



. Minnesota Hockey District 3
Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes
PIC
Wednesday, Feb 8, 2023

	Executive Committee & Associates		Association Reps
x	Paul Steenerson District Director	x	Kevin Pote ACYHA
x	Mark Brandt President/Scheduling	x	Kristi Duis Delano Area
x	Shelly Johnson Administrator	x	Bob Larson Hopkins
	vacant Data Mgmt./Tech.	x	Peter Nelson Minneapolis
x	Machel Whitmore Registrar	x	Brad Butler Mound Westonka
x	Neil Olson BHRA President	x	Kity Marinac North Metro
	Matt Olsonoski BHRA Supervisor	x	Gina Hansen Orono
x	Mike Anderson BHRA Scheduler	x	Steve Fischer OMG
x	Michelle Jirik Tourney Coord.	x	Rob Anklam St Louis Park
x	KV-Girls/SJ-Boys HP/Tier 1	x	Andy Nordseth Wayzata
x	Josh Hicks Coach-in-Chief		
	Tim Przybyski Disciplinary Comm. Chair		
x	Jeff Luke Girls Coordinator		
x	Diane Margenau Membership Devel.		Guests/Alternates Present:
	Greg Gibson JGHSL		
	Todd Larson JGHSL		
	Bill Robeck Hockey Operations		
x	Kendra Verbeten Interim Treasurer		

Call to order TIME: 7:59

January Minutes: Motion to approve: Kristi Seconded: Gina
 Minutes approved.

District 3 Director Report- Diane M has announced retirement. Thank you for years of service to D3 and MN Hockey. Michelle Jirik is also stepping down from her role in D3-we appreciate her service as well.

North Metro- Kity shared that NM voted to fold as an association. Trouble fielding teams. Paul shared that MN Hockey (and D3) will be reaching out to discuss options. Lots of details to work out. Need to make sure everyone has an opportunity to play hockey. Rob posed questions...what can we learn from this?

District Tournaments-tourney meeting held prior to the board meeting.

Disciplinary Actions-seems to spike this time of year. Everyone gets tired (parents, officials, players). Need to be cognizant of this and set example and hold people accountable.

District 3 President Report- Working on revising some of the tournament brackets with the schedulers. Brackets on website *should* be correct now. Will be holding an end of season meeting with Avario and the schedulers tentatively set for March 27 to discuss improvements for next year. Game reschedules were very few in the last month.

Looking at how we can put money back into the district with fees and fines that have been collected. How can it be used to support associations? Goalie recruitment? GameSheet costs? Will continue to discuss.

District 3 Administrator Report: Tournament documents are all on the D3 Tournament page (under host sites and info). Please remind your tourney directors (they will hear this as well) to return the puck buckets to you at the conclusion of the tournament. I only got a couple back last year and it is an unnecessary expense to purchase more each year.

District 3 Accounting Report: Financials were emailed to all prior to the meeting. All associations have paid league fees! Tournament invoices went out today. Please get ice bills in so can be paid. However, will not pay ice bill until tourney invoice is paid.

GameSheet Report: Make sure tourney director checks to be sure all games are uploaded. People doing GS during playoffs can take time getting penalties in correctly. Use a scratch pad and take notes- more important to be accurate.

Associates Reports:

- Squirt Committee: no report
- Supervisor of Officials: no report
- Coach in Chief: 2022 Clinic Totals for Minnesota Staff Level 1 – 1,251 Coaches (32 Clinics) Level 2 – 917 Coaches (24 Clinics) Level 3 – 1,062 Coaches (25 Clinics)
- Membership and Development: I recently attended an OMGHA squirt/10U house/rec MH Rec league game. The game was fun to watch, and the packed stands showed their support. As a reminder, these teams are in a pilot program from OMGHA to address players aging out of mites who are looking for an alternative from travel squirts. This includes several players new to hockey. Recruiting resulted in 2 teams, about 30 players, who were interested in a smaller commitment to hockey but at the same time wanted to play. Teams are comprised of both boys and girls. During the month of December there were 4 practices, led by OMGHA skill coaches and 2, 3 v 3 games at Velocity Hockey Center. In January the teams joined the MH Rec League and will have 10 practices and 10 games ending with a festival game at the end of March. MH announced the hiring of Akua Tiekou as their DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) & Growth Coordinator. Akua will be reaching out to associations as a resource person. Try Hockey for Free is February 25, 2023. It may be too late to sign up with USA Hockey, but associations are encouraged to register. Even if your association hasn't registered with USA Hockey, they are

still encouraged to host some kind of activity. Can be recruiting new hockey players anytime of year. Not limited to just a couple times a year.

Wayzata and OMG both hosting national tournaments. All encouraged to come and watch a game.

- Jr. Gold *Playdowns at PIC Feb 28-March 5th *National High School Tournament March 23-27 at PIC & Parade.
- Girls League Coordinator: Evaluating level standings to assess challenges and opportunities for team declarations. Looking to schedule the D3 Girls Coordinators Spring meeting following all spring breaks. We will review standings, best practices, challenges, and begin planning for next season. Additionally, we will spend time evaluating 15U and our stance on a potential 13U option following the two-year pilot. I am meeting with the new MN Hockey DEE&I and Retention coordinator in two weeks to make introductions, better understand her role, and determine how we can partner. There was a miscommunication with D10 teams that joined us at 10B2 for the season; there was a false assumption that they would play in our district tournament while we planned to host only D3 teams. We can determine if going forward any non-region bound levels can stay in D3 for the district tournament.
- Disciplinary Committee: Been busy!
- Tournament Coordinator: Michelle stepping down. Will be looking to fill this position.
- Data Mgmt./Tech:
- HP/Tier 1: *Boys (Shelly)*-Visited 6 associations and held HP/Tier 1 info sessions for parents/players of PW and Bantam teams. Hard to get them all in but each year it seems to be beneficial. Coaches submitted and reviewed nominations for the spring High Performance program. Nominations have gone out for 15s (2008 birth year). I am still waiting for the registration link for 14s from MN Hockey 14U Coordinator. Will send out nominations for 14s as soon as I have that. Will be booking ice and getting posted the tryout info for fall Tier 1 and Tier 2. PLEASE REMIND YOUR A and AA COACHES THAT THEY ARE NEEDED AS TRYOUT EVALUATORS FOR HP AND TIER 1. This is how we make sure we have a fair and transparent process for all D3 athletes. They will all receive a sign up.

Paul added we now have HP/Tier 1 and Futures Program. Looking to have one person be over the programs. Paul recommending Chad Wieneke to be this person.

Girls (Kendra)- Lindsey and Mac will be taking over the girls' program. Nominations will be going out in the near future. Still spots open for girls in 13U Futures program.

- Hockey Operations: MN Hockey Futures Development Program
Registration is active:
<https://www.minnesotahockey.org/futuresdevelopment>

D3 has the following registration #s: 36 boys skaters (full, additional will be waitlisted and potentially placed with a neighboring district) and 2 goalies (need 2 additional goalies)

11 girls skaters and 2 goalies; plenty of room. if teams are not filled the likely outcome is being paired with girls from a neighboring district team.

Please have interested parents reach out directly to me. Ice times are posted here for girls <https://www.d3hockey.org/13futures-girls> and here for the boys <https://www.d3hockey.org/13futures-youth>

There will be a **Zoom meeting hosted by MN Hockey on Feb 19** the links are posted at the top of the respective Boys and Girls pages on D3 website. We are working with potential coaches on both the boys and girls side if you have any interested coaches again please have them reach out to me via email @ billrobeck@gmail.com

- Registrar: We still have one player from St Louis Park red lined.

D3 Association Representatives:

Armstrong Cooper: Things are pretty quiet over at AC. Had a successful PWA/BA tournament this past weekend...without too much drama.

Teams are trying to finish strong as they prepare for districts. Think we have all our ducks in a row for the Bantam AA regional tournament. Anybody know they'll have extra goalies next year at the Bantam level? We're going to have 4 teams with only 2 goalies...hopefully, as even one of them is now on the fence:(

Looking for conversation about Jr Gold opportunities for players not going to play high school varsity.

Delano: Preparing for district tourneys; starting post-season discussions. In process of building new outdoor refrigerated rink.

Hopkins: Great season so far. Finalizing schedules for spring and summer clinics.

Minneapolis: Season is going well. Not much to report other than some new business related to controlled scrimmages and end of game penalties.

--*Controlled Scrimmages* - numerous coaches have requested to be able to use the clock (not keeping score, just using the clock) for keeping track of shifts and setting up an auto-horn. Paul said will be looking to make this change for next season. Need to update our rules.

--*End of Game Penalties*- we have heard of a number of incidents where there are egregious penalties at the end of games where the outcome of the game is not in doubt. In particular, making sure we are all on the same page that just because it is the end of the game,

doesn't mean that a flagrant penalty should just be booked as a minor penalty.

Mound-Westonka: no report

North Metro: Sad to report that NM has voted to disband given our number of skaters and ability to form teams at the appropriate levels. We have not received any guidance, but we are committed to help our families find a new association home that is best fit for them. We want to thank ACYHA for their co-op, helping our mites development and providing support over the last couple of years. Paul thank you for taking our calls and answering our questions, you are a great addition to D3.

Orono: Continuing to battle some behavior issues but feeling like we have a path to set a precedent for the future. We are going to encourage our coaches to use the benching authority afforded to them to correct behavior. Our top-level teams mostly struggling in District play. Lower-level teams faring better overall. Warriors are more successful in District play. Continue to see GameSheet issues (mostly penalties being coded incorrectly). I am reviewing all GameSheets. Will work on better education next year. Volunteer spots are being filled for end-of-year tournaments. We will have a new scheduler next year (Avario). Will be a wake-up call for some of our teams. I am interested in feedback on associations that do player evaluations. How many times a season do you do it? Do you share feedback with players? Do you use it in your evaluation process the next year? Will need bantam goalies next year!

Osseo Maple Grove: Our girls' traveling director asked for an update on girls HP. MG entering the planning phase of the Community Center/Ice Arena expansion. Construction to begin in 2024.

St Louis Park: Season is progressing well across all teams. Our Mite program changed their leveling structure to Termites, Mini mites, and Upper mites this year. There has been some difficulty in finding matched ability cross ice games at the Upper mite level. HDC is starting the process of evaluating our team level selections from the 22/23 season and what that means for 23/24. In process of reviewing rescheduling expense allocation based on teams. Dealing with a handful of player and coach conduct issues. Stemming from a few of these issues we would like to get a better understanding of the role SafeSport plays or is intended to play specifically related to bullying.

Wayzata: Nothing to report, just preparing for district tourneys.

Old Business: Bylaws/Nonprofit status...Articles and Bylaws are done, financial forms in process.

New Business: NOTE: April/May meetings-discuss tournaments being hosted (dates/size). Mark shared idea of a mini jamboree for squirts/10U before actual season starts to help figure out proper leveling for teams. Take back to associations for feedback.

Adjourn TIME: 9:21

Motion: Andy

Seconded: Peter