

MID AM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2024 MINUTES

CALL-IN MEETING: Mid Am Districts (District) Meeting was held via a Zoom conference call. The meeting was called to order Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 7:32 am EST, by President Paul Day. Biff Cummings (BC) performed a roll-call. Twenty-eight members attended, with eighteen of twenty-one voting members, so a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE: (in no particular order): Paul Day, Tim O'Shaughnessy, Tom Gawlik, Biff Cummings, John Karolcik, Roy Davis, Ed Gingher, Keith Kenitzer, Beth Stalnaker, Michelle Miller, Jim Weaver, Mark Zukowski, Murray Stall, Shena Link, Ladd Wagner, Kathy Santora, Howard Smith, Doug Losure, Roger Wallin, JD Hobbs, Gui Bradshaw, Dave Caruso, Mark Ferfolia, John Folmer, Zach Hill, Jeff Anderson, Scott Paluch, Lori Billings, and Tom Cline.

AGENDA:

1. **Minutes:** The minutes for the June 21, 2024 Board Meeting were reviewed with several comments. John K made a motion to approve it. It was seconded by Doug. The Board voted to approve.
2. **Mid Am District Treasurer Report to 12/2024:** Tom G. reviewed his report. He then opened a discussion to discuss shifting funds from our checking account/CD to the Foundation. John made a motion to move \$200,000 from our current CD, once matured, to the Foundation. Roy seconded the transfer, and the Board voted to approve it. John F. motioned to approve the Mid Am Treasurer's Report, and Doug L. seconded. The Board voted to approve.
3. **USAH Financial Report:** Paul indicated that USAH will increase fees by 12% this year, pending approval of the financial report. This increase was proposed due to inflation and increased expenses.
4. **Registration:** Keith indicated a reminder that coaches may start getting "red-lined" if they don't have their proper training and certification.
5. **Youth Council:** John K reported on proposed rule changes. Several major changes are proposed for Tier I hockey, including having a moratorium on new Tier I programs for the next two years. Proposed changes are presented on the USAH website. John K. highlighted that icing and tag-up are proposed for rule changes.
6. **State and District Tournaments Sign-Ups:** March 6 through 9th. Lori submitted the listing of teams that are currently signed up. We are still missing some payments. Paul suggested that the State VP review the list to see if anyone is missing. Keith suggested that we lock down our lists on January 1 to meet USAH requirements.
7. **Billeting:** Lori submitted a report on billeting and briefly mentioned on the call that teams won't be eligible unless paperwork is in order.
8. **Player Development/Select Tryouts:** Ed G. reported that all select tryouts will be held May 9 - 11 at the Chiller North in Columbus. Tom reported that tryouts will be capped at six teams. Nominated players may not get an invitation.

MID AM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2024 MINUTES

9. **Safe Sport Update and Discussion:** Paul indicated that we had moved all cases to our subcontractor (Scott Gray), and it is working fine. The center seems to be handling complaints more efficiently as well. The number of non-safe sport issues going to the center is overwhelming. Paul indicated that the lack of education by the associations to the parents is generally the problem. There was an extended discussion about potential ways to address this issue.
10. **MS SharePoint:** Jeff A. gave an update on the deployment of SharePoint for sharing files across the District. He hopes to open it up to people after the holidays.
11. **State and District Tournaments Hosts/Staffing March 7 - 9:** WPA Tier II host will be Ice Castle. Ohio Tier II (14U only) host will be Queen City in Cincy. Indiana Tier II (14U only) will be hosted by Ft Wayne. Tier I girls will be at Pens Elite. Ohio 16u and 18u tournaments were held on Oct 18 -20, 2024. **Cincy** will be covered by Tim, Mark F, and Cathy. **Columbus** (one facility): Paul, Lori, Ed, Dave, Roy, Keith, and Beth. **Pittsburgh:** Girls in One: Ladd, Charlie, Howard, Jim, and Jeff. Boys: Biff, John K., John F., Kathy, Zach, Mark Z. and Jeff. **Fort Wayne** will be covered by Doug, Roy, and Craig.
12. **Girls Women:** Ladd thanked everyone for their support in resolving the Barons registration issue.
13. **Coaching Clinic:** Bill indicated that December 31, 2024, is the coaching deadline.
14. **Adult Council:** Tom C. indicated that we will need to provide a representative.
15. **Officiating:** Jim provided a brief report. He indicated that green armbands for young referees have been sent out to the rinks.
16. **High School:** Kathy indicated that we have numerous teams that have applied for Nationals.
17. **Roger Sharrer Awards:** Kathy indicated that she is looking for suggestions for the RSA.
18. **State Reports:** Reports were provided in writing.
19. **MID AM By-Laws and Rules & Regulations:** Paul reviewed several proposed edits/modifications to the By-Laws. He is going to provide his edits for review. Paul suggested that Tim, Tom G, Biff, John K, and himself serve on the committee to review and make edits to the By-Laws. The plan is to get the By-Laws approved at the Annual Meeting. Paul also reviewed the Rules & Regulations. There was a discussion about the process of making changes and updates and how to incorporate rules and regs defined in USAH's Annual Guide. It was suggested that some Rules & Regs may need more immediate attention and should be removed from the website until they can be edited. By-laws should stay on the website.

**MID AM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2024 MINUTES**

20. **Player Development:** Scott Paluch provided an update.
21. **Billeting:** Lori questioned whether there should be a limit to the number of players on a team that can billeted. Paul indicated that it is a complicated issue that we need to discuss along with other Tier I questions.

John K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roy seconded. The Board voted to approve. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 pm.

Meeting minutes by Biff Cummings