

Rocky Mountain District

2024 Winter Meeting Meetings

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center Lafayette Rooms 1&2

6000 W. Osceola Pkwy, Kissimmee, FL. 34746

6:00PM to 9:00PM

Dinner at 7PM

- Call to Order **5:59pm**
- Establish Quorum
- Introductions **Steve Thompson, Goaltending. GDC program. Associate Coach in Chief, GDC Player Development, Growth Coordinator. Discussing RMD Player Development and who in these positions should be part of the RMD player selection process. Suggests the Girls and the Youth Goalie District leaders work together on the Player Development process. Creating 3 different positions referenced above, Associate Coach-in-Chief – Mike Germain out of Phoenix. GDC position will manage the evaluations of the goalies and putting on a camp both in the District and Affiliate levels. Growth Coordinator will be in charge of Try Hockey for Free, Try Goalie for Free, Adult Hockey Goalie Clinics. The Plan in June is to go over membership numbers look at total registration vs total goalie registration and see what percentage deficit there may be of goaltenders.**
- Approval of Minutes from RMD Annual Meeting in Arizona – **Motion: Mark, 2nd Kathleen. Motion passes.**
- USAH- **Joe Bonnett was listed to be here but is instead with the Junior Olympic team in South Korea.**
- Registrar's Report-Darla Thompson –
 - **Automatic redlines went live in the portal in October.**
 - **AZ – 5, CO - 134, ID - 262, NM - 27, TX - 26, UT – 66**
 - **Total players, coaches, officials for the 2023-24 was 59,580. In 2022-23 we had 61,869, so we are down 2,289 players, coaches, volunteers, officials. Unclaimed players is a large number for most affiliates. It is typically the 8U and/or Adults that make up this group.**
 - **AZ 1525, CO 3313, ID 521, NM 160, TX 4330, OK 226, UT 362**
 - **Rosters 2,557 rosters have been approved for the 2023-2024 season. 42 Tier I NTB (33 Youth, 9 Girls), 78 Tier II NTB (66 Youth, 12 Girls), 18 High School D1**
 - **Insurance has changed as of January 1st – no longer using K&K. Now using AG Administrator Sports Insurance. If a K&K claim is filed, it will automatically transfer over to AG Administrators.**

- Affiliate training in August - we were in NM 30 people went over USA Hockey Rules, District rules, etc. In September we were in Arizona where 36 people were in attendance.
- District meeting with Kim and all registrars monthly. Many portal issues. Darla follows up with each affiliate registrar regarding issues and solutions.
- Player safety – Florida mandated Neck Laceration Protectors in January 2024 and will need to be used by all participants.
- January 8th zoom meeting with Idaho regarding state, district, and nationals. Showed all attendees how to put together a credential book.
- Ebug Update – everyone was given a sheet about the confusion about EBUGs. If a team has played with 1 goalie all season, they will need to play at Nationals with one goalie. If a team plays at Nationals with one goalie and they get hurt, the team will skate with six players on the ice. If a team has played with 2 goalies all season, they can request an EBUG to be used at Nationals and will need to request by submitting documentation to their District Registrar.
- District Declarations – roster designations on 1-T roster is compared to the declarations given to the district for tournament play. Darla would like to be copied on declarations.
- Tournament Sanctions - 163 tournaments have been approved so far this season.
- Vertical Integration – 2 affiliates have used VI – AZ and CO. Tier I only.
- District Elections – Ted Skinner was appointed District Representative in September to complete Geoff Pashkowski's term. Nominations will open February 19th and close on March 1st, for official term designation. 2024-2025 season, Kathleen Smith's term will expire.
- Reports
 - District Referee in Chief – Registered over 2,700 officials in the district. Increase of 10% in registration. RMD is 4th in the country for number of officials. Getting level 1s to the finish line is always a challenge. Conducted 123 seminars this year. 60 Level 1s, 27 Level 2s, 23, Level 3s, and 13 Level 4s. Really relieved the burden of instructors because clinics can be taken anywhere. 359 level 1 officials who did not get to a seminar, 339 of them registered late. 10 additional were registered in Oklahoma and these individuals drove to Texas to complete seminar.
 - 1,364 level 2s, 3, 4s, only 179 did not complete registration.
 - Incident reports are up – this time last year just over 800, this year so far more than 1000. Part of this has to do with re-write of the rule. 59 under 601e3, 82 game misconduct for continuing after being assessed penalty, 401b 247 game misconduct for 4 penalties and 101 game misconduct to coaches for extensive penalties.
 - Spectators continue to be a problem and need to be addressed by officials.

- Changes in registration next season will continue to be an issue – to get ahead of it the officials will receive all they need in the seminar. The only thing they need to complete apart from the seminar is background screening and SafeSport. Focusing on retention, getting our level 1s to level 2 and so forth.
- 2025-2026 – will go entirely virtual and the funds for the on-ice cost will filter back to investing in officiating development, mentor programs, shadow programs and coaching programs. Updating videos so the plays are enhanced and more readily seen and with more specific content.
- District Coach in Chief-Temp Cards
- Mike Germain came on board as assistant CIC. and helped with clinics. Level 5 symposium – goal was to try to pull coaches and send those coaches to coach academy to then bring them in to help in the District . 5 stayed on board and helped throughout the season. 15 people in the end Coach Developers that helped run clinics. Completed 41 or 42 clinics which is up a few from last year. 1,900 coaches came through the clinics. 23 participants in Level 1 in New Mexico, cancelled the Level 2 in-person because most participants did not realize it was in person, so because of it being an in-person clinic instead of virtual, they canceled. Temp cards were given to these coaches.
 - IT continues to be a challenge.
 - Truancy – 3,500 coaches signed up for clinic but did not attend. Will implement a 7-day notice for cancellation/transfer of clinic registration.
 - CICs were tasked with making the transfers, but going forward it will be up to the coaches to make those transfers.
 - Goaltending CIC, Three levels Coaching Education, Coaching Development, Helping with Affiliate Camps. Steve Thompson, Mike Germain, Kaley Marino “Gibber” for the Girls.
 - Level 5 is being worked on for 2025. Will most likely be in MidAm District.
 - Looking for help identifying Coach Developers and getting more CICs in each district.
 - Temp Cards. I will do whatever I can do to help everyone out. This will be on a case-by-case basis. We have received 58 temp card applications. Cosmo has approved just about half of the temp cards to date.
- District Player Safety –
 - Attempted to set up some coaching CPR training in Texas but was unable to get completed. The trend in the country is all coaches are going to have to become CPR certified.

- **Concussion – received no Return to Play forms to date. If Affiliates can be sure to get all RTP forms to Doug so he has record of all within the District.**
 - **If any Affiliate has someone that could help with Player Safety, please let Mark or Doug know.**
 - **Stop the Bleed – encourage affiliates to look into this organization to train coaches and team staff – this could save a life.**
 - **District Risk Manager –**
 - **K&K will still be doing catastrophic cases. AGI Administrators will do everything else. All claims are done online.**
 - **Additional insured requests were given through the season.**
 - **Affiliate Presidents –**
 - **Texas – Would like to re-visit player movement from affiliate to affiliate. Place some emphasis on players moving needing to receive approval from affiliate presidents. At the very least do a Do Not Play listing for the Rocky Mountain District.**
 - **Arizona – Agree that player transfers within the district need an approval process. Tim encourages everyone to work with the Stop the Bleed training.**
 - **Colorado – Election in May with turnover on the CAHA board. Had By-laws passed in December and are now working on the P&Ps. Vice President for each section, new Discipline and new Safesport. May is the next annual meeting, and the entire board is up for election, possible further turnover possible.**
 - **Idaho – High School team (should be Tier team) made up of girls from out of state have been approved to play as a High School team.**
 - **Utah – We are doing ok, hockey numbers are about the same as last year. Did a major re-write of the P&Ps over the last year and half.**
 - **New Mexico – doing well. Nothing major to note.**
 - **Webmaster –**
 - **Working on RMD Tournament page and Player Development Camp page. Once content is approved, can be posted publicly for all participants. Kristy asked all board members to review the site and page tabs for any required updates and/or changes. Any content anyone can share would be great to keep the site up to date and fresh.**
- **Financial Update-Bruce Urban – Ran into a few snags along the way in how to complete our investments. CDs are still the way to go. Bruce needs either the Secretary or**

President to approve the purchase of the CDs. Motion: Authorize Bruce Urban, Treasurer, and Kristy Aguirre, Secretary to purchase CDs. Approved \$200,000 at last meeting. Proposed to purchase (1) 6 month and a (1) 12 month for \$100,000 each. Motion: Mark, 2nd Kathleen.

- **USAH By-Laws Proposals/Update-Kathleen Smith – Reviewed all proposals and discussed board stance.**
- **USAH Legislative Proposals - Reviewed all proposals and discussed board stance.**
- **2023/24 RMD District Tournament Update-Ted Skinner**
 - **Phoenix March 7-10th in Phoenix at Ice Den Chandler and Ice Den Scottsdale**
 - **11 age divisions this year.**
 - **Final Confirmation of teams at each division**
 - **41 teams. 4 teams each for all Youth Tier I teams 13O, 14U, 15O, 16U, 18U. Girls Tier I, 1 team for each 14U, 16U, and 19U. Girls Tier II 4 teams at 14U, 5 teams at 16U, and 3 teams at 19U Tier II.**
 - **Games start no earlier than 8 am, and latest game would be finishing by 8pm.**
 - **Following National Tournament Guidebook for length of periods, ice cuts, etc. Including extended game lengths for Tier I 16U and 19U girls due to ice cut after each period. Overtime round robin play will be a 10 min overtime 3 on 3. In the Championship game, overtime period will be equal to the 3rd period length and 5 on 5. Shootout will be an ice cut after overtime and before the shootout. 3 players will shoot and then can start over again.**
 - **Team costs by age/division. RMD covers trophies, medals (1st place only), pucks, and banners (1st place only).**
 - **13O Tier I Youth - \$2,325**
 - **14U Tier I Youth - \$2,325**
 - **15O Tier I Youth – \$2,575**
 - **16U Tier I Youth – \$2,575**
 - **18U Tier I Youth - \$2,775**
 - **14U Tier I Girls - \$1,750**
 - **16U Tier I Girls - \$1,950**
 - **19U Tier I Girls - \$1,950**
 - **14U Tier II Girls - \$2,250**
 - **16U Tier II Girls – \$2,875**
 - **19U Tier II Girls - \$1,825**
- **2024 USAH National Tournament Update-TC Lewis**
 - **no additional information**
- **RMDPEC Camp Update-Doug Ritter**
 - **Arizona April 19th – 21st**
 - **Colorado March 14th – 17th**
 - **Idaho March 15th – 17th**
 - **New Mexico March 24th**

- Texas March 15th – 17th
- Utah March 15th – 17th
- Moving camp to Plano. Valley Ranch is not demonstrative of the environment we want.
- Will be having more banners and promo, plus adding back more educational pieces like seminars and clinics.
- Safesport will be doing an audit of an event coming soon. We need to be prepared with locker room monitors and credentials. We should get a 2 week notice.
- USA National Camp 17U camp. Has changed back to a District based camp. Joe Doyle, Air Force will head coach again this year. Tyler Helton will be assistant coach; Marc Fritsche will be team leader. Intern coach, young upcoming coaches from affiliates that would be good to go and get some experience. Motion: Not to exceed \$1500 from camp funds to pay for one (1) intern coach to attend this camp from RMD Motion: Mark, 2nd Lucas. Motion passes.
- Multi-District Girls Camp update-Kathleen Smith – 14U June 27th in Henderson Nevada. Will be a commuter camp. Budget will be finalized in the next 10 days or so. Will bring a GDC from each District. Total player count will be 136, RMD allotted 33 forwards, 19 defense, 7 goalies. 8 teams 17 players each. Coaches will be Tier I or Tier II preferred. Collegiate athletes will be paired with each coach. Would like to use this camp as official training but will need to wait until it is off the ground.
- 130 camp would like to do it again in Ogden, UT again. Either the 2nd week in June or 3rd week of July. The camp cost will be under \$200. 2011 birthyear we have 383 total registered girls; affiliates can send 17% of 130 girls from their affiliate. Affiliates can choose what girls can attend; they don't necessarily have to go through a state camp in order to participate.
- District Director Election in 2024-Darla Thompson
 - Ted Skinner was appointed District Representative in September to complete Geoff Pashkowski's term. Nominations will open February 19th and close on March 1st, for official term designation. 2024-2025 season, Kathleen Smith's term will expire.
- Other-Misc-New Business
 - April 12th – 14th Girls Leadership Summit Utica New York. USA Hockey is requesting each Affiliate to send two (2) girls hockey program leaders to this summit. The Affiliate will be responsible to cover \$1,400 each leader, total of \$2,800.
 - Jack Whitt – requested financial assistance for Coach Developers. Propose a budget of some sort to supplement. Directed to budget proposal in July.
- Adjourn 9:37pm Motion: Tim Reckell, 2nd Lucas Reid