

## **Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council**

Meeting Minutes, Spring 2021

May 18, 2021

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Submitted by Walt Milligan, MAHA District 8 Secretary, May 19, 2021.

### ***Attendance:***

MAHA	Al Wakeham, D8 Chair Scott Cambensy, D8 Director Phil Berger, D8 Director Kitti Loukus, D8 Director Nick Fornetti, D8 Director Steve LaCourt, D8 Director Perry Wooden, D8 Director Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary Dan Zubiena, D8 Treasurer Mike Sands, D8 Coaching Director Michele LaCourt, D8 Registrar Eric Froberg, D8 Referee-in-Chief Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officials
Calumet	Dan Zubiena
Copper Country	Steve LaCourt
Dickinson	Nick Fornetti
Escanaba	Bob Martinson
Iron Range	Mark Menhennick
Iron River	Tina Brunswick, Kaycee Johnson
Ironwood	Jason White
Keweenaw Bay	No representative
Manistique	Nick Bosanic
Marquette	Amanda Gobert
Munising	John Maki
Ontonagon	No representative
Sled Hockey UP	No representative
Tahquamenon	No representative

Chair Al Wakeham called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Introductions were made.

**Motion (Cambensy/Loukus): Approve minutes from the Spring 2020 meeting. Approved unanimously.**

Wakeham presented the Chairperson's report. Last year was a real challenge, and it was a victory to get the kids on the ice. There were lots of meetings.

District teams did very well in the State Tournaments. Congratulation to the following:

- 10U B Escanaba Bink's Coca Cola - State Runners-Up
- 12U B Iron River Ice Hawks - State Champions
- 12U AA Marquette Superior Hockey - State Champions
- 14U B Manistique State Savings Bank - State Champions
- 18U BB Marquette - State Champions
- JV Division 2 Munising Hidden Estates - State Runners-Up

Zubiena presented the Treasurer's Report. Reminder that MAHA took away local control from districts, they no longer give us cash directly, and there is no checkbook. We have a budget proposal in to MAHA Treasurer Jim Cosgrove. Everybody is learning in this new system. It is also likely that the MAHA "Grant Money" program will transition to another system for getting additional resources to districts.

Secretary Milligan had no report.

Registrar M. LaCourt discussed a couple of association-level changes in registrars.

Niemi presented the MAHA/Officials reports.

- Jack Witt moved out of state so there will be a new Coach in Chief shortly, as well as a new Referee in Chief.
- The summer meeting will be virtual again.

Sands presented the Coaching/ACE Report.

- COVID made for a crazy year. All the clinics were virtual. We are hoping to have face-to-face clinics in the early fall, perhaps with virtual courses later.
- A Level 5 clinic is scheduled for August 19-22 in Duluth.
- An entirely new Coaching Education Program curriculum is almost complete. It focuses on **how** to coach, not **what** to coach. A lot of people worked really hard on it and Mike really likes it.
- There will be new CEP term limits. Levels 1-3 will be good for 1 year only, new training must be taken every year. Levels 4-5 will be good for 3 years, after which there will be some continuing education required.
- "Temporary" coaching cards were given out very liberally last year due to COVID, but the process will return to normal and will only be given for exceptions.
- There were no local ACE issues. Temp coaching cards helped.
- *Mike reminds people to send him new Coaching Director names and contact information as soon as possible.*

Froberg presented the Referee Report. It was a challenging year, especially concerning masks. Challenges are ahead to put everything back together. He thanked everyone for their extra efforts during the year.

District Directors and Association Reps presented their reports. It was a challenging year. District and State playoffs went well.

Gobert presented the Player Development Festival report. We hope to bring a festival back to the UP next year.

Wakeham presented the Girls/Women's Report. District needs more girls' teams. There was only one 19U team and one 14U team in the District this year. Marquette is working on some development and recruiting programs.

Milligan presented the CUP League report. The season was canceled but the teams played as many games as they could after the resumption of play.

Wooden had no Rules report.

Loukus had no SafeSport/STAR report.

Wakeham discussed Association/Board Volunteer Rosters. These are necessary for every association and board, including the District Council. They are needed for contact information purposes and to ensure compliance with the requirements that all volunteers need to have current SafeSport training and completed background checks. Only 4 associations complied last year. Everybody has to do it this year. The process is that the Association registrar has to create a "team" in the registration system with all volunteers, including their USA Hockey registration number which is free for volunteers. Gobert mentioned that when she was involved in District 6, they started a policy that no team rosters would be approved by the District Registrar until the association roster was submitted. Compliance was immediate.

**Motion (S. LaCourt/Menhennick): No team roster from an association will be approved until the complete Board Roster is filed with MAHA by the association registrar. Approved unanimously.**

Milligan proposed and discussed some fine-tuning to the District Playoff Handbook and procedures. The first issue was to simplify and shorten the regional tournament which could happen in the East if all 13 associations participated in Districts, and the District host was in the West. This would lead to a very awkward, inefficient 9-game Regional Tournament in the East, including a 6-game round robin to determine the final entrant. Many of the round robin games would be meaningless for at least one of the teams. The second issue was to clarify how "swing teams" are determined each year.

**Motion (Zubiena/Wooden): [1] If 13 teams enter the District Tournament and the District Tournament host is in the West, a "swing team" will be moved from East to West. [2] In all cases where a "swing team" is needed in any Regional Tournament, the "swing team" will be either DAHA or Iron Range, and in every individual case, it will be determined by a coin flip. Approved unanimously.**

- Note: By mandating a "swing team" if all 13 associations participate, both regionals still satisfy the "have a difference in teams being eliminated of no more than one" guiding principle. Further, it eliminates the possibility of a "7 teams for 4 slots" regional tournament ever happening, which would be an ugly, expensive, inefficient tournament. Instead of 7-for-4 and 5-for-3, it would result in 6-for-4 and 6-for-3 (2 teams eliminated in the East and 3 teams eliminated in the West.)

State, District and Regional Tournament sites were bid on and approved. The blind draw for tournament team numbers occurred. They are attached to this document, along with priority lists for next time.

Our long-time trophy and medal vendor, American Nameplate, went out of business. We need bids for trophies and medals. There are two local vendors, one in Marquette and one in L'Anse that appear to be interested, and we will ask them for bids.

A discussion of runners-up trophies and medals occurred. It was agreed that runners-up trophies are not generally valued and are probably a waste of money, but runners-up medals are valuable to players in larger tournaments.

**Motion (Loukus/S. LaCourt): Eliminate Runners-Up trophies for all District Tournaments. Award runners-up medals only in tournaments of four teams or more. Approved unanimously.**

District 8 Fall Meeting was tentatively set for Saturday, October 23, at 10 am at River Rock Lanes and Conference Center in Ishpeming.

**Motion (Cambensy/Loukus): Adjourn. Approved unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.

**Bidding for State Tournaments, May 18, 2021**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
Ontonagon	
Manistique	
Tahquamenon	
Copper Country	14U AA
Ironwood	14U B
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Marquette	14 U A
Calumet	
Iron Range	

**Priority List for next time.**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
Ontonagon	
Manistique	
Tahquamenon	
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Calumet	
Iron Range	
Marquette	
Ironwood	
Copper Country	

If Marquette gives the 14U A tournament back to the State, they will regain their original position in line for next time.

**Bidding for District Tournaments, May 18, 2021**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Ontonagon	
Calumet	
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
<del>Ironwood</del>	Got states
Munising	
<del>Copper Country</del>	Got states
Escanaba	12U B
Iron River	
Tahquamenon	
<del>Marquette</del>	Got states
Manistique	10U B
Iron Range	14U B
Marquette	18U B/BB
Ironwood	
Copper country	

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Ontonagon	
Calumet	
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
Munising	
Iron River	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Copper country	
Marquette	
Iron Range	
Manistique	
Escanaba	

If there is no 18U tournament, Marquette will regain their original position in line for next time.

**Rotation for AA District Tournaments, May 18, 2021**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Marquette	Host
Copper Country	
Calumet	

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Marquette	

**Bidding for Regional Tournaments, May 18, 2021**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Escanaba	Host East
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Keweenaw Bay	
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Manistique	
Iron River	Host West
Munising	

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Keweenaw Bay	
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Manistique	
Munising	
Iron River	
Escanaba	

## ***Blind Draw for 2021-2022 Regional and District Seeding***

Held at MAHA District 8 Spring Meeting, May 18, 2021

Keweenaw Bay Hockey Association

Ironwood Polar Bear Youth Hockey

Dickinson Amateur Hockey Association

Iron Range Hockey Association

Iron Amateur Hockey Association

Munising Hockey Association

Calumet Hockey Association

Manistique Hockey Assn

Tahquamenon Area Hockey

Ontonagon Amateur Hockey Association

Copper Country Junior Hockey Association

Escanaba Area Junior Hockey

Marquette Junior Hockey Corp