



District 3 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2016

The August Meeting of the D3 Beltline Hockey League was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Ron Walsh at Plymouth Ice Center.

Members Present:

District 3 Staff	Association Representatives
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Elmer – D3 Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Tuchtenhagen – Armstrong Cooper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Walsh – D3 President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Kivisto – Delano
<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Lowe – D3 Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Broderon – Hopkins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kendra Verbeten – D3 Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Robeck – Minneapolis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gene Ferrel – D3 ACE Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dean Swanson – Mound Westonka
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Goldenberg– D3 Girls Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Vowels – North Metro
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Anderson – BHRA, Scheduler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Fortin – Orono
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neil Olson – BHRA, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Blashack – OMGHA
<input type="checkbox"/> Matt Olsonoski – BHRA, Supervisor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Dahlin– St Louis Park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Sparling(temp)– BHRA, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Brandt – Wayzata
<input type="checkbox"/> Tim Przybylski – BHRA, DOD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Nicholls – D3 Tournaments	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jay Knip – D3 Scheduler	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelly Slattery – D3 Registrar	
<input type="checkbox"/> – Metro League	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tod Duagan - Mite Coordinator	
<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Margenau – D3 Membership Dir.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Josh Hicks – D3 Coach in Chief	
Guests:	
Scott Dornfeld – Maroon District Vice President	

Minutes

Nicole made a motion to approve the June Minutes, Jim seconded the motion, and motion passed.

Officials’ Report – Matt Olsonoski/Neil Olson

- a) USA Hockey official/player registration began August 1st, District 3 seminars are beginning to fill up.
- b) To date since April 1st 2016, when we reopened the application process on our website, we have received 24 new official applications. We are always looking to develop new talent; however, it is impossible to accept all new applicants. We currently have a large roster of returning officials, which is a good problem to have but it makes it hard to accept too many new applicants. While we do our very best to hire and develop as many new officials as we can the BHRA Board of Directors feel it is our duty to provide district 3 with the best possible officials on the ice at all times.
- c) The BHRA Board of Directors is currently auditing our entire roster of returning officials. We as a board are evaluating each official on a case by case basis looking at their current ‘Rating’ of officiating.
 - i) Each official receives a “Rating”, based on their past performances, to which level of hockey they are able to officiate
 - ii) Every season this “Rating” is evaluated by the Supervisor of Officials



August 10, 2016

- (1) Officials may be moved up or down based on their current ability
 - (2) This process allows the BHRA BOD to target new or up and coming officials looking to move up in level of officiating
 - (a) These officials will be looked at early in the season during try-out scrimmages to see if they are ready to progress in their officiating careers
 - (3) Conversely some officials may have their ratings lowered based on last season's work – if that official would like to have their rating reinstated he/she must be evaluated by a member of the board at that higher level before receiving his/her rating back
- d) District 3 is hosting 2 USA Hockey officiating seminars
- i) Brooklyn Park – Level 1 and 2 – September 25th
 - ii) Brooklyn Park – Level 3 – September 21st

D3 Director's Report –

Concern brought up regarding the Tier I 15's boys coaches not wearing their helmets. Todd will follow up with them.

Scott Dornfeld awarded a Director's Award to Todd Elmer for his hard work and support while Scott was the D3 Director.

Todd Elmer made a motion to accept the appointment of: Dan Pfeffer as D3 scoresheet management and Tod Duagan as mite coordinator. Nicole seconded the motion and the motion passed.

D3 President – Ron Walsh

D3 Administrator – Kendra Verbeten

- USA Hockey has announced that 47 youth hockey associations in Minnesota completed the 2 & 2 Challenge during the 2015-16 season and 41 of those associations achieved Gold status. The 2 & 2 Challenge is a national program that encourages associations to host a series of retention, acquisition and transition programs over the course of the season with the goal of growing youth hockey.
 - District 3 Associations: Armstrong Cooper, Mound/Westonka, Orono, OMGHA
- New Format for submitting monthly reports and monthly meeting changes. A report form will be sent out and due back by the Friday before the board meeting.
- Updates to the website are being looked at by Kendra, Ron and Todd.
- Game plan for the fall managers and coaches meeting: the meeting will be paperless; all meeting pieces are due by October 1; reps encouraged to attend if they have never been to the meeting.

D3 Treasurer – Kelly Lowe (handout)

Due to complications from the reports being sent out as an internet shortcut, we will look at these reports next month.

Association Reports:

Armstrong Cooper – Jim Tutchenhagen

- Finalizing details for Pre-season Camps, Evaluations and placement of Coaches
- Held Registration Night at Pub 42 that was very successful



August 10, 2016

- Registration #s considerably up compared to YTD last year (this is due in part to offering a discount if registering by August 5th and only requiring a \$100.00 initial deposit).
- Participating in the following Try Hockey For Free / Learn to Skate Clinics
 - Try Hockey for Free – 5 Dates (09/17, 09/24, 10/1, 10/8 and 11/12)
 - Skating Clinics – 4 Dates (10/15, 10/22, 10/29 and 11/05)
- Anticipating needing a few skaters at the following levels:
 - U15B-short bench
 - U12A-need A level players
- Team Formations
 - Bantam - A, B1, C
 - PeeWee – B1, B2, C
 - Squirt – B2, B2, C
 - Will ask for a deviation and are aware of the process.
 - U15 - B
 - U12 - A, B
 - U10 - A, B

Delano – Carolyn Kivisto

- Registration is open
- Tryout dates set
- Signed up for Positive Coaching Alliance for parents and coaches
- Signed up for tournaments for traveling teams
- Hosting a Bantam C scrimmage fest on a late Sunday in October. If any association interested in participating contact Anthony Reynolds at areynolds0@gmail.com
 - *This needs to be approved by the District Director*
- Teams planning for 4-5 Mite, 1 8U, SQ - A, B2, B2, C, 10U - A & B, PW - A, B1, B2, C, 12U B, Bantam - A, B2, C, 15U – none
- Try Hockey for Free on October 1st and a date in February
- Tier I 15's Try Outs – ACE Coordinator comment on the way the try out was structured – it lacked organization.

Hopkins – Nicole Brodersen

- Bantam – A, B2
- PeeWee - A , B2
- Squirt –A, B2, C
- Girls 15U-A (hosting) – working with multiple organizations to try and host a complete team
- Girls 15U-B (partner) – working with multiple organizations to try and host a complete team
- Girls 12U-A, B
- Girls 10U –
- Hopkins and St Louis Park are continuing their partnership
- Thanksgiving Tournament registration is open; are hosting a 15U-B tournament

Minneapolis – Bill Robeck

- Registration opened over the weekend
- Issues with a shortage of bantam goaltenders, 3 goalies for five teams
- Jr. Gold – probably not enough for a team
- THFF – October, 60 kids signed up
- Team Formation is not yet complete



August 10, 2016

- PeeWee – AA, B1, B1, B2, B2, C
- Squirt - A, B1, B1, B2, B2, B2, C, C (depends on the number of players who sign up)
- No girls numbers to present.
- Asked for deviation for both the Bantam and PeeWee levels to go from AA to B1 and not host an A team.

Mound Westonka – Dean Swanson

- Our annual fundraising golf tournament held on August 1st was a success.
- Travel team registration opened the week of August 1st. Travel Team Projections (subject to final player registrations):
 - Bantams – 2 teams at A and B2
 - Peewee – 3 teams at A, B1 and C
 - Squirt – 3 or 4 teams
 - 15U – through Orono if needed
 - 12U – Orono-Westonka Co-op - 2 teams
 - 10U – Orono-Westonka Co-op - 3 teams
- Pre-Tryout Skills sessions begin in late September. Tryouts for the boys commence the week of October 3rd and conclude on October 9. The Orono-Westonka Co-op girls will tryout under Orono's schedule.
- Mite registration opens on October 1st. We received a boost towards recruitment - up to 30 first year mite players will play for free thanks to a generosity of a memorial fund.
- Continue relationship with PCA and require all new squirt/10U families to attend.

North Metro – Keith Vowels

Rink 2 roof is complete, Bantam 1, Pee Wee 2, Squirt 3; levels yet to be determined. They are aware of the deviation procedure for team formations.

Orono – Jamie Fortin

- We are hosting try hockey for free on 9/24. Our goal is to create an event to generate excitement for the upcoming season that begins with try hockey for free and engages the entire association. An equipment drive and opportunity to interact with high school players and coaches is what we are shooting for.
- Our coaches board has done an outstanding job planning and communicating information to provide families visibility to the upcoming evaluation process (no longer referring to as 'tryouts'). This is intended to address feedback we heard from families that will enable them to plan ahead and break down some of the negative perceptions associated with evaluations ('tryouts').
- We are investing more effort into social media to create deeper engagement within our community. Enhanced Facebook page, updated website, and Twitter coming soon. Follow us @OYHA_Official
- We have implemented a new volunteer policy for our entire Association.
- We are hosting two Town Hall Meetings prior to the season to share information about the upcoming season and the expectations we have for all players and families involved with Orono Hockey (new approach for us).

Osseo Maple Grove – Brian

- Grow the Sport Strategy – Goal 550 players for the House program



August 10, 2016

- Communication – Road signs, school hand out and social media – planning on writing an article talking about our recent success and the real cost of hockey in our community – article will go to local publication
- 35 at our first try hockey for free – 4 more to go – Goldy the Gopher will be at our September 17th event – open house type feel
- Free hockey for all first year players and \$100 to letterman
- 8 New comer skating clinics in September and October
- Registration
 - Opened August 1st. Incentives a success. Already have 425 in. **62 are new skaters**
- Cross Ice Hockey
 - Starting to look for teams to participate in the Tin Bin
- Coach the Coaches
 - PCA training and on-ice training for all coaches to establish a great coaching culture
- Heart Screening
 - OMGHA looking to provide Heart Screening to traveling players. We are still deciding how much we are looking to assist our players with cost. PRAEVENI to do the Screening. Tim Webert's is the main contact for more information reach out to webert_tim@comcast.net
- Regional tournament- Does D3 have a framework for volunteer hours for a Regional Tournament? And when will we know which District tournaments we will be hosting?

Team Formation

Junior Gold: TBD ~ 3-4 teams

Bantams: 6 teams @ 15 skaters/team

Bantams: AA, A, B1, B2, C, C

Data:

Projected Skaters: 99 LY – Projecting 90. If we go above 90, we will need to add a team at the B2 level.

Projected Goalies: 7-9 (potential issue area)

Peewees: 8 teams @ 14 skaters/team. If we go below 104, we will cut a B1 team from our recommendation.

Peewee AA, A, B1, B1, B2, B2, C, C

Data:

Projected Skaters: 111

Projected Goalies: 10

Squirts: 11 teams @ 14 skaters/team. If we go below 143 skaters, we will cut a B2 team.

1st Choice: Squirts Upper A, Lower A, B1, B1, B2, B2, B2, B2, C, C, C

2nd Choice: Squirts A, B1, B1, B1, B2, B2, B2, B2, C, C, C

Data:

Projected Skaters: 157

Projected Goalies: 15

St. Louis Park – Todd Dahlin

- New President also elected, Blois Olson; third rink proceeding; Players: 150 between squirts and bantams; 200 mites;
- Bantam – 3 teams, AA, A, ??
- PeeWee – AA, B1, C
- Squirts -

Wayzata –Mark Brandt



August 10, 2016

- Parking Lot and front entrance improvements to PIC complete.
- Registration has started no numbers yet.
- Team placements for upcoming season have been approved by board. 3 Squirt B1 teams this year with only 13 skaters on a team as a pilot program.
- Going through refining the try out process for the upcoming season.
- Scheduling ice and dry land for the upcoming season. Some other District 3 associations have inquired about buying ice from us, they think we have a surplus, well we do not, in fact we would like to have more week night hours and are looking at what some of the options are in the future.
- Scoreboard has been added to PIC Blue line room that enables somebody running tournaments to be able to check scores and times without leaving the room for any of the PIC rinks.
- **Tournaments are being prepaid.**
- Bantam – AA, A, B1, B2, B2, C
- PeeWee – AA, A, B1, B1, B2, B2, B2, C
- Squirt - A, B1, B1, B1, B2, B2, B2, C, C
- 15U-Girls - A, A (not balanced), B
- 12U-Girls - A, B, B
- 10U-Girls - A, B

Metro League –

Discussion regarding finding new reps. Looking to find one from Wayzata and OMGHA.

Registrar – Shelly Slattery –

- We will be having a registrar meeting on August 15th, 7:00pm at PIC, everyone received an email communication but please remind your registrars that they are required to attend.
- All association websites are required to have the USA Hockey link listed as well as the MN Hockey and D3 links. I contacted each association that did not have the links and all websites have been updated.
- Annual Guides and Rule Books have been ordered from USA Hockey but we will only be giving out 2-3 per association to reduce mailing and printing costs because this information is accessible online.
- If anyone is interested, I have created historical registration overview reports for each association that lists total players, coaches and a youth to coach ratio for the past seven years.
- **Remind registrars about the meeting on Monday. Reps – please remind them.**
- Will send forms to add to the website.
- To Do: Change the awards contact person to Shelly Slattery.

Membership & Development – Diane Margenau

- With many associations opening registration for the upcoming season already, we are just a few weeks away from the most important time of the year. This is our opportunity to increase the number of young hockey players in each community by developing, promotion and executing top notch recruiting events.
- **QuickChange Goalie Gear** - It was announced that Minnesota Hockey will be providing every MH-affiliated association with two sets of Total Hockey's newly designed goalie gear. The gear will make it significantly easier and quicker to introduce kids to the position and



August 10, 2016

should increase the number of kids interested in playing goalie. The equipment will be distributed in November. The full release including a video demonstration is available [here](https://youtu.be/I0bi8nGLc5Q). Video URL: <https://youtu.be/I0bi8nGLc5Q>

- **Every Association in MN will be getting a set of QuickChange equipment from MN Hockey.**
- **Total Hockey Update** - Many of you have likely heard Total Hockey in the news recently. We have been told that all scheduled programs (Little Wild, Gear Up Minnesota, OneGoal, etc.) will proceed as planned for this summer and fall.
- Also, please don't forget to follow up on the Try Hockey For Free, 2 & 2 Challenge and Pass the Puck Grant information. We can all attest how quickly summer disappears, and we would hate for you to miss out on these great programs.
- **Upcoming Dates:**
 - August 23, 2016 – Email reminder to 8 & Under players that need to register for 2016-17.
 - September 6, 2016 – Recorded phone call from a Women's National Team athlete or NHL player goes out to previously registered participants.
 - September 19 – 25, 2016 – Welcome Back Week
- **Try Hockey For Free – November 12, 2016**
 - September – Complete online training
 - October 24, 2016 – Jersey's and giveaways arrive
 - November 12, 2016 – Try Hockey For Free Day
 - Association Membership Directors should be gearing up at this time. An hour of ice needs to be reserved at your local rink. Also information should be distributed. Volunteer sign up should begin.
 - I would also like to encourage associations to try something new this year after the THFF in November. As I stated last season I am suggesting that associations in D3 offer additional ice time for THFF participants. My suggestion is to establish 4 additional times on each of the week ends following THFF with an hour of ice available to skaters who attended the first THFF. Have helpers available along with equipment. I think that if a skater is encouraged to come back a couple of times they may be willing to sign on with your program.
- Also, the **MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT PROGRAM** is continuing through USA Hockey for the 2016-17 season. First time players who participate in the November THFF event will receive a coupon code via email following the event that allows them to register with USA Hockey for free.
- **Try Hockey For Free – February 25, 2017**
 - January – Complete online training
 - February 13, 2017 – Jersey's and giveaways arrive
 - February 25, 2017 – Try Hockey For Free Day

Girls Coordinator – Chad Goldenberg

- District 3 Fall Girls Coordinator meeting set for Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2016 @ 6:30pm in PIC Blue Line Room.
- Minnesota Hockey's new 15U Tournament Policy – Enables 15UB teams to enter 15UA tournaments
 - Intent is to enable the (13-16 typical) B teams to participate in more tournament opportunities
 - Encourage more pathetic A teams to play compete at the B level.



August 10, 2016

- It will involve tournament hosts selecting teams competing at a similar level to the home team.(ie. Maple Grove Hosts High A tourney & St. Louis Park hosts a low A tournament)
- After reviewing our 2016 team projections, we will consider whether District 5 or 6 are better partners for us. Beyond geography as a consideration, District 3 has been working to overcome our lack of many A teams. We have had the fewest A teams at all age levels throughout the State. If we have a number of Associations stepping up to place A teams that are trying to make the transition, playing paired with a less competitive District may afford them more competitive games and fewer slaughters leaving fewer teams that feel like they made the wrong choice.
- TO DO: Wayzata, Orono, Hopkins/Park need to respond with numbers to Chad by Friday night. Chad will forward to association reps the email that was sent out to the Girls Coordinators.

Coach in Chief – Josh Hicks

- All clinics have been scheduled. MN Hockey is working to set up level IV in a different format (every Wednesday in December at different rinks each week).

Grievance – Kendra Verbeten

No report

Scheduling - Jay Knip

No report

Tournament – Chad Nicholls

- Reminder the Tournament Meeting is September 28 – MANDATORY meeting for invitational tournaments.

ACE Coordinator – Gene Ferrel –

- Planning for Fall season has begun and am working on contacting all identified Association ACE/Player Development directors, depending on how your association is structured.
- State Level ACE Fall meeting: I am waiting on a response if one is being scheduled this fall.
- Coaching Clinics already in place:
 - Level 5 Symposium: Aug 11-14 St. Louis MO.
Registration is still available if someone is interested in attending beginning on Thursday.
 - Level 4 Clinic: Sept 17-18 in Bloomington MN
Online registration is available for both of the clinics on the USA Hockey website.

Mite – Tod Duagan – report provided by Todd Elmer

- TO DO: Association reps are to send to Todd Elmer their mite coordinators contact information ASAP.
- There will be a mandatory mite coordinators meeting, date yet to be determined.

Old Business –

Mite Game Limits:

- Wayzata feels there should be a limit of 25-30 games for mites (any game).
- Orono, mite game numbers are not close to that number and would like to see associations patrol themselves
- Delano only allows 15-18 cross ice games and no full ice games



August 10, 2016

- AC allows/plays 15 games
- Hopkins would like a limit but 25-30 seems too high
- OMGHA has in house program which limits games to 4-6 full ice and internal number of cross ice; also feel associations should be self monitoring
- RESULT: the District will not put a cap on the number of cross-ice games. USA Hockey has already put a cap on the full-ice games at 6.
- For mites: anytime you play a game (full or cross ice) outside of your association you must fill out the game form; anytime a full ice game is played a game form must be completed.

New Business –

New Business Submission, Motion to allow OMGHA to have unbalanced Squirt A teams.

Below is the bylaw that is not allowing us to look at this development model.

1.1.6 At the Squirt and 10U classifications, if an association is fielding more than one team at a level the teams must be balanced coming out of tryouts.

OMGHA feels:

- Associations within the district not the District have the responsibility to answer to the players and parents for the success based on player development of how teams are structured and selected.
- D3 current bylaw mandates team formation and eliminates the flexibility for associations to decide/determine development models that fits their association. It is the right of the association, per the MN hockey affiliate agreement, that:
 - MH hereby authorizes the Affiliate to do the following:
 - A. To assess and charge a reasonable membership fee for members within its jurisdiction, in addition to the regular MH and USA Hockey fees;
 - B. To operate fund-raising programs to support its functions as an affiliate association of MH, including special charge on paid gate tournaments, games or events sponsored by the Affiliate;
 - C. To perform and/or provide certain other authorized services or functions to promote and regulate the play of the sport of amateur ice hockey as an Affiliate Association of MH.

And

1.3 This Agreement establishes certain obligations of and grants certain rights to Affiliate as an "Affiliate Association" of MH. MH acknowledges that Affiliate is and shall remain a separate entity with complete authority to conduct its affairs and programs, subject only to the express obligations and restrictions contained in this Agreement.

The District 3 current 1.1.6 bylaw states that teams "must" be balanced under no definition for "how" or "what" balanced is determined

- Each year we evaluate our team formation based on certain criteria
- Number of players at that level
- Balance of competition with the league and the state based on the objective data for the hockey talent with the pool of players

This season OMGHA would like to propose to go with a upper and lower Squirt A team. We believe that this gives more kids the opportunity to play at the A level but potentially has risk to negatively



August 10, 2016

impact our B program (Lower number of coaches and higher level players). It will should allow for a more competitive league at the B level based on historical results and add another competitive team at the A level. There are concerns this not a sustainable model and will need to be evaluated year to year. At the end of the day if OMGHA was just looking at the scoreboard we would just stick with one Squirt A team and keep it the same.

Brian made the following motion: Change the rules and regulations from:

1.1.6 At the 10U Youth and 10U Girls classifications, if an association is fielding more than one team at a level the teams must be balanced coming out of tryouts.

To Read:

1.1.6 At the 10U Youth and 10U Girls classification, if an association is fielding more than one team at the A level, the teams may be unbalanced.

Mark seconded the motion; Dean motioned to postpone voting on the motion until the September meeting so that reps would have time to go back and gather feedback. Bill seconded the motion and the motion passed. The motion will be revisited at the September board meeting.

District 3 Handbook – By Laws and Rules and Regs

Kendra highlighted the major changes:

1. Combine the Secretaries to Administrator
2. Add rule that directs teams to come to the scheduling meeting with an open schedule filled only with association mandated dates and tournaments.
3. Match Penalty Grievance section was rewritten to reflect the actual process
4. Tier I program was added

An electronic copy with track changes identified will be sent to all association representatives.

Mark motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bill seconded; motion passed. Meeting Adjourned 9:40pm.

Per conversation at the Board Meeting-from the USA Hockey website:

Student Coach Regulations

A player between the ages of 13 and 17 who is currently properly registered with USA Hockey may serve as a student coach under the following conditions:

- Must attend a training session conducted by the local hockey association.
- Must always be under the supervision of a carded, screened adult coach during all practices, clinics, try-outs, and in the locker room.
- May help out at practices, clinics, try-outs only. (May not play during scrimmages or games).
- Must wear a helmet with full face shield, gloves, and skates while on the ice. Must wear helmet during games while on the bench.
- May only work with players at least one full playing age level down.
- The organization that is using the student coach must provide a form indicating on what team he/she is participating as a student coach, and, if applicable, what team he/she is properly registered/rostered as a player.
- Upon reaching the age of 18, the student coach must comply with all USA Hockey coaching and screening rules and regulations.



August 10, 2016

- May not act as the head coach or assistant coach during practices or games.

APPROVED