



**Minnesota Hockey District 3
Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes
Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday, November 11, 2020**

x	Nicole Brodersen	District Director		Association Reps
x	Mark Brandt	President/Scheduling	x	Mike Melsha ACYHA
x	Shelly Johnson	Administrator	x	Kristi Duis Delano Area
	Vacant	Treasurer		Reid Paul Hopkins
	Cheryl Myers	Social Media/Comm.	x	Bill Robeck Mpls & Hockey Operations
	Machele Whitmore	Registrar	x	Brad Butler Mound Westonka
x	Neil Olson	BHRA President	x	Kity Marinac North Metro
x	Matt Olsonoski	BHRA Supervisor	x	Kelly Greene Orono
x	Mike Anderson	BHRA Scheduler	x	Steve Fischer OMG
x	Michelle Jirik	Tourney Coord.	x	Paul Steenerson OMG
x	Kendra Verbeten	HP/Tier 1	x	Michelle Jirik St Louis Park
	Josh Hicks	Coach-in-Chief	x	Andy Nordseth Wayzata
	Vacant	Griev. Comm. Chair		
	Vacant	Girls Coordinator		Guests/Alternates Present:
x	Diane Margenau	Membership Devel.		
x	Greg Gibson	JGHSL	x	Bob Larson, Hopkins alternate
	Todd Larson	JGHSL		

- **Call to order TIME:** 7:03
- October Minutes: Motion to approve: Kity Seconded: Bob L
Minutes approved

1. **District 3 Director Report-** MN Hockey is working with task force on youth sports. If everyone follows protocols, we can continue playing hockey. Biggest problems are people not wearing masks, and social distancing. MN Hockey has established consequence for coaches not wearing masks. First time is a warning, second time is 3 game suspension, and third is 30 days. If associations have a lot of teams not following the rules, there could be consequences for the association. Make sure coaches know the consequences and the escalation of consequences can occur within the same game/activity. Do not want to suspend coaches but will if rules are not followed. Things will not get easier, if nothing else more stringent. Thank you to the association volunteers that are helping to keep things going. Mites/8U- will be all in house until Dec 15 at the earliest. Many schools are going to distance learning and with the Thanksgiving break coming up, want to see how things play out.

Scrimmages and Games: Teams should NOT be reaching out to other districts to secure refs for scrimmages. We need to control and avoid any cross exposure as much as possible and other districts are having same issues with making sure they have enough refs for all events as well. Reminder that scrimmages may be cancelled if there is a need for refs to cover a game. Thank you to Mike A for dealing with all the ref scheduling issues!

During the District Director meeting discussed that we all want to keep hockey going, need 100% compliance with the protocols.

Question on if there is a limit on how low a team must go in house if in need a sub goalie. Nicole said no rule -use best judgement.

Question on what to do with parents not following the protocols. Nicole indicated that all the rules apply to everyone (players, officials, coaches, parents). If not following report to her.

Renting team bus-NOT good idea. The Gov. new orders would indicate that a team bus is not allowed due to it being a private event in an enclosed space with more than the allowable number of people. Mark said he was looking at association websites and saw a team had a pizza party scheduled. We have to stop this kind of events right now. This would also be in conflict with the new order.

MAKE SURE COACHES AND MANAGERS REGISTER ON D3 SITE AND WATCH THE APPLICABLE PRESENTATION. A LOT STILL HAVE NOT.

2. **District 3 Administrator Report-** Thank you again to everyone for picking up scorebooks for your associations. Any association that has reached out to me (or Michelle) for scorebooks for tourneys being hosted have also received those scorebooks.
3. **District 3 President Report-** League schedules have been completed for all levels, except for the Jr Gold level. There has been many reschedules already done this year because of teams being quarantined. Most of the time when a team is quarantined there is 2-4 games that need to be rescheduled. All game reschedules this year need to be submitted by your association scheduler. This way we can make sure that they get done in a timely fashion and try to keep all games back to back which allows Mike to schedule the refs more efficiently. Just a couple of weeks into the season the amount of scrimmages being scheduled are way up from last year. Currently on the weekends it is gotten to the point that there may not be refs available to cover all the requests. The League games, and tournaments are the first priority. It may be necessary to cancel refs that were scheduled for a scrimmage if one or more refs that were scheduled for a league game or tournament become sick and are unable to ref the game that they were scheduled for. Please make sure that your teams are aware of this possibly happening and to be understanding. This year also teams should not be calling the referee scheduler in other district to schedule refs if Mike is not able to have refs to cover the scrimmages. They are having the same issues as our district is

having. Teams do have the option of having a controlled scrimmage. Please make sure they know the rules in the MN Hockey handbook for a controlled scrimmage. The handbook is on the MN Hockey website. If your association is planning to have a 19U team, please let Mark know. If there are players that are looking to play and need a team, also communicate that.

Will work on the rules if need to do seeding differently at the end of the season. Nicole suggested taking back to associations for thought/ideas. Ask teams to double check schedule on their team site against the schedule on the D3 site to make sure things line up. If there are inconsistencies, contact your ice scheduler.

- 4. District 3 Treasurer Report-** Budget will be sent out for review and discussion at Dec meeting. Please reach out with any questions prior to the December meeting as well. Kendra provided some summary details: All associations have paid tourney fees from 2020. We do not have all the ice bills yet though. When started cleaning up the budget, there were some cash flow issues, but only due to the timing of money coming in and money going out for bills. All is getting in order and financial health of D3 is back on track. Some associations do still need to pay league fees from last year and that information will be sent out this week. Will be sending out 2020-21 league fee invoices in December. League fees are charged out to associations based on the cost of doing D3 business. Each association is billed based on the number of teams you are hosting. Once the district tourneys are set up, we will send out D3 2021 tournament invoices, hopefully in January. Reminder that all board members have a responsibility to stay on top of the financial data of the district. We need to be reviewing monthly statements. Steve (and others) thanked Kendra for stepping in and helping to get the financial things cleaned up and back on track. Nicole also thanked the association treasurers for being patient and cooperative.

5. D3 Associates Reports –

- Supervisor of Officials: Reiterate the need for patience. Don't want scrimmages to get cancelled but we are really enforcing protocols. Contact with officials during games needs to be minimal. We want to keep playing the game. Communication went out to refs that signing the scoresheets is permissible again. Initially were not signing, but is ok now. Mike said that in Nov there are 960-970 games/scrimmages scheduled. Likely the most it will be this season. The high school bridge league added an unexpected 100 games. All very challenging, we are short refs even without taking into consideration absences due to illness. Will do our best to cover everything but need everyone to be flexible. Question asked about games using just one ref. Mike said can start a game this way if the ref is on the way or a ref is called to cover and can get there soon. Games will not be scheduled with just one ref. Will use

discretion as some refs are ok to manage this while others may not be. Need to keep the games safe.

D6 is struggling with ref numbers as well. No out of district requests! Mike wondering about Jr Gold needs. Greg said JGHSL games start Dec 14. Diane shared OMG may need refs for Jr Gold tryouts. Tryouts start the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend. Coach in Chief: no report

- Membership and Development:

This past Saturday, November 7, 2020, was USA Hockey's "Try Hockey for Free". Due to Covid, I did not visit any of the sites. Three associations in D3 participated. Thank you to the following: Hopkins - Robert Larson Coordinator, Armstrong Cooper - Danica Gigl Coordinator and Osseo Maple Grove - Erin Smith - Coordinator. I don't have any participant numbers at this time. It should be noted that this weekend was just a portion of recruiting efforts that are being made in District 3. All D3 associations have had numerous events this fall for recruiting new players into their programs.

- Jr Gold: Declaration date of teams/levels will likely be earlier than 12/2 to facilitate league formation. Delano: 1 or 2-JGB? Mpls: 1-JGB Armstrong Cooper: 1-JG16 OMGHA: 1-JGA, 1-JGB, 1 or 2 JG16 Orono: 2-JGB St. Louis Park: 1-JGA North Metro: 1-JGB? Wayzata: 1-JGA, 3-JGB (Blue, Gold Royal), 1-JG16 White

League game scheduling will be done via zoom. Need to have person that will schedule for each team so they can be invited. Please send contact's email & cell for each team to GGG.

League schedule is 20 games. For 10 home games each team will need 13-90 minutes game slots for scheduling meeting.

JGHSL Coach Certification: virtual zoom training Saturday 12/5, 8:00am-noon & Sunday 12/6 10:00am-1:00pm. Details at <https://www.jghsl.org/>

For seeding, using points earned divided by the number of games played.

- Girls League Coordinator: Again, if having a 19U team or a pleyer is looking for a team, let Nicole know. Also, district wide there is a shortage of girl goalies. Encourage girls to try playing goalie.
- Grievance Committee: no report, need chair of committee. If you know anyone interested, please reach out.
- Scheduling Coordinator:
- Tournament Coordinator: Tournaments are coming in and being processed. As of now majority of tournaments for Nov. are submitted. Let your tourney coordinators know the application process is new. The earlier associations complete, the easier it will be. Need the brackets for tourneys (do not need names of specific teams on the brackets). Mike A added that for associations hosting Thanksgiving

tournaments, will not be sending out invoices for officials ahead of time like in the past, will send out after and ask to please pay promptly.

- Social Media/Website: no report
- HP/Tier 1: Things are relatively quiet since the girls 14U finished play in the NIT. The survey has not yet been distributed to the fall 2020 Tier one/two families. The D3 HP Planning Committee held a wrap up meeting and is set to meet next week for planning for spring 2021. Financial wrap up continues as all the bills are paid and monies from MNH are yet to come in.
- Hockey Operations: no report

6. D3 Association Representatives:

Armstrong Cooper: Working on Covid issues, safety plans etc.

Delano: Tryouts were completed with minimal COVID interruptions; Currently one youth team in quarantine; released an updated COVID plan for the arena utilizing red light/green light plan for entrance; question - are we supposed to be doing a scrape during the Bantam A game?

Hopkins: no report

Minneapolis: Multiple reports of coaches concerned that they cannot adequately tend to squirt/10U players with only two coaches on the bench. Examples include: 1. A player needing special help due to asthma. 2. A player needing special help due to a possible concussion. 3. A player need special help due to an injured ankle. This may just be how it goes but we are experiencing some potential safety issues as a result of this rule. Have dealt with far more exposures than positive cases, which have only totaled two thus far. None of our teams have been shut down thus far. MDH has been responsive and helpful when needed. Feel positive about compliance with covid policies by players, coaches and parents overall. Have continued to impress upon coaching staffs the requirement to wear a mask at all times. A few concerns being raised by individuals about traveling for out of town tournaments.

Mound-Westonka: no report

North Metro: Hosting the NM pirates classic on Thanksgiving weekend, keeping open communication with all managers regarding last minute cancelations or changes.

Orono Season well underway for most teams and coming across a few issues. PW goalie shortage with COVID close contacts--Thanks to all associations that have helped out COVID (5 positive, 25 close contacts)

Osseo Maple Grove: no report

St Louis Park: All teams are formed and up and going. We have several teams with one or two kids out due to quarantine. We have had several teams cancel away tournaments due to COVID. Wondering if tournaments will be cancelled or stricter rules applied in the coming weeks. Some kids on teams that are choosing to do the out of town tournaments will not be attending. Mites and 6u/8u meeting when will this happen?

Wayzata: no report

7. Old Business: need for new treasurer-have a short term solution to get invoices taken care of. Working on long term solution.

a. Squirt restructuring-looking at forming a committee after the season is up and running and work on for the future and come up with ideas. Let Mark or Nicole of interest in being involved.

9. New Business:

*Need new grievance committee chair.

*Association tryouts and tier one/two playoff challenge. Add for discussion in December 2020.

*Discussion around if should be doing a scrape during bantam games. Do a scrape but do not want players going back into locker rooms. If cannot keep players distanced, skip the scrape. Option for distancing would be some on the bench, some standing along boards. If able to go back into two separate locker rooms, need to stay distanced and wear masks. Teams may have two locker rooms assigned but coaches are bringing them back into one for talk-this defeats the purpose. Follow the rules! Nicole added that ideally, we are just not using locker rooms. Some arenas have very limited space (example Delano) and are struggling to find ways to make it work. Bob L said at the pavilion they put mats down all around so kids can use the additional space and keep distanced.

Question of 15U tourneys. D3 will host playoff for 15A and 15B.

Beyond that TBD pending statewide discussion and number of teams.

10. Adjourn Motion: Andy Seconded: Bill

Meeting ended at 8:49