indicated below can be used to request a sub-division change. For new teams, the subdivision will be assigned by default as indicated above, ~~submit form~~ **subject to a request** ~~ed~~ change. Any team that by default qualified to be AA, petitioned down to A, and then won the A state tournament will need to ~~resubmit their form to continue~~ **justify continuing** to participate at the A level, or upgrade to AA the following season.
3. Associations may request to change their sub-division from AA-to-A or A-to-AA ~~using the "Sub-Division Change Form". The form shall be completely and honestly filled out, including rationale as to why their Peewee and/or Bantam teams should change sub divisions, and must be signed by the Association President.~~ Bantams and Peewees can be in different sub-divisions (one at A – the other at AA).
4. Associations can have multiple AA teams, or one AA team and one or more A teams. If an association having an AA team wants to have multiple A teams, the A teams have to be picked equal.
5. Any request found to have false information will be cause to have the decision reversed.
6. All Sub-Division changes ~~Forms~~ must be received by the cognizant ~~Regional VP and copied to the~~ District Director by a date established by the District but in all cases no later than November 25th.
7. The ~~MH Competition Committee~~ **District Director** will make a final determination by ~~December 1st,~~ **the start of their league scheduling meeting** consulting with the ~~District Directors~~ **Associations** as needed. ~~The committee will consist of the VP Maroon and VP Gold Coordinators and two District Directors from each of the Maroon and Gold Divisions selected by the VP's.~~
8. NOTE: The A and AA sub-divisions are sub-groups of the "A" division – both are considered "A" teams through the regular season. AA and A teams may play in the same district league, using a balanced or unbalanced schedule, or may be split into separate leagues at the District Director's discretion.

The Committee recommended changes defined as NG1 to be approved and presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Affiliate School Agreement

A motion was made by Director Oleheiser to bring forth to the Board for approval the adoption of School Affiliate Agreement previously distributed⁷. Director Reinseth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Elections:

- Nominating Committee Chair Bullard announced that the Vice President of Hockey Operations position was open for election to complete the remaining one year of a three year two term. There were two candidates

seeking election: John Perry and Erick Wenkus. President Margenau requested nominations from the floor. With no further nominations from the floor, ballots were distributed. Director Emeritus Bullard and Kathy Hayes counted the ballots. President Margenau announced that John Perry has been elected to the Vice President of Hockey Operations position. Ballots were destroyed.

- Nominating Committee Chair Bullard announced that the Secretary position was open for election and that Rhonda Madsen was seeking re-election. President Margenau requested nominations from the floor. With no further nominations, President Margenau announced that Rhonda Madsen has been re-elected to the Secretary position by acclamation.
- Nominating Committee Chair Bullard announced that the Treasurer position was open for election with Doug Kephart seeking re-election. President Margenau requested nominations from the floor. With no further nominations, President Margenau announced that Doug Kephart has been re-elected to the Treasurer position by acclamation.

The summer meeting will be held at the Marriott Minneapolis West June 23 – 25, 2017.

With no further business, President Margenau adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda J Madsen, Recording Secretary