



Meeting was called to order by President Steve Oleheiser on April 25, 2021 at 8:00 AM.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Rhonda Madsen.

Board Members Present:

President Steve Oleheiser	Past President Dave Margenau	VP Scott Gray
VP Tom Christianson	VP Scott Dornfeld	VP John Perry
Treasurer Doug Kephart	Secretary Rhonda Madsen	Director Tom Mickus
Director Kevin Suoja	Director Nicole Brodersen	Director Jeremy Reed
Director Steve Gapinski	Director Brad Hewitt	Director Rich Rakness
Director Mark Blaisdell	Director Colleen Donovan	Director Pete Hill
Director Dan Rabideaux	Director Dennis Bushy	Director Mark Elliott
HS Boys Mike Taylor	Dir Women Kendra Verbeten	Dir Adults Brandon Koontz
Disabled Hockey Toni Gillen	Sec Referee Dir Mike Mannin	

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

The voting quorum was announced. With 26 voting members present, simple majority was fourteen (14) two-thirds majority was seventeen (17).

A motion was made by Past President Margenau to suspend the rules for the MNH Spring 2021 meeting to be held electronically via Zoom. Motion was seconded by Director Reed. Motion passed.

There was a moment of silence Dick Emaheiser, long time coach; Jim Gibeau, Greenway Peewee A Coach; Garrett Bamgarner, Woodbury Jr. Gold player; Mike Ryan, Bloomington Jefferson Girls Varsity Head Coach; Dan Culhane, MNH Official District 6; and any others who may have been missed.

Minutes from the January 24, 2021 MNH Winter Meeting were previously distributed electronically. With no changes or corrections, a motion was made by Director Hewitt and seconded by Vice President Perry to approve the minutes. Minutes stand as distributed.

Agenda Additions/Changes: None

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Kephart reported the Financial Statements through March 31, 2021. Revenues reported were \$1,780,443.88 and expenses reported were \$930,276.70 resulting in a net income of 850,167.18. A motion was made by Treasurer Kephart to refer the financial statements to audit. Motion was seconded by Director Reed. **Motion carried.**

President's Report:

President Oleheiser reported on the challenging year we encountered adjusting and adapting to conditions due to the pandemic. He expressed his gratitude to the Covid team for working hard to keep the kids playing and for continuing to meet for the upcoming season and the High-Performance programs. The Administrative Management Committee meetings have resumed and will continue looking at the structure of MN Hockey and opportunities of improvement for the future of MN Hockey. 2021-22 should be more of a normal season to grow the game. With the efforts of education and Diversity & Inclusion, President Oleheiser stated his new motto "Hockey is for everyone".

Executive Director's Report:

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

Committee Reports:

Administrative Management

President Oleheiser reported the committee met recently to discuss options and plans for enhancing benefits and HR Management for possible cost savings.

Adults

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

Adult Women

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

Business Development

Hockey Programs Manager Terwilliger submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Disabled Hockey

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

District Directors

Director Reed reported the District Directors met on April 8, 2021 to resumes discussions from pre-Covid. Their next encounter will be a workshop scheduled for May 23, 2021 in St. Cloud. Items for discussion include:

- Meeting with the Jr. Gold representatives to discuss State Tournament locations, league fees, and including the out-state Districts.
- Changing levels/classifications for EBUGS during Region and State Tournaments. Will be seeking Hockey Operations input.
- Discussing a rule change to allow teams with 10 or less players to recruit players from lower levels for league play.
- Enhancing the 19U-B program to grow the level by initially having the "B" removed.

Director Reed made a motion to rename, or name, one of the current MNH Scholarships in the name of Jim Bullard. Motion passed unanimously.

District 1 – Director Mickus reported the season went well and they have begun planning for next year.

District 2 – Director Suoja reported they has a good season; tournaments went well; and they have begun playing for next year.

District 3 – Director Brodersen expressed gratitude to Mike Terwilliger for his assistance with the Covid issues this past season; and announced the girls and women's pilot project is up and running.

District 4 –Director Reed reported the Associations are looking forward to next season; Redwood Falls is looking to expand in their area; and there are a couple new president's that have been elected. Director Reed announced Mike Pigman, from Windom, as the new District 4 Director.

District 5 – Director Gapinski expressed gratitude to his ice schedulers and all the unseen volunteers. D5 will have a new Coach-in-Chief next season.

District 6 – Director Hewitt reported the season went well; and there will be a presentation under New Business regarding the merger of Bloomington Jefferson and Bloomington Kennedy's Girls programs. His position for District Director is up for election.

District 8 – Director Rakness reported on making it through the season due to the pandemic and expressed gratitude to MNH and the Covid-team for their assistance this past season.

District 9 – Director Blaisdell reported they will be meeting next week to begin planning for next season.

District 10 – Director Donovan reported the Girls 14U Green Giants will be participating in the National Tournament; and the next meeting with the full Board of Directors will be in September.

District 11 – Director Hill reported they will be meeting next week; his term is completed and is up for re-election, which nobody else is running; and they had their share of Covid issues, but the changes, overall, went smooth.

District 12 – Director Rabideaux express gratitude for the responsiveness and timeliness regarding Covid issues; and Hibbing Peewee A team was the State Tournament Champions.

District 15 – Director Bushy reported they were happy to get through the season; they had eight teams participating in the State Tournament; he is currently up for re-election; and they have an in-person meeting scheduled on Sunday.

District 16 – Director Elliott reported they had a good season; a meeting is scheduled for May 3rd to begin planning for next year; he is currently up for election; and the District made a decision to have a league traveling trophy and named it the “Elliott Cup”.

North Dakota – Greg Evenson reported they made it through the long season and are looking forward to next year.

Diversity

Director Mickus reported they are waiting on a request for funds; there is a New Commons board; and New Directions scholarship winners will advance to traveling hockey at no cost.

Executive Committee

President Oleheiser reported that the Executive Committee has referred a preliminary draft of the MNH Board of Directors Code of Conduct and conduct at meetings to the Rules Committee for approval at the June meeting; and they are discussing how to proceed with the June meeting for celebrating the award and scholarship recipients from last year and this year.

Finance and Budget

Committee Chair Kephart reported that budget holders will be receiving budget information with timelines, which will be followed closely. Budget forms will be sent out within the next week.

Girls

Vice President Dornfeld requested the District Directors look at how to expand the 15U-A level for the Region Tournament to mimic the AA's, which will then be taken to the Competition Committee; and discuss with the District Directors how to expand and grow the 19U level.

Grievance Committee

Committee Chair Gapinski reported the Grievance Committee ruled on three grievances, which consisted of a right to refuse, a play down request, and a player suspension. Association Board members need to be educated on the grievance process, notably when it involves a player suspension. Welcome Director Souja as a new member of the Grievance Committee.

Hockey Operations

Vice President Perry submitted a written report which are attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Handbook

Committee Chair Madsen asked that any updates or changes needed for the handbook be submitted as soon as known.

High School Boys

Director Taylor reported the season went beyond expectations thanks to MN Hockey for the support with the bridge season, which helped to retain our players. HP Programs are going well and are the highlight of every spring for the players.

High School Girls

Director Morris submitted a written report which are attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

MIAMA

Director Rakness reported that MIAMA is thankful for the cooperation working with MNH this past season. The MIAMA Spring Workshop is scheduled for May 5, 2021 and will be held in a virtual format.

Marketing/Communication

Committee member Gray had nothing to report. Executive Director Andresen stated there will be a renewed focus on marketing to new families for increasing numbers for next season.

Membership Development

Marketing/Communications Manager Ricke had nothing further to report.

Recreational Hockey

Director Mickus reported they had a good year; numbers are down; they have a good board in place; and there has been interest shown from a figure skating group to play hockey, which they are working with to add a 15U or 16U level.

Referees

Referee Section Director Mannin submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Regional Coordinators

VP Dornfeld stated his gratitude to Derek Ricke for his assistance with the Region and State Tournaments. VP Christenson reported the continuation of working with the Competition Committee on new directions; he voiced his appreciation to all the District Directors for what they did this year with all the challenges; and he ran an abuse of officials hearing, which was challenging, but is confident the correct decision was made.

Rules

Committee Chair Beckman brought forth the follow rule changes:

Bylaw Changes

[B1] Gapinski. The District Directors are seeking an amendment to the Bylaws to permit an association to refuse membership to a player.

ARTICLE 6 - AUTHORITY - APPEALS - SUSPENSIONS - COURT ACTIONS

A. Authority - Disciplinary Actions - Suspensions:

1. Minnesota Hockey and its Directors, leagues and affiliates have the authority to manage their programs and issue discipline to any party within their jurisdiction. This includes suspension, probation, censure, financial penalty, [right to refuse membership](#), or other forms of discipline.
2. In cases where such discipline leads to a suspension of the party, a Hearing as outlined in this Article is required. Except as modified in this Article, the hearing shall be governed by USA Hockey Bylaw 10.
3. Exclusions: Hearings are not required for automatic playing rule suspensions, suspensions of officials per MHOA Bylaws, or situations outlined in USAH Bylaw 10 "Exclusions From Unified Procedure".
4. Any Summary Suspension (suspension upon receipt of allegations and prior to a full hearing) must be approved by the MH SafeSport Coordinator.

B. Right to Refuse Membership: Associations have the right to refuse membership into its Association if there are equivalent programs offered within MH in which a member refused registration can participate elsewhere.

1. In cases where an Association refuses registration to a party, a Hearing as outlined in this Article is required. Except as modified in this Article, the hearing shall be governed by USA Hockey Bylaw 10.
2. The Association refusing registration of any member must agree to a Discretionary Waiver if the player is accepted for registration with another association.

CB. Administrative Action: An action or decision by an Authority having jurisdiction that affects any party's membership or their eligibility to participate.

DC. Disputes: Authorities having jurisdiction are required to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of disputes (grievances), including notice and opportunity for a Hearing if applicable.

1. A party contesting an Administrative Action shall be afforded a Hearing.

2. An Authority conducting a Hearing pursuant to this section shall first investigate the circumstances leading to the Hearing to determine if the situation can be resolved short of a Hearing. If resolution **cannot** be achieved, the Authority shall conduct the Hearing pursuant to the requirements of this Article. The investigation required by this section shall not delay the timing of the Hearing as required herein.

ED. Hearings: USA Hockey has developed a unified process on how to conduct Hearings (USAH Bylaw 10). The local authority having jurisdiction (local association, league or District) that conducts the Hearing must closely follow this process to resolve disputes.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as B1 to be approved as presented. Following a brief discussion, **Motion carried with one opposition.**

Youth Rules Changes

[R1] BOD. At the last BOD meeting an amendment VIII PLAYING RULES was adopted prohibiting the alteration of a uniform not approved by MH or the applicable affiliate. The BOD asked the Rules Committee to whether the rules should prohibit certain types of advertising on a statewide basis.

VIII. PLAYING RULES

[R1] *T. Prohibition on Altering Uniforms:*

Any uniform shall not contain any statement, logo, advertisement, or other alteration other than information, names, logos, or sponsor information approved by MH or the applicable affiliate. **Any political statement, advertisement for political candidate or legislative law shall be prohibited on any MH Youth or Girls uniform.**

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R1 to be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Safety

Committee Chair Finnegan submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

SafeSport/Screening

Committee Chair Gray had nothing to report.

Scholarship

Committee Chair Bullard has stepped down from the Chair position and Colleen Donovan has been selected as the Chair.

Tournaments

Marketing/Communications Manager Derek Ricke reported that the on-line tournament sanctioning went well this year. If anyone has any feedback, please send to Derek and Nick Nyhus.

An on-line ticketing system was launched for the State Tournaments this year due to the pandemic and is being reviewed to implement for all State Tournaments moving forward. Director Gapinski suggested the Tournament Committee look at getting “rink rat” pins for siblings, spectators, etc. Tournament Committee would like to consider the semi-final games being played on a different day, which will be discussed with the District Directors.

USA Hockey Reports:

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

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

Director Doug Kephart reported that the MNH business plan does not mirror USAH business plan in the respect that USAH relies primarily on registration revenues, whereas MNH relies not only on registration monies but also on a various number of revenue streams from different programs offered.

Coach-In-Chief Christian Koelling submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Director Scott Gray reported the need to help and educate Associations with discipline procedures. Legal Counsel is looking at ways to decrease litigations due to improper discipline procedures. They are looking at re-doing the discipline procedures to make them more understandable and will then plan on distributing to all affiliates and resources. Director Gray was involved with the investigation of Illinois hockey. Investigation was completed and the findings were submitted to USA Hockey. The MN Hockey model/grievance procedures were used for member complaints.

Director Emeritus Dennis Green reported that he will be serving as the Tournament Chair at the Youth 16 and 18 National Tournaments in St. Louis. Playing rule changes are coming up. He was asked to conduct an abuse of official investigation, which the parents accepted and didn't contest due to having live video at the arena.

Antonia Gillen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Referee-In-Chief Steve Tatro reported numbers are down for USA Hockey officials; 68 seminars were held; they are tracking the progress of the mentoring program; and evaluations are down approximately 50%.

Risk Manager Travis Johnson submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

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

MN District Registrar Todd Elmer reported that that he is still waiting for the final MNH registration numbers from USAH.

MNH has 20 teams that will be competing in National Tournaments.

New CEP Requirements will require annual continuing education, with those currently holding a Level 4 or 5 certification being grandfathered in.

Play down requests have been being submitted but will not be reviewed until after the MNH Summer Meeting.

New Business

Merger of Bloomington Kennedy and Bloomington Jefferson – an informational presentation was conducted for the merger of Bloomington Kennedy and Bloomington Jefferson by representatives from the respective associations and District 6. Both positive and negative implications of the merger were shared. There is strong support for the merger, but the approval is contingent upon the general membership vote. Upon approval from the membership, they would be requesting a new affiliate agreement with MN Hockey, as well as compiling a

new operating agreement from all affected association boards, by-laws, and merging their 501(3)c's. Questions were entertained. Consideration for the merger will be brought forth at the MN Hockey June meeting.

Elections

Nominating Committee Chair Margenau announced the Vice President Gold Coordinator position was open for election and incumbent Tom Christensen is seeking re-election. Director Hill expressed interest in the position but has since withdrew. With no further nominations from the floor, President Oleheiser closed the nominations and asked for a motion to accept Tom Christenson as VP Gold Coordinator. Director Bushy made the motion to accept Tom Christenson as the VP Gold Coordinator, and Director Reed seconded the motion. With no objections, President Oleheiser announced Tom Christenson as the VP Gold Coordinator.

Nomination Committee Chair Margenau announced the Vice President of Hockey Operation position was open for election and incumbent John Perry would not be seeking re-election. Director Reed expressed interest in the position. With no further nominations from the floor, President Oleheiser closed the nominations and asked for a motion to accept Jeremy Reed as VP of Hockey Operations. Director Gapinski mad the motion to accept Jeremy Reed as the VP of Hockey Operations, and Treasurer Kephart seconded the motion. With no objections, President Oleheiser announced Jeremy Reed as the VP of Hockey Operations.

Nominating Committee Chair Margenau announced there are two USA Hockey MN District Director positions open for election with incumbents Dave Margenau and Doug Kephart both seeing re-election and Steve Gapinski expressing interest for one of the positions. With no further nominations from the floor, President Oleheiser closed the nominations. Each candidate spoke briefly to the position. Voting was virtually completed privately, with Derek Ricke and Rhonda Madsen receiving the votes. President Oleheiser announced Doug Kephart and Steve Gapinski as the two USA Hockey MN District Directors.

Award Recipients

President's Award: Shari Olson, Mike Terwilliger, and Mike Schoonover
Ted Brill Award: Mike MacMillan
Don Clark: Currently Seeking Candidates

Scholarship Recipients

Bruce Krueger Award: Nathan Dehmiow, Hastings
Wes Barrette Award: Andrew Walsh, Highland Park/St. Paul
Jim Bullard Award: Parker Ryan, Buffalo
Jr. Gold Awards: Landon Wesloh, Zimmerman; Kaden Sandberg, Maple Grove; Luke Fenstermacher, Ham Lake; Joseph Stuedemann, Andover; and Parker Brown, Minnetonka
Disabled Hockey: Jeremy Koelln, MN Warrior Hockey; and Evie Jones, MN Wild Blind Hockey

Service Awards Nicole Broderson, 5 Years; Colleen Donovan, 7 years; Steve Gapinski, 7 Years; Rhonda Madsen, 7 Years; and Tom Mikus, 15 Years

MNH Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 25-27, 2021 at the Marriott West. **Since the April meeting, the June meeting has been rescheduled for June 18-20, 2021 at the Marriott West.**

With no further business, a motion was made by Director Reed to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Gapinski. President Oleheiser adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda J Madsen, MNH Recording Secretary