



December 13, 2006

The December meeting of the Minnesota Hockey District 3 Beltline League was held on December 13, 2006, at the Crystal Community Center.

Those present:

John Perry – Director
Mark Brandt – President
Diane Margenau – Administrator
Jim Gates – Supervisor of Officials
John Sparling – President, Beltline Referees
Dennis Green – President, Minnesota Hockey
David Margenau – Maroon V.P., Minnesota Hockey
Scott Dornfeld – Tournament Coordinator
Sandra Sullivan – S.K.A.T.E. Coordinator
Lynn Brandt – C League Coordinator/Registrar

Representatives:

Gene Ferrel – Cooper (alt.)
Greg Symicek - Armstrong
Joe Arko – St. Louis Park
Marty Solhaug - Blake
Mitch Trombley – Tri City
Greg Erickson - Cooper
Matt Symoniak – Brooklyn Park
Tom Pitra – Osseo/Maple Grove
Brad Davis – Hopkins
Mike Tabery – Wayzata

President Mark Brandt called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

President Brandt welcomed Dennis Green, Minnesota Hockey President and thanked him for attending our meeting. President Brandt also introduced Greg Symicek, the newly appointed Armstrong District 3 Representative.

MINUTES - Scott Dornfeld moved to accept the November, 2006 minutes as presented.

Mitch Trombley seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

REFEREES REPORT – Jim Gates, John Sparling reporting. (see attached)

1. Mr. Gates distributed a penalty breakdown for the District through December 12, 2006. Mr. Gates, in explaining the information, that penalties appear to be at the same level as they were last year. We have not had any players receive a total of 5 penalties in one game.
2. Mr. Gates reported that the season is going very well.
3. Mr. Gates asked for a clarification concerning the “3 penalty and out rule” as used by teams from other Districts. Mrs. Margenau said that she has had some problems with this, especially with District 2 and that District 1 also has this rule in their by-laws. At this time, when teams play in District 3, they will continue to have the “5 penalty and out rule”, even teams from out of District 3. District 3 teams need to be informed that when they play teams in other Districts, in particular District 1 and District 2, a player receiving 3 penalties in one game will be removed from that game, without receiving a game misconduct.
4. Mr. Sparling stated that over the Thanksgiving weekend, the Beltline Referees Association scheduled 220 games. To his knowledge, all went well.
5. With the Junior Gold league games starting, it is expected that there will be a lot of penalties, especially with the implementation of the new rule emphasis.

6. There are new tag up guidelines for Junior Gold teams. Basically, the whistle is not blown for immediate off-sides. An offensive player is allowed to leave the zone and then reenter.
7. Will probably suggest going to 15 minutes periods for bantams next year.
8. President Brandt, in viewing some games at arenas around the District, has been very impressed with the quality of refereeing in District 3 and especially the consistency.
9. Mrs. Margenau said that she has had a request from a coach inquiring how the referees deal with coaches who deliberately delay a game at the end of the third period. This appears to be a problem with hour long games. The referees stated that they really don't see this happening all that much and that they try to keep control over this situation.

DIRECTORS REPORT – John Perry reporting.

1. There will be at least 2 more roster verifications this season. Everyone is asked to be sure that all coach's CEP numbers are correct.
2. The new screening procedures seem to be working fine but that it is cumbersome. Names are forwarded to association Presidents from Diane Margenau who takes them off a secure site from the Minnesota Hockey website.
3. The District 3 Association Registrars are doing a great job under the leadership of Lynn Brandt.
4. Some District 3 teams have requested to play teams like the Wisconsin Fire and the Shattuck School. This is allowed but a team should be sure that these teams have an approved USA Hockey roster.
5. There has been great follow up from teams asking about procedures for playing teams outside District 3 and Minnesota Hockey.

DENNIS GREEN –

1. In January, at the Minnesota Hockey state meeting, there will be 2 guests from USA Hockey who will be looking for input on the new coach's helmet requirement and also on the Rules of Emphasis.
2. As for the screening process for Minnesota Hockey, the ultimate goal is to have all coaches screened before the start of the season. A greater emphasis will be on screening returning coaches during the summer months.
3. Mr. Dornfeld inquired about requiring coaches to wear helmets during a high school varsity game when their mite or squirt teams are scrimmaging during intermissions. Should these coaches be wearing helmets? Yes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Mark Brandt reporting.

1. 8 U teams cannot cross District lines to play games. They would have to be registered as a C traveling team.

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE –

1. Had the first meeting of this committee. There were some good suggestions and some good sharing of ideas.
2. One of the main issues with scheduling league games is that too many teams are coming to scheduling with too many black-out days. The committee is looking to limit the number of days that can be blacked out.
3. Are the District 3 leagues becoming too large?
4. Should we allow associations from outside District 3 to participate in District 3 league play?
5. Too many tournaments are being scheduled by teams, thus blacking out all weekend league games.

6. Pond Arena will probably become a District 3 home rink next season.
7. Associations are blacking out all holiday days.
8. A season is about 90 days in length.
9. Next meeting for this committee will be January 3, 2007, 6:30 pm, at the Plymouth Ice Arena.
10. Mr. Brandt stated that he hopes to be able to bring some proposals to the January District meeting for consideration.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Diane Margenau reporting.

1. Mrs. Margenau stated that at times she gets requests from various associations to post on our website or to pass along, an opportunity to participate in a tournament, sometimes at a reduced rate. She continued by saying that she has always done this but in doing so it creates a problem with teams then rescheduling league games. At the suggestion from Mr. Brandt, Mrs. Margenau still continues to pass along such offers but at the same time state that rescheduling a league game will not be an option.
2. Mrs. Margenau explained the Squirt A & B tournaments and the 10 A & B tournaments. As soon as she has the ice from the ice schedulers she will be posting the tournaments on the District 3 website.
3. Mrs. Margenau inquired if Tri City knew when Columbia Arena would be closing. Mitch Trombley said that he thought it would be in the next week or so.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Diane Margenau reporting. (see attached)

MOTION: Mike Tabery moved to accept the Treasurers report as presented.

Tom Pitra seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

ACE REPORT- David Margenau reporting.

1. A special thanks to St. Louis Park for agreeing to host the 14 A regional tournament.
2. Thank you to everyone who helped out with the C.E.P. clinics in October and November.
Level 1 – 300 attended
Level 2 – 240 attended
Level 3 – 150 attended
3. USA Hockey has produced a new DVD on skills and coaching. Would suggest that associations purchase some of these. Information available on the USA Hockey website.
4. HEP sponsored contest for players, “What Sportsmanship Means To Me” has been well received. Deadline for entries is December 18, 2006. Grand Prize – Winners home association will host the Wild’s Fall Green & White scrimmage.
5. 3M & HEP Coaching Award – 2 coaches each month will receive a jacket and their names will be announced at a Wild game. Next Fall 20 coaches will have an on-ice session with Wild coach Jacques Lemaire. Every coach nominated will receive a certificate and one of the USA Hockey new DVD’s.

MITES – Mark Brandt reporting.

1. Mini-mites – Coaches who are on the ice with mini-mites need to have CEP certification.
2. Mite committee has worked out the details for games. First part of the season games will be 3 on 3 pond hockey style of play, cross ice. Second part of the season will be 5 on 5. Three of the associations involved wanted the teams to be lower in number so that more kids would be involved in playing. Therefore, for the first part of the season there will be a USA Hockey roster for these teams. Teams will be meeting at a central location on 3 different weekends, up to January 13, 2007. For the second part of the season there will be a re-rostering and players will be placed on teams where there will be 5 on 5 play. Mites can re-roster after January 1st.

We will continue with this type of program. Three meetings in the Fall. We will ask all mite coordinators to participate in these meetings even if they don't have teams in program. Good discussion and dialogue. Also, a review of rules, especially Jamborees, will be part of the meetings.

3. President Brandt said that the committee has done a lot of work into making this successful.
4. Beltline officials will not be used for the 3 on 3 games, but may be used for the 5 on 5 games. Mr. Brandt will find out. Mrs. Margenau stated that she had faxed the tentative schedule to Mike Anderson and noted that there were about 35 games listed.
5. Mr. Margenau encouraged Mark Brandt to get someone from the committee to write an article on the District 3 mite program and submit it to Let's Play Hockey and the coach's e-newsletter to share these ideas with associations across the state.

C LEAGUE – Lynn Brandt reporting.

1. Next year we will not follow a pre-determined number of games for league play, as we have in the past. Next year we probably will play a home and away schedule with the other teams in the league.

S.K.A.T.E. – Sandie Sullivan reporting.

1. If anyone needs information please contact Sandra Sullivan.
2. The question was asked as to whether or not the Excel League was participating? Sandie was going to find out.

GIRLS LEAGUE –

1. 19 & Under team is being hosted by Osseo/Maple Grove. If any associations wish to donate some ice to this team please contact Greg Rogers, the coach.

GRIEVANCE BOARD – Diane Margenau reporting.

1. There was one hearing this past month. A 12 & Under B player from Tri City received a Match Penalty for kicking. Thank you to Greg Erickson for acting as the Ad Hoc committee member.

TOURNAMENTS – Scott Dornfeld reporting.

1. Submission deadline for invitational tournaments is January 15, 2007.
2. Mr. Brandt inquired if Mr. Dornfeld was tracking tournaments that didn't fill up? Mr. Dornfeld said that he had never done that.

NEW BUSINESS –

EXCEL LEAGUE –

1. The Excel League is a no-check league that plays at Mariucci Arena on Sunday's. Mr. Brandt commented that he feels District 3 has lost a total of 2 Junior Gold teams this year to that league. The teams play about 14 weeks.

Mrs. Sullivan inquired if anyone had experienced or heard about a hockey player not being allowed to wear their hockey jackets at school. No one had had a similar experience, seemed to be a new policy. Mrs. Margenau said that at the Junior High level this is probably not all that unusual. Many Junior High Schools require that no jackets and hats be worn during school.

MOTION: Scott Dornfeld moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mitch Trombley seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

President Brandt adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Diane Margenau – Administrator

*Please note these minutes are not approved and will be subject to a Board vote before becoming part of the permanent record.