



**Pacific District  
Annual Board of Directors Meeting**

Embassy Suites Seattle – Tacoma International Airport  
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Seattle, Washington 98188  
425-227-8844

October 25, 2014

1. The Annual meeting for the Pacific District was held on Saturday, October 25, 2014, at the Embassy Suites Seattle – Tacoma Airport in Seattle, Washington. Madam Chair Donna Kaufman called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and welcomed everyone.
2. **Introductions:** Donna Kaufman welcomed everyone. All parties introduced themselves. The following individuals were present: Gordon Brown (PNAHA President), Natalie McEwen (Oregon President), Flint DOUNGHAK (USAH PD CEP Development), Wendy Goldstein (USAH District Registrar), Dru Hammond (PD Director), Wayne Sawchuk (AK Player Development), Greg Johnson (PD Girls/Women Representative), Donna Kaufman (PD Director), Eric Simmons (AK Referee-in-Chief), Kris Knauss (PD Player Development), Steve Laing (CA President), Steve Stevens (USAH PD Referee-in Chief), Darryl Thompson (Alaska President), Greg Yochum (Nevada President), Larry Bruyere (District Coach-in-Chief), Jeff Brockner (Player Development, Nevada), Ty Hennes (Regional Manager, American Development Model), Jon Gustafson PD Director.
3. **Agenda Additions:** The chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the minutes. There were no changes.
4. **Approval Prior Minutes:** Dru Hammond asked the group if there were any changes or corrections of the May 17, 2014, Portland, Oregon meeting minutes. There were none. Kris Knauss motion *[to approve minutes]*, seconded by Steve Laing. No discussion. Motion passed. Dru then asked the group for approval of the June 19, 2014 telephone conference call meeting minutes. Darryl Thompson motion *[to approve minutes]*, seconded by Jon Gustafson. No discussion. Motion passed.
5. **District Financial Report:** Charlie Fuertsch emailed his report to everyone in advance of this meeting since he would not be in attendance due to his niece's wedding. He provided the Board with Financial Report (Attachment 1), Treasurer's Report (Attachment 2) and a Proposed Budget for the FY 2014-2015 (Attachment 3). Charlie also reported that he had closed the District account and forwarded the remaining funds of \$124,383.44 via check to Donna Kaufman. Charlie also provided a detailed discussion of the account closing and the financial review within his report. Donna Kaufman shared information from the audit of the Pacific District treasurer's records performed by Waugh & Goodwin, LLP that was provided to Dave Ogreaan on October 13, 2014. The firm noted 6 recommendations for improvement. Donna indicated she would respond back as to how the District would handle these areas since a replacement treasurer has not been secured to replace Charlie. Note that the District is in the process of identifying a replacement. Until that replacement is named the Board has asked Donna Kaufman to handle the duties.
  - The proposed budget was discussed. It was decided to move \$12,000 in unallocated funds into travel. **Steve Laing motion [to approve the budget], seconded by Kris Knauss.** Motion passed.
  - Kris Knauss motion *[to accept Charlie's final report]*, seconded by Darryl Thompson. No discussion. Motion passed.
  - Two candidates for the position of Treasurer were identified. Mark Gray from California and Gloria Leo from Oregon. Mark (Attachment 4) and Gloria (Attachment 5) both provided a resume and a background profile. Gloria is currently the state treasurer for Oregon and is known by all on the board. Discussion.

- Steve Laing motion *[to table the appointment of Charlie's replacement, appoint Donna Kaufman the authority to open a bank account at Wells Fargo, determine signers to the account (at least 2), open a Quickbooks account, and create a Finance Committee for the Pacific District]*, seconded by Kris Knauss. No discussion. Motion passed.
  - Gord Brown was identified to be a second signatory on the account if Donna is not available.
  - Donna Kaufman, Greg Yochum, and Dru Hammond were named to a committee to meet with the candidates for the position of treasurer and come back with a recommendation.
6. **Robert Freeland Grant:** Natalie McEwen reported that she has four applications (Attachments 6-9) for this year; Southern Oregon Disabled Hockey, Klamath Ice Sports, San Diego Ducks Sled Hockey, and Winterhawks Amateur Hockey Association. The Winterhawks intent is to utilize the funds to start a sled hockey program. Kris Knauss motion *[to approve all four grant requests]*, seconded by Jon Gustafson. No discussion. Motion passed.
7. **Reports:**
- **Coaching Program:** Larry Bruyere, Pacific Coach-in-Chief wanted to thank everyone for their assistance at the Level V Coaching Symposium. The symposium was a huge success and he is very appreciative of the efforts by the District.
  - Larry also wanted to thank everyone for the Dempsey Anderson Award. He was very humbled by the award and surprised to be honored in front of the Level V Coaching Symposium crowd.
  - For the first time two Level IV Clinics were held in the District during the same year. The clinics were held in Seattle and Southern California. 150 coaches attended the clinics resulting in a gain of 60 coaches over the previous year. It was so successful that they are considering changing it to the normal practice.
  - This year the Coaching Education Program completely reworked the Level I coaching clinic itinerary and the new material is being received very well both by attendees and CEP instructors. Next year they will redo the Level II clinic itinerary. See report. (Attachment 10)
  - **Disabled Hockey:** See report. (Attachment 11)
  - Disabled hockey is now disseminated directly from USA hockey via email based on associations identified by Disabled Hockey Association codes.
  - Josh Sweeney has been named captain of the USA Sled Hockey team.
  - Three of the District's special hockey programs have been awarded Grow Grants from USA Hockey. They are Valencia's Snap Flyers, Portola Valley's All Ice, and Medford's Spectrum Hockey.
  - Kellie reported that they bought 12 more sleds.
  - **Player Development - Female Hockey:** Greg Johnson reported that the 8U increased by 10% this season.
  - Not as much Tier I hockey for females in the District. The numbers have dropped off. However, the female players that are participating seem more settled. The skill level is more competitive too. Donna Kaufman asked if it seems that more girls are going back east. Greg was not seeing that trend. Darryl added that in his opinion, he was not seeing a lot of high end players this year.
  - Greg provided a report of female teams that had declared for tournaments. (Attachment 12) Alaska declared 2-19U, 2-16U and 4-14U. Washington declared 1-19U and Nevada and Oregon had no declarations. California declared both Girls' and Women teams. At Tier I they declared 1-19U, 1-16U and 1-14U; at Tier II California declared 1-19U, 1-16U and 1-14U; 2-Women Senior B, and 3 Women Senior C.
  - **2014 Female Select Camp Recap:** Greg reported that he believed that the female District Camp was generally successful. See (Attachment 13). This was his first time he was responsible for the camp and he ran it similar to the National Camp and it was built on the American Development Model with

input from Michele Amidon. Earlier in the year Greg conducted a survey asking players and parents what changes to the camp they would like to see. Based on the feedback a significant number of changes were incorporated.

- One of the stated goals for the 2014 tryout camp was to improve camp staffing and provide greater “exposure” to college coaches. The Pacific District was fortunate to acquire the services of Michele Amidon, Female American Development Model Director for USA Hockey, to take the lead in forming the camp’s staff. In the end five active NCAA head or assistant coaches, one ACHA head coach, one prep school coach, two recently graduated NCAA DI players, along with several other instructors/evaluators, all with extensive coaching/player experience agreed to make the trip to Washington.
- The girls’ were pleased with the staff and evaluators that were invited in. All on-ice instructors selected to participate in the Pacific District Camp had previous District, multi-District and/or National Tryout Camp experience.
- Players were presented with information and hands-on training from Dawn Strout, Head Strength & Conditioning Coach at Colby College.
- A panel discussion was held for the players (and parents) from current NCAA and ACHA coaches that were participating in this year’s camp. A question and answer session was also held for the players featuring recently graduated DI and DIII women’s ice hockey players, most of whom started their hockey careers in the Pacific District. Certainly one of the off-ice highlights was a session presented by former Olympian, and current Head Coach at Trinity College, Jenny Potter. The Girls commented on the coaches that ran the warm-up sessions and really enjoyed them.
- This year the camp had a room that was stocked with healthy snacks, water and other beverages. Additionally, there was room for the girls to socialize. The girls appreciated this feature. There were a couple of scheduling hiccups due to communications with the hotel staff. Breakfast was not ready for the one group, but the hotel made sure that it was ready when they returned to the hotel.
- Greg extended his thank you to some of the volunteers that were real superstars in his mind. Dru Hammond assisted at the camp and stated that Greg and his family were very committed to the event and did an excellent job in her opinion.
- **2015 Select Female Select Camp:** This year (2015) Pacific, Rocky Mountain and Northern Plains districts have committed to a combined Multi-District Development and Evaluation camp. The camp is scheduled for June 13-18, 2015 at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It will be designed to mimic the National Camp in its format. (Note that beginning in 2015 there will not be a 14U National Camp.) Without question moving the camp will add the value players and parents have been asking for. More scouting and visibility will be the end result.
- Concerns expressed on allocation of girls between Rocky Mountain and Pacific Districts. Rocky Mountain had proposed combining the allocations. That appears to be “a bridge to far” to cross at this point in time. Pacific District was adamant about maintaining its allocations. Discussion on different thoughts regarding this issue. The Board directed Greg Johnson to discuss this issue with Tom Lampl and Bruce Urban.
- **Player Development: 2014 Youth Select Camp Recap:** Kris Knauss reported that this was the second year to hold the event at Sharks Ice. The camp was held May 7-10, 2015. Attendance at the camp was approximately 223 players attending. Sharks’ Ice was great again. Stanley’s service improved this year as did ground travel logistics. Of the allocations allowed, Pacific District nominations for National Festivals is as follows: Select 15 (2000) = AK-2, CA-13; Select 16 (1999) = CA-9, WA-1, AK-2; Select 17 (1998) = AK-2, CA – 7, OR - 1.

- It would be very helpful if Affiliates start setting up their camp dates now. Kris would like to have player submissions in by February 1, 2015. If the Affiliates could get names of evaluators and team leaders turned in by March 1, 2015 that would be helpful.
- At 17's Pacific District had 3 C Level players or 13%. Nationally that percentage was 8%. It should be noted that Minnesota had "0" C Level players. In the 1999 birth year Pacific District had 2 'C' players, and the 1998 division had 1 'C' player. We still need to improve in our selections. Overall, Kris believes this was a more competitive camp this year.
- Kris handed out the allocations for 2015. (Attachment 14)
- Jon Gustafson and Kris attended the Player Development Committee Meeting in Chicago. In 2015 the release of Festival allocations will be moved from January to March. The reason behind the move is that by the end of March the USNTDP roster is completed and those (Select 16 age level players) rostered players are not allowed to participate in National Festivals. Furthermore, those players who are invited to the USNTDP Top 50 Camp and were cut/released from the program will then receive automatic invitations to the USA Hockey Select 16 National Festival. Those allocations will come out of the District allocations.
- Flint DOUNGCHAK explained what the National Camp is and what it does to the Board. He stated that he believes we are under represented at the National Camp by staff.
- Flint explained that the National Office sponsors "The Program of Merit." This Program recognizes team leaders and coaches who volunteer at the National Camps.
- Consensus is the District feels we need to fill all our allocations. However, Kris and Flint cautioned that we can also risk losing allocations by not sending the right players.
- Ty Hennes stated that he will put something in place to make players more aware of what to expect at camp so that they can perform better during camp.
- **High School Section:** Steve Laing provided a brief overview of activities within the High School Section. The size of last year's tournament was discussed. Steve indicated that High School would now consist of two divisions – Pure and Multi-combined. Steve surveyed the Board Members to see if anyone had any new High School teams in either division. No teams were reported.
- Steve reported that the new National Tournaments Guidebook was now online. It can be found at <http://nationals.usahockey.com/guidebook>.
- **Referee Program:** The new Referee-in-Chief from Alaska, Eric Simmons reported everything was going well in Alaska. He reported that they were having difficulty using the new on-line system from USA Hockey.
- Steve Stevens wanted to remind everyone that in order to get an official's card this year you must complete the SafeSport module.
- See report. (Attachment 15) Numbers are slightly behind last year's numbers at this point in time. Steve believes that it has something to do with the new registration process. The officials now have on-line modules that must be completed before registration is complete. He thinks they will gain as the members get up to speed.
- Hawaii has started the registration of 10+ additional Officials. Anthony Sabitini has taken the lead in Honolulu and is currently spearheading the campaign for more officials. Mr. Sabitini met with Dan Ellison and Steve Stevens at the California Officials School and was instructed on how to administer an opening level seminar. Mr. Sabitini will attend the Officials Instructor camp this spring. This is a huge move for Hawaii.
- San Diego hosted the District Officiating Seminar in September. These are high caliber officiating camps and are staffed by the National Office. The event was well attended and all gave great comments on their exit replies. Many ideas and programs were discussed and implemented. This

camp was also utilized as a meeting place for Affiliate Officiating Directors and Representatives to discuss development within the District.

- Level IV seminars were held in Wenatchee, Washington, and Portland, Oregon. Another is being held in San Jose, California this Sunday. Dan Ellison and Jamie Huntley will direct this clinic.
- The female sector of the Pacific District officiating is progressing at a record pace. Jamie Huntley has been selected to work the IIHF world championships in Sweden. This is a very high honor. Jamie is from San Diego, California and is a police officer. Jill Salvo, Sarah Beckstead, Brie Stewart and others have been mentioned for top spots in the National Tournaments.
- Riley Bowles, Sean MacFarlane, Dan Spore, Kris Delaney, and others have been tapped for spots in the NAHL and the USA Hockey Development program. Adam Hendren, Las Vegas has been appointed to the position of RIC for Nevada. Adam is a long time Official and a graduate of the ODP program.
- We are working diligently on being in line with the on line reporting system for USA Hockey. A little rocky to start with but we are ironing out the rough spots and moving forward.
- The books of the RIC for Pacific District were audited on 10/1/2014 and found to be well in line.
- **Registrar's Report:** Wendy Goldstein reported that rosters were changing daily. She was having trouble with her email. She apologized that she didn't get the registration numbers sent out until this morning. (Attachment 16)
- Wendy announced the upcoming elections. Nominations are due to Wendy by December 31, 2014. Jon Gustafson has stated he will run for District Director again. On 2/15/15 Wendy will announce who is running for the position, on 3/15/15 voting numbers will be distributed and on 4/1/15 ballots will be distributed. Ballots must be returned by May 1. The registrar will inform the Affiliates no later than May 15, 2015.
- **Risk Management:** No report.
- **SafeSport:** Steve Laing reported that they have been receiving the monthly and quarterly reports. Complaints are being investigated. Everyone was cautioned not to sit on issues. It is better to conduct an investigation and discover there is no merit to the complaint than to ignore it. Be sure to include information as to what the issue was, where you currently are in the investigative process, and/or the outcome of the investigation. Complaints should demonstrate that they are either resolved or open. An issue in Utah has been forwarded on to the National office.
- **2015 Tournaments:**
- March 26-30, 2015 is USA Youth Tier I and Tier II Hockey Nationals. The High School Nationals are March 19-23, 2015. Adult Women A/B/C Nationals will be held March 26-29, 2015.
- In 2015 Youth and Girls' Districts will both be hosted at the San Jose, Sharks, March 5-8, 2015. The coaches meeting will be held March 4, 2015.
- Donna Kaufman reviewed the tournament entries with the Board. (Attachment 17) Girls' Tier II 14U have 5 entries – Lady Pioneers, Alaska Northstars, Alaska Icebreakers, KPHA Ice Hawks and Lady Ducks; Girls' Tier II 16U have 3 entries – Alaska All Stars, Team Alaska, and California Wave; Girls' Tier II 19U have 5 entries– Alaska All Stars, Team Alaska, Lady Ducks, San Jose Jr. Sharks, and Washington Wild.
- Girls' Tier I 14U have 2 entries – Lady Ducks and San Jose Jr. Sharks; Girls' Tier I 16U have 2 entries – California Wave and San Jose Jr. Sharks. Note that the Tier I 19U Lady Ducks do not need a playoff.
- Women Sr. B have 2 entries – Anaheim Lady Ducks and San Jose Jr. Sharks. (Note they do not require a playoff.
- Women Sr. C have 2 entries – LA Traffic and SoCal Westside Shockers.

- Youth Tier I 14U have 4 entries – CA1, CA2, CA Host, and PNAHA; Tier I Youth 16U have 6 entries – AK1, AK2, CA1, CA Host, PNAHA1, PNAHA 2; Tier I Youth 18U have 4 entries – CA1, CA2, CA Host, and PNAHA.
- Discussion regarding all declared levels. ***Dru Hammond motion [to set tournament as stated], second by Kris Knauss.*** Motion Passed.
- Donna thanked everyone and indicated she would start working on the schedule and get that out for review by the Board.
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- ***Website/Guidebook:*** Dru Hammond reported that she is currently dealing with representatives from Sport Ngin with the intent to migrate the Pacific District website to their platform. As a legacy owner the Pacific District is grandfathered and there will be no charge for the basic website. Since USA Hockey has migrated to Sport Ngin it makes sense to consider this move so that the District can take advantage of the improvements that USA Hockey has scheduled with this vendor.
- The Guidebook is completed. Some minor proofing and cleanup should be completed by next week. Unless she is told otherwise, Dru will print up 5 guides for everyone.

**8. Old Business: None.**

**9. New Business:**

- Dru Hammond passed out an update on the PeeWee Multi-District Jamboree (Attachment 18). She spoke with Tom Klein to find out what the status of this proposed event was. The thought was to have a more geographically acceptable jamboree pilot and take 2 teams from Atlantic and Mid-Am Districts. After the event they would meet with ADM representatives to discuss the feasibility of holding similar events across the nation. ***Steve Laing motion, [to receive in file], seconded by Jon Gustafson.*** Motion Passed.

**10. Board Comments:**

- Wayne Sawchuk stated that he thought the Player Development meeting went well. The next effort is to upgrade the 5 year plan.

**11. Future Meetings:**

- February 6 and 7, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada (Presidents and Directors meet on Friday night for dinner meetings)
- May 16, 2015 in Seattle, Washington (this date conflicts with Youth Development Camp, so it might be moved)
- ***Adjourn:*** At 2:11 p.m. Steve Laing ***[motion to adjourn]***, seconded by Kris Knauss. No discussion. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted,



Dru Hammond