



**2017 USA Hockey
Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday ~ October 21, 2017
9:00 A.M. ~ 5:00 P.M. P.S.T.
Sheraton Portland Airport
8235 NE Airport Way
Portland, OR 97220

Present

Jaime Campbell
Flint DOUNGCHAK
Wendy Goldstein
Dru Hammond
Thomas Hancock
Chris Hays
Kris Knauss
Donna Kaufman
Steve Laing
Eric Simmons
Lester Sparks
Darryl Thompson
Steve Thompson

Not Present

Jon Gustafson
Kellie Hays
Greg Johnson
Lisa McPheters
John Silberstein
Steve Stevens
Rick Trupp
Scott Zucker

Minutes

Call to Order

Kris Knauss

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call was taken.

Approval of Prior Minutes - May 20, 2017

Kris Knauss

In Lisa McPheters' absence, Kris Knauss asked for approval of the May 20, 2017 board meeting minutes. Dru Hammond motioned to approve; Lester Sparks seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Kris Knauss asked for approval of the July 15, 2017 teleconference minutes. Steve Laing motioned to approve; Lester Sparks seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Let the record reflect Thomas Hancock, CAHA President has joined us.

Chairman's Report

Kris Knauss

Kris thanked everyone for getting the season started and through the chaos of screening, coaches up to date, etc. Per Wendy's report, we've had a 6% increase, which is great.

Rick Trupp held a mini-Narce in Alaska, a 4-day coaching clinic, which faired well for the state. Largely funded by the Affiliate. Included 5 or 6 national office staff. Flint will be doing something similar in the lower 48 sometime soon.

Let the record reflect, Darryl Thompson is now present, welcome. Along with the “rookie meeting”, Steve Thompson, who is the Associate CIC for the District for Goaltending. Many of you will be seeing Steve throughout the season.

Handbooks are available for the affiliates. Lisa McPheters put it together. Did a great job. Please be sure to get your books for you and others in your affiliates. It is online.

Las Vegas meeting is on February 3, 2018 on Saturday. I would like the GDC’s to come in on Friday, February 2, 2018 to have a coordination meeting with our team. Bring in Phil Osaer. Talk about the Goaltending Camp and expectations. All Presidents are welcome to see what is being discussed. Want everything to be as transparent as possible leaving little to question.

Financial Report

Chris Hays

Written report was presented and available as handouts. Chris thoroughly reviewed the report. Equity increased by \$10,000, which was from the Pacific District Player Development Camp, and credits received from a vendor for under performance.

Nothing for Grants from the prior year. Need to send out invoices to the affiliates to collect.

Expenses increased, reflecting the advent of the concussion protocol program, as well as SafeSport and some additional travel for USA Hockey meetings.

Page 4 reflects the last four years for historical reference. Finance Committee needs to review this and determine are the funds listed accurate; we need to consider each one and update as appropriate.

The Finance Committee has discussed converting accounting over to QuickBooks Online, and incorporating the budget and other reports into QuickBooks.

Page 7 is the proposed budget for the 2017-18 season.

The \$15,000 block grant money will be allocated \$7,500 to the Player Development Camp and \$7,500 to Disabled Hockey for capital expenditures.

Donna Kaufman said the finance committee would like to see the Board, as a group, review and approve the proposed budget for this year and then also look at the \$122,000 sum and determine how and where it needs to be allocated in the general fund and how much do we put in to the reserve account.

Good discussion was held on the \$1.00 membership due per member that the District receives. How it is currently allocated; are we funding the Bobby Freeland Grant correctly; does the \$1.00 fee adequately cover all expenses or does that need to be adjusted.

Steve Laing motioned that from the \$49,100 membership dues revenue, \$20,000 be allocated to the Bobby Freeland Grant fund this year, and each subsequent year monies up to a \$20,000 cap. All remaining membership dues are to be allocated to offset District Operating Expenses. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion.

Discussion. Chris Hayes pointed out that based on the budget, it reflects \$30,000 in revenue and \$35,000 in expenses which leaves the District with a deficit of \$5,000. Donna Kaufman stated that some of the \$122,000 may need to be allocated to cover the \$5,000 deficit for this year and the Board will need to analyze and determine if the \$1.00 membership fee needs to be increased.

With no further discussion; Chairman Knauss called for a vote. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Discussion on the budget continued, and the question was asked if there were any additional expenses for the coming year, not reflected. Steve Laing discussed the \$30,000 deficit for the Girls Multi-District Camp from several years ago, for which Rocky Mountain District, Northern Plains District and the Pacific District were equally responsible. The Pacific District was the only district to not pay the \$10,000 until proper documentation, explaining the deficit, was provided.

The board determined a \$50,000 reserve fund for general operating; a \$25,000 reserve fund for Player Development; discussion was held on allocation for the Disabled Event in Hawaii and an Adult Tournament in Hawaii. No specific financial amount was committed.

\$122,019.25. \$7,500 to GDC; \$50,000 general operating reserve fund; \$25,000 PDC reserve fund; \$10,000 to General Fund to cover the current budget deficit; \$19,519.25 remaining and to be put in the general fund, unallocated.

Steve Laing motioned for a \$2,500 catered hospitality room for the Women's National Olympic Game at the SAP Center this December 15, 2017, in conjunction with USA Hockey. Motion was not seconded; removed from the table.

Steve Laing motioned to approve the budget as amended; motion seconded by Darryl Thompson. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Kris Knauss thanked the finance committee for moving forward on putting the budget together and making recommendations for change and improvements.

CIC Report

Flint DOUNGCHAK & Rick TRUPP

Rick Trupp provided a written report. He is unable to attend due to a CIC class in Alaska.

Flint DOUNGCHAK reported that within the District coaches have taken CEP's as follows: Level 1 – 178; Level 2 – 131; Level 3 – 67. He experimented with a high performance clinic in Oregon and had 33. This is a 2-day clinic, specialized with specific topics. Level 4 – 101 split between two clinics, one in Seattle, WA and one in Las Vegas, NV. Level 4 numbers slightly down, but believe next year Level 4 will be up.

From Kristen Wright's attendance and report at our May 20, 2017 board meeting, Flint has incorporated her report into the Level 4 clinics to help promote Girls/Women Hockey.

Steve Thompson was selected to be our Associate CIC for Goaltending Development. This also makes him the coordinator for all of the District's GDC's. I am asking that each affiliate help him get down to work with their goalie coaches, players, parents, affiliate people throughout the season.

Steve Thompson thanked the board for their support and the \$7,500 grant. He's excited to be a part of this and feels that the Pacific District is a leader within USA Hockey's districts to promote goaltending. His intent is to work diligently with the coaches to promote goalie training during practice so the goalies are more engaged. Steve would like to establish dates with each affiliate for goaltending development.

Steve reminded everyone of the monthly goaltending webinar and asked all affiliates to promote these as much as possible. Currently, the webinar are not well attended. They are free, recorded and can be watched at any time.

Darryl Thompson shared that Steve Thompson has done an outstanding job in Alaska with training and coaching and encouraged the other affiliates to take advantage of him.

Flint said that Steve presented the goaltending portion at the Level 4 CIC clinic and did an outstanding job. He'd like to see this become a standardized portion of the Level 4 clinic. The Pacific District is really fortunate to have him, doing all this for the right reasons.

We will be doing a mini-Narce in Las Vegas. It will be a Level 4 but also focus on hockey associations and how to work with association directors to be proactive and support this development. Looking at the third weekend in August, but that may change.

This is a legislative change year. If you have any changes you would like to see promoted, please send to me. There is currently one submitted where it's an automatic 30-day suspension if a coach is caught without their helmets on. Kris Knauss said he thought this was a great rule change proposal. As a whole, the board was in support of this.

Trying to have a coaching clinic in conjunction with the Women's National Team game on December 15, 2018. Working with Mike Janda and Kristen Wright to establish.

Temporary Card Requests – huge thank you to the Affiliate Presidents for supporting the reduction of these. We (excluding Alaska) have only issued one temp card; denied one and have issued one waiver to a coach coming into USA Hockey from Hockey Canada. Kris Knauss spoke up to thank Flint on handling this for the Pacific District and stated that our other CIC is working towards this, but still has a ways to go. Thomas Hancock thanked Flint for taking the lead on reducing temp cards and being tenacious about it.

RIC Report

Steve Stevens & Eric Simmons

Steve Stevens is unable to attend. A copy of his report is on the table and available to all.

Eric said based on the reports he has received it looks like the referee numbers are up in all District states. USA Hockey did a major overhaul of the referee reporting system this past summer and there have been a considerable number of glitches. Fortunately direct communication between the local area supervisors and the head office has been allowed to work at overcoming these issues. The registration process is also changing and I believe this will be a very positive change, helping senior officials to stay involved longer.

The Pacific District was super well represented at Nationals last spring. We don't get called on to provide many officials for Nationals, but the ones we did provide worked a lot of games, including semi-finals.

Steve will be putting on another all girls camp. Getting funding from the national office.

Working on getting a quality crew of officials set up for the District Tournaments in San Jose, CA, as it will be an all encompassing tournament for Youth Tier I and Girls Tier I & Tier II.

Encourage everyone to download the app "The Rules of Hockey" to their phones. Great app, easy to access and stay current.

The Mentorship Program for Referees was discussed. Oregon has started this with their 10U cross ice and 8U skating. Alaska started this two years ago, and is now in its third year. Eric really believes it has dramatically improved retention of young referees. Unfortunately, USA Hockey has not bought into this philosophy yet.

Registrar's Report

Wendy Goldstein

Wendy reminded everyone that she sent a written report out in advance of the meeting.

She wants to ensure everyone knows that Rae Briggie has retired. Kim Folsom is now filling Rae's shoes and the transition has been seamless.

Presently, registrations are up 6% from this time last year.

With regard to 1T Rosters, new this year is that coaches can't be placed on a 1T roster if they don't have the module for the age level they are coaching. The registry portal system does not allow them to be placed on a roster.

Written Transfers for foreign born players has been a bit of a challenge for registrars to deal with. I believe we finally have this issue resolved.

Our associate registrars in the District have approved 823 rosters to date; very busy time for them.

Elections - Jon Gustafson's term expires in June; he has advised that he is planning to run again. All nominations need to be in to me by December 31, 2017. On February 15, 2018, associations will be notified as to who is running for election. March 15, 2018 is when I run the report to determine how many votes each association has. Ballots will be sent out April 1, 2018 to be returned to Wendy by May 1, 2018.

The reports section of the portal is hard to pull information out of so she still uses CyberSport. Wendy has an Affiliate Report for each Affiliate President showing a breakdown of their association. Trying to get the unclaimed players claimed. We currently have 45,000 players in the District of which 17,000 are unclaimed and this is usually adult players. Would like each affiliate to really push to get these players claimed.

Steve Laing said he was looking for uniformity within the District for Disabled Hockey so that we can claim our disabled players and programs correctly within the different disciplines. Would appreciate Wendy working on this with the Associate Registrars so we have a better understanding of what is truly out there for Disabled Hockey in the District.

Disabled Section

Kellie Hays

Kellie Hays is absent but sent out a written report to all. Steve Laing is going to touch on a few items.

Rico Roman from Portland, OR and Jan Lee from San Francisco, CA made the Men's National Sled Team.

Aaron Lloyd from San Diego, CA made the Men's Development Sled Team and Sara Benttencourt made the Women's National Sled Team.

Just held a workshop in Columbus; Sacramento Kings sled program representative there, along with San Mateo Special, and they learned what resources are available to them to include grant writing, fund raising, and networking among the USA Hockey disciplines.

Looking to host the 2018 Disabled Workshop in Las Vegas. Working with the National Office and the Las Vegas Golden Knights, MGM Grand and a reoccurring Los Angeles Warrior Classic Program.

October 6, 2018 will be USA Hockey's Blind Hockey Summit in Pittsburgh, PA. Representatives from the San Diego program will be there attending.

New programs in our district, to include Anaheim Ducks Special Hockey being developed, San Diego Blind Hockey and San Mateo Special Hockey.

Working on the weekend sled hockey league. Most games will take place in Colorado Springs, CO. San Diego is looking at hosting Presidents' Day Weekend.

The Disabled Hockey Festival will be in Chicago, IL this year, over two weekends. One weekend will be for Sled Hockey and the other weekend for all other disciplines.

In discussions with Kellie, there is a potential issue that needs to be discussed. We have a lady in Oregon who is hearing impaired. She is now a CEP certified coach. She attended a full CEP class, but did not have an interpreter present so not sure what she learned from the class. She is now requesting to go on the bench as a coach for her son's Youth team, not a disabled team, and wants an interpreter to be allowed on the bench with her so she knows what is going on. So is this our responsibility or not.

Flint addressed the CEP clinic. They did try to find an interpreter for this class, but it was in a small geographic area and just wasn't available. They could provide one in Portland, but that didn't work for this lady's schedule. The association in Portland has denied her request for an interpreter. The association's view is that being a coach on a youth team is a voluntary role, and if she wishes to have an interpreter it is on her to provide her own interpreter and pay for it.

Bobby Freeland Grants

Lester Sparks

2016-17 grants have been finalized.

For 2017-18 we have 5 applications. Lester has reviewed all of them, and all application requirements were met. The applications are:

- Challenge Alaska – wishing to update/replace their equipment
- RYVHA in Oregon – wishing to have equipment to do cross ice sports.
- Crowns Falls in Oregon – using money to purchase additional equipment
- Portland Youth Hockey – wanting to start a Girls Program
- Rogue City Hockey Club, Oregon – new association, all girls, and they are putting in for that

Darryl Thompson moved to approve the Bobby Freeland Grants; motion is seconded by Steve Laing. Discussion ensued and Donna Kaufman requested for all applications to be electronically sent out to the board for review. Steve Laing asked if recipients still reported back as to what they actually used the money for. Lester Sparks confirmed they do, by September 30 of the following season. Dru Hammond thanked Lester for being so responsive on the Freeland Grant applications. She also suggested that each Affiliate needed to promote the Freeland Grant process better, so applications would come from all over the District and not always from the same association. The Board felt this was a valid point of discussion. Are the Affiliates promoting it on their websites? Is it in a prominent place on the Pacific District website? We need to better promote the Bobby Freeland Grants.

With no further discussion, the vote was taken to approve the Bobby Freeland Grants with one abstention, Dru Hammond, who stated that she didn't want to vote on something that she had not been given the opportunity to review.

Player Safety/Concussion

Jaime Campbell

Provided a written report.

As promised to each Affiliate in this initial year, we provided the forms, documentation, legislative rules for Player Safety/Concussion Protocol. I believe it is going very well. If any one states they cannot find the forms and information on an Affiliate website, Jamie is referring them to the Pacific District website.

Training update – from Alaska, Nevada, Washington and Oregon, I've trained with 220 coaches, managers, and volunteers over the last several months. Thank you Affiliate Presidents for getting the right people in the room for the training. Relationships are being created with our program, which is how I know that we are getting the message through to coaches, parents, etc. Often I hear "I have a player who was concussed and this is what happened." Sometimes they send me articles of happenings within your state. This is fantastic feedback.

Ongoing efforts will be to reach out to all Affiliate Presidents or their Concussion Representative. Just following up and seeing if there's something you might need to educate your membership. The webinar training is an ideal way to educate without me having to be there in person. I'm working with Alaska on this right now.

Concussion Chronicles comes out from the National Office every 4 to 6 weeks. The next addition will be in early November and includes are implementation efforts to date.

There has been another surge in concussion media reports. This is in large part due to research that the federal government is doing with the military. Our military is working with their PTSD patients where they can do a finger prick test to determine if they have a concussion or not. They are very close to having this fully developed. Could be a game changer for diagnosing an athlete with a concussion.

I am going to start a media page on the Pacific District website, with concussion information, letters or inquiries from parents, information will be vetted prior to being placed on the website.

I will begin my analysis with each Affiliate in mid-January to see how the season developed in regards to concussion and player safety, to learn of any challenges you might have had, how we can address those and what we need to do to work into the next season.

Primary Goals for next season, developed in conjunction with the national office.

- We would like to continue to research a blanket acceptance of the Pacific District concussion protocol online when a player registers within the district.
- Promoting the Concussion Champion Program, without going into too much detail as it's in the written report, and it will be on the Pacific District website.
- We do want several people from your affiliate that have been impacted by concussions to share their story, to be the face of the concussion story and agree to provide support to other families that are suffering from a concussion incident.

Player Safety update from the national level, after meeting with Doc and Ken Mariucci in June, has the following as their three top priorities:

1. Concussion program at the national level
2. Implementation of a HIPPA compliant and data management system to track our athletes at the national level;
3. Getting defibrillators in every rink

Boys Player Development

Kris Knauss

Historical perspective on how our players have done at the National Camps. Have had more players make the international teams; 6 total, 4 on the 5 Nations team and 2 on the Ivan Hlinka team. More than we've had in 15 to 20 years. The "pothole" of the national camp, was the grade that our youngest group (2002) received, as we had five C players, and we are not happy about this. Three of the 5 players were on the same team, so that may have factored in.

I also sent out the 2018 Player Development Allocations. This gives you an idea of what your affiliate will owe for the camp and it was sent to your affiliate player development personnel as well. Washington and Alaska are tied, Oregon has a little edge on Nevada, yet Nevada has tremendous growth around the corner. I kept a few more allocations for At Large players, particularly for goalies as we are only allowed a select number in that position.

We are moving forward on our Player Development Camp Budget. In terms of cost, I applied the \$7,500 grant from the Affiliate Presidents, split between the three development camps (Boys, Girls, GDC), to offset the camp expenses by \$2,500 each. For the Boys Player Development Camp, we were able to reduce the hotel from \$149 per night to \$135, and thank you to Jon Gustafson for his assistance on this.

Lester Sparks motioned to approve the 2018 Pacific District Player Development Camp Budget; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion.

Open to discussion. Darryl Thompson said that although he and Kris Knauss discussed allocating the \$7,500 three ways to the three development camps, he wanted to make sure that all the Affiliate Presidents were good with this. All concurred they are good with this.

Motion passed with no abstentions.

Kris Knauss went on to talk about a Pacific District Player, Kailer Yamamoto. He's a player that the National Team Development Program likely wishes they would have selected over the years, but they didn't. He's developed nicely, was a first round draft pick in the 2017 NHL Entry Draft by the Edmonton Oilers, and has 3 points with the Edmonton Oilers this year, yet is all of 5'8" & 160 lbs *maybe*. I'm very pleased with his development, a finesse player, and great fun to watch. Our District is proud of him.

Seeing good teams coming out of Southern California; Alaska has a good 16U team and California has a strong 14U team. Excited to see how a couple of these teams compete at districts/nationals.

The District is all in on the goaltender development camp. We want to ensure that you the GDC's, and Lester and Steve have great success. The Pacific District has a reputation for developing good goaltenders over the years. We just need to ensure that it is self-funded.

Matt Shasby will be participating at the Boys Player Development Camp this year. He will be a fresh voice and ideas, and will help change things up a bit. He's the VP of Competition Council in Alaska, and promotes strong player development ideas.

2017 WRHPC Report & Budget

Flint Dounghack

2017 Camp was good. Had 199 players in attendance. Fee was raised slightly to allow coaches from outside Colorado to attend and participate. Felt we were getting a little heavy on the quantity of coaches from Colorado. Overall we came out roughly \$2,000 in the black. Don't see any need for a fee increase, planning to use same budget as last year.

From our camp satisfaction survey with 120 responses, we only had 1 parent who rated the camp a 2 on a scale of 1 to 5. The other 99% rank the camp between a 4 & a 5.

Also from the survey we asked the question “the camp was fun and I learned a lot”. We received 105 responses from the players of which 99% were in the 4 & 5 range with probably 75% at 5.

We wanted each player to receive an exit interview from the camp, and there was only one player who did not, and he left camp early. We called him later to give him that.

The camp has an unusually high number of Western League scouts that come and parents are noticing that we don’t have any seminar on the Western Hockey League, which is by the request of the national office. I need to figure out how to get more USHL participation, especially in the stands, and am looking for any feedback or help any of you can provide.

Overall, I believe the camp has gone really well. Talking with Steve Thompson on improving goaltending. Will include a level 4 CEP clinic, ran by Rocky Mountain, and coaches can come and observe what we do at the camp as part of the CEP.

Girls Player Development

Steve Laing & Greg Johnson

Greg Johnson is absent.

Steve Laing addressed the budget for the 2018 Multi-District Girls Camp stating the budget will be similar to last year’s budget, \$192,000 income with expenses of \$166,000 yielding a meaningful surplus.

I spoke to Rocky Mountain about some of our concerns with the camp and asked these questions:

- Who has oversight of the budget
- Who are the decision makers
- Who approves the budget
- Who holds the funds
- Who is responsible for the shortages

As of right now, Rocky Mountain has the oversight for the Multi-District Camp and they covered the losses from years past, which have been resolved. So the question is, what happens with the \$26,000 surplus from 2017. The plan is to have a certain dollar amount, as yet undetermined, remain in an account to get the camp kick started each year, with the balance going into a special account earmarked for the Girls Multidistrict Development Camp. Separate it at Rocky Mountain accounting, to keep it strictly separate for the Girls Multidistrict Camp.

Looking to have additional people present to work the event. Will have an opening night event to talk with all the players and parents with regards to being approached by Prep Schools, and if they are, to report it to us. Likely several Prep schools will show up at the event. Talking about creating a safe area for parents to watch their kids play, where they can’t be approached by recruiters.

We will be handling some of the contact information and scheduling and be a little more involved moving forward.

We selected a number of girls to move forward to the national camps:

- At 18U we sent 11 girls, 3 Defense, 7 Forwards and 1 Goalie. Results were not very strong. Two received an A grade; 4 received B grades and 5 received C grades.

- At 15U we sent 9 girls, 2 Defense, 5 Forwards and 2 Goalies. Two received an A grade; 3 received a B grade and 4 received C grades.

I'm told the grades/rankings are not as harsh as they seem, and they are used differently then on the youth side. They are looking at our A and B players. We need to look more closely at our girls' development.

Once the final budget is received, I will get it out to everyone, and ask Kris to take a look at it to see if anything is missing. Talking with Donna, we need to get an agreement in place so all the details are ironed out and we know who is handling every detail and what exactly we are responsible for.

Dru Hammond asked Steve Laing who exactly decides which girls move forward from the Multidistrict Camp. Steve said it was all evaluators from USA Hockey or from a variety of schools, that determined who moved forward. No one evaluating had a personal relationship with any of the players.

October 8, 2017 was Girls Try Hockey for Free across the U.S. San Jose had 90 - 100 try hockey.

Girls/Womens Section

Girls Tier II Nationals will be a 16-team tournament, with a committee seeding them. This year they will use other seeding qualifiers include myhockeyrankings.com.

We are still getting questions about where a girl is to tryout for Player Development Camps selection. Kristen Wright at the national office is working to establish a clear tryout policy. The policy is posted on the Pacific District website and people with questions should be directed to that information.

2018 Team Pacific - Girls Showcase

Sent a questionnaire and flier to all the Affiliates and it appears that there are quite a few female players who are interested in forming a team. I would like to move forward, with board approval, and put together a team, establishing expenses, etc.

Donna Kaufman motioned that the Pacific District Board pay the \$950.00 entry fee and for Steve Laing to organize the team for the Girls Showcase for Team Pacific; seconded by Thomas Hancock. Discussion ensued. Motion passed with no abstentions.

High School Section

Steve Laing

Any Affiliates sending a High School National "Combined" Team. Applications will need to be submitted now. California has a team, and we are checking on Nevada.

Upcoming High School Nationals will be in Plymouth, Minnesota, and Minnesota anticipates having a team and possibly a host team as well.

USA Hockey has taken control of the Showcase.

Affiliate Presidents' Reports

Alaska – Darryl Thompson

- Steve Thompson is doing a great job with the GDC within the state. Our Affiliate has provided some additional funding to each association so their coaches can attend and be educated in the GDC. Seeing individual programs adopting some goaltending programs.

- We've provided some funding to help the Mustang Hockey Association out of a financial bind through embezzlement. Learned that our USA Hockey crimes coverage has a cap of \$50,000 with a \$1,000 deductible.
- Currently dealing with some ongoing screening issues and decisions forthcoming.
- Started a ASHA Hockey Hall of Fame this year. Jack Tragis chairs it, and Darlene Tragis was our first inductee.

California – Thomas Hancock

- CAHA's Tier II structure has changed as to operation and who is in what flight. We've been dealing with competitive level and strong growth. We've established a flight evaluation program at the beginning of the season to evaluate all the Tier II teams, based on performance and targeted match ups to sort the teams out and move them around, placing them in the right level of competitiveness. Initially felt there was some resistance from SoCal, but in the end believe that was more from SoCal board members, not the coaches and/or the players. Seems to have created a super competitive environment.
- Similar to Alaska, dealing with screening issues and complaints on fairness.
- Making a push to give back to the grass roots of hockey. Providing starter kits. Sent out 2 sets of the Quick Change Goalie Gear to every association in the state.
- Going to also target Disabled and see what we can do to help them

Nevada – Scott Zucker - Absent

Oregon – Lester Sparks

- Oregon has a new association this year.
- Interstate play for the first time between the various cities in Oregon. May eventually have a league. This is a big step forward.
- Looking for a GDC to oversee Oregon. Working to accomplish that.
- Sent two sets of the Quick Change Goalie Gear to every association in the state.
- Working diligently to support and sustain all the associations within our state.
- Overall, feel we are way ahead of where we were last year.

Washington – Dru Hammond

- We are getting things back in order from where they have been the last couple of years.
- Very pleased with our Girls Player Development Camp this year. We will have Emily West and Shawna Davidson there to help.
- 10U Half Ice has been going good. We are getting boards for rinks. Donna will be hosting our 10U festival this year. And Seattle will be hosting the 12U.
- Have not had a huge push back, which is appreciated.

Chairman Knauss called for a motion to revisit Bobby Freeland Grants. Darryl Thompson motioned; Steve Laing seconded. No objections. Lester Sparks announced that there was an additional Bobby Freeland Grant request from Hockey Club Fairbanks. Lester motioned to approve the grant request; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

USA Hockey Reports

Kris Knauss read the written report submitted by Jon Gustafson. In summary:

- I would really like to commend Thomas Hancock & CAHA board for work on putting together the Tier II seeding event for CAHA. Process was amazing and tough decisions were made with positive feedback.
- On December 15, 2017, Sharks Ice and the SAP Center will host Team USA vs. Team Canada in the last women's exhibition game before the Olympics. I hope the board will be able to take in the event. We are hoping to sell 15,000 tickets and show strong support for these women.
- Once teams are confirmed for the Pacific District Tournaments, please provide so I can set a schedule and return to you for review and approval.

Youth Council

Donna Kaufman

Body Checking is a big topic. At the June 2017 Annual Congress, there was no conclusive decision on body checking at 14U, so it was decided to allow it to continue. The Mayo Clinic has now said that body checking should not be happening at the 14U level. The conversation on this topic is starting and it is something that we as a board need to talk about. Do we all body checking to continue at all levels? Do you discontinue at Tier II and below, leave it at Tier I. Why would skill players need checking? Do we just have the referees call the rules much, much tighter, and is that really fair to the officials? When checking was removed from the 12U level, concussions decreased 70% and all other injuries by 50%.

The 2019 National Tournament sites were approved and I'm pleased to say that the Girls 19U, 16U & 14U Tier I National Tournaments will be held in Anaheim, CA and the Girls 19U, 16U & 14U Tier II National Tournaments will be held in San Jose, CA.

We met on October 6, 2017 and made the 2018 changes to the National Tournament Guidebook. Once published, all changes will be highlighted in gray. Some specific areas that were addressed are:

- Hotel Booking for national hosts has always been a pain. Teams are now required to use whatever process they have set up for the tournament, and this includes the host team as well.
- Ice cuts are a 12-minute countdown on the clock.
- Quarterfinals are coming back. Girls Nationals will do it in a 5-day format as it has always been done.
- Youth Tier I's are going to add a day to the tournament to ensure only one game per day is played.
- Old policy was to allow Backup Goaltenders to be used ONLY if the team goalie was sick or incapacitated. We are adding language for extenuating circumstances.
- Tiebreaker rules are changing, so be sure to review.
- If a team forfeits any game, that team cannot move forward. Forfeit is where the team intentionally decides to not show up and participate.
- Discipline Committee will now be allowed to look at video, but only video provided by the official tournament video crew.
- Onsite Medical persons will be only persons allowed to determine if a player can continue to play or not and will have the authority to remove a player from the game.
- Concussion return to play protocol will be placed in the tournament guidebook.

Is the new rule of no 12-year-old girls being allowed to play 14U Girls Tier I/II hockey prohibiting any of our affiliates from being able to field a team at the 14U Girls Tier I/II level? Please advise, as we are looking at this as to whether it is a hardship or not. Seems to be in the remote parts of the country. Alaska may want consideration for this.

NHL Learn to Play activity has increased and USA Hockey believes we are going to get an influx of roughly 20,000 players across the country.

Girls try hockey for free is on November 4, 2018.

Tryout Dates. Currently, Tier I tryouts cannot happen until 48 hours after the National Tournament. The Northeast is really pushing back on this policy, as they want to have tryouts in February or March, due to Prep schools recruiting kids in January and February. USAH wants full season teams in the Northeast, so this is being considered.

USA Hockey has a new look to their website. Suppose to be easier to find things. Take a look.

Tier I waivers now being handled by the Youth Council.

Junior Council

Donna Kaufman

USPHL left USA Hockey when they didn't get the approval for the NCDC to be Junior Tier II. Because of the layer and number of teams in the USPHL, if all teams, including at the youth level, pull out of USA Hockey that would have a significant impact on membership numbers. An executive committee has been structured to resolve this, and I am on this committee. We are looking at if and how we can amend the requirements to allow the NCDC to be considered Junior Tier II, and now the USPHL has said they will come back to USA Hockey, but with a couple stipulations to, include:

- Their USPHL Midget Champions receive a guaranteed At-Large Bid to USA Hockey National Tournaments, and
- That USA Hockey agree to allow the Northeast to hold tryouts in February and/or March, prior to the National Tournament.

From this, USA Hockey decided to host a 3-day Summit at Plymouth, MI and bring in the USPHL, NAHL and USHL to figure out how to make this work and get the USPHL back into USA Hockey. By 3:00 pm on the first day, Ron DeGregorio said the Summit was over, as no one was willing to move from their position. After another couple hours, some progress was made and it was decided that the Summit should continue into the next day. On day two, 22 minutes in, the Summit was over. No parties were in agreement on anything.

We are now talking about changing the paradigm and having the Junior Leagues be on a contractual agreement with USA Hockey which will allow them to conduct business processes to run their leagues without the USA Hockey restrictions.

Nothing definite has been decided at this point, but the Junior Council and others are diligently working on it. It is a very complex issue.

Legal Council

Steve Laing & Darryl Thompson

- Conflict of interest policy is currently being revised and will be presented to the full board for review and approval.
- Legal Council determined that the memorandum in handbook related to sanctioned play relates to mite play rather than junior hockey play.
- A Transgender Policy is being established.

Player Development Committee

Kris Knauss

This committee has not met in 2017, which is unfortunate, so there is nothing to report at this time.

Finance Committee Recommendations

Donna Kaufman

We met by Zoom, and discussed a lot of issues. Biggest is that presently our fiscal year-ends on August 31st, and we approve our annual budget at the October Board Meeting, leaving 6 weeks of limbo for operating. So as a committee we are making the motion to have the following calendar schedule with regard to establishing an annual budget:

- May 1 - a call for budget items to be submitted by this date;
- May Board Meeting – have a preliminary budget presented to the full board;
- Summer – make adjustments as appropriate to the budget;
- October Board Meeting – present adjustments to the full board;
- October Board Meeting - final approval of the budget by the board.

Discussion was held on making the process streamlined and transparent. Finance Chair Kaufman called for a vote; Approved with no abstentions.

We've already discussed who approves all player development camps and expenses. We recommend that we have good MLU's in place for both the Girls Multidistrict Camp and the 14U Boys Multidistrict camp that outlines all fiscal responsibilities and understand what the requirements are.

In July a travel policy was established and approved. With regard to expense reports, the finance committee makes a motion that expense reports be turned in on a monthly/event basis and all receipts be submitted for this monthly/event at that time. Healthy discussion ensued. Chairman Knauss called for a vote and the motion passed with no abstentions.

Recommend that the District move to Online QuickBooks for accounting.

We will be reviewing the policies that are in the Pacific District Guidebook to ensure that we are following them, and adequate procedures in place to accomplish our goals.

2018 Pacific District Tournament Format & Seeding

Donna Kaufman

Youth

- 15o Tier I – 4 teams in the district – Board recommends a 4 team tournament of 1 from Alaska and 3 from CAHA.

Darryl Thompson motioned to hold a 4-team 15o Tier I District Tournament; Dru Hammond seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

- 14U Tier I – 7 teams in the district – Board recommends a 6 team tournament, 2 From Alaska, 1 from PNAHA and 2 plus the host from CAHA.
- 16U Tier I – 8 teams in the district – Board recommends a 6 team tournament of 1 from Alaska, 2 from PNAHA and 2 plus the host from CAHA.
- 18U Tier I – 8 teams in the district – Board recommends a 4 team tournament of 1 from Alaska, 1 from PNAHA and 1 plus the host from CAHA.

Darryl Thompson motioned to the 14U, 16U & 18U Tier I District Tournaments as noted above; Dru Hammond seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Girls

- 14U Tier I – 2 teams will participate; tournament will be a best of three games.
- 16U Tier I – 2 teams will participate; tournament will be a best of three games.
- 19U Tier I – 1 team, team receives a direct bye to Nationals.
- 14U Tier II – 5 teams will participate; tournament will be 11 games. Teams are from Hockey Club Fairbanks, Anchorage North Stars, Anaheim Lady Ducks, Lady Admirals and Washington Wild.
- 16U Tier II – 6 teams will participate; tournament will be 12 games. Teams are from Alaska All Stars, Anchorage North Stars, Valley Thunder, Anaheim Lady Ducks, San Jose Lady Sharks and LA Lions.
- 19U Tier II – 5 teams will participate; tournament will be 11 games. Teams are from Alaska All Stars, Anchorage North Stars, San Jose Lady Sharks, Lady Admirals and Washington Wild

Women – (Declaration is due on December 1st)

CA has one or two B teams, and two or three C teams

Tournament Packets will be distributed no later than January 21, 2018. Will try to do it sooner.

Chairman Knauss introduced District Championship Banners for discussion. Darryl Thompson motioned for District Championship Banners to be required for District Tournaments; Dru Hammond seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions. The board would like to see some uniformity with the design of the Championship Banners. Donna Kaufman is to work on this.

2018 Pacific District Goaltending Development Camp

Lester Sparks & Steve Thompson

The districts Goaltending Development Camp will be held in Las Vegas on August 3-5, 2018. Ice has been reserved and the camp will be modeled after this year's camp that was held in Kent, WA. We are working on determining how goalies are selected to participate at the camp, as well as what coaches may be selected as well. The camp will be a high performance camp for the goalies, as well as a CEP portion for the coaches and a mentorship program. This year will be 2004 girls and 2003 boys. GDC's will be given autonomy to select the participants at the camp, with the support of the Affiliate Presidents. Fee is \$650 for players; and a fee for the coaches as well, which may or may not be paid by the affiliate.

We will be having a GDC meeting on February 2, 2018 in Vegas, for further planning on this event.

Other Business

Chairman Knauss asked Steve Laing and Donna Kaufman to speak about their trip to Hawaii this past summer with regards to registering.

Steve Laing said that Hawaii requested help from the District to put on a District wide Adult Tournament as well as a Disabled Event. At this point we are waiting to hear from Hawaii to what dates work for them. Donna Kaufman worked with the Hawaii Group on establishing a Youth Program. The rink personnel have misinformed the youth group as to what they can or cannot do. I mainly dispelled these rumors. But the owner has seen the advantage to the Adults being USA Hockey and he would now like to see the Youth being USA Hockey.

As to Hawaii becoming an affiliate, requires Hawaii to have bylaws. They currently run under the auspices of Alaska. So to become a program, do they have to follow Alaska's bylaws? We are not at a place yet for them to be an affiliate. We will work on these items moving forward.

Flint Doughtchak said they are looking to bring one player and one coach from Hawaii to the Western Regional Performance Camp in June 2018 to expose them to that element of youth hockey.

Flint was asked to join USA Hockey's Diversity Task Force. We are trying to figure out how we are going to do what we've been tasked to do. Just wanted to disclose that I am on this committee.

Dru Hammond asked if Bridget Hopkinson was still a co-representative with Girls/Women Hockey within the District, per the October 2015 minutes. The consensus was no. Steve Laing said he has been doing this for the past two years.

Next meeting - February 3, 2018 – Las Vegas, Nevada

Wendy said that she, with Scott Zucker's help, has established reservations at the Red Rock Hotel for everyone. If they have not done so already, they need to let her know if they are attending so she can ensure reservations. For those who have already responded, she will forward their confirmation number to them.

President's Dinner is Friday night; Directors will go with the GDC's to dinner and the Board Meeting will meet on Saturday at the Red Rock Hotel.

Adjournment – Board Member Comments

Steve Laing – no comment

Chris Hays – no comment

Flint DOUNGCHAK – no comment

Eric Simmons – no comment

Dru Hammond – no comment

Wendy Goldstein – There are issues with a team in Alaska. Perhaps the President should reach out to the Registrar to address these issues and have rules in place to handle the situations. I don't want to ever have a team disqualified from district/national tournaments ever again. Likewise, with the Wenatchee, Washington organization, that wants players participating on two national bound teams at a tournament. They need to understand that just because the tournament will allow it, doesn't mean that they can do that.

Jamie Campbell – no comment

Lester Sparks – Would like to invite everyone to attend the Oregon State Board meeting Thomasorrow.

Thomas Hancock – no comment

Darryl Thompson – no comment

Steve Thompson – no comment

Donna Kaufman – Thank you Jamie. Biggest thing happening in my building right now is Concussion Awareness. Just being able to have these conversations is tremendous.

Kris Knauss – When Congress is in session, the NHL has a hockey caucus where they meet Tuesdays through Thursdays. It's a House Special Committee. I told Kelleher that I have a freshman Senator for Alaska who would be interested in sitting on this committee. However, currently, the caucus is only for members of the House. I'm not going to ask a US Senator to sit on a House Committee ex officio. I just think it is interesting that USA hockey could put their arms around the NHL and get them to include Senators as well as House Representatives. My point is that we need to be smart from a national standpoint on how we promote this Concussion Protocol as a hockey issue and not just an NFL issue, smarter than the handling of these government affairs. I would also like to say thank you to everyone for making the trip to Oregon. Thank you Lester for hosting us in Oregon.

Tonight's District Dinner is at Stanford's at 7:30 pm – meet at 7:15 pm in the hotel lobby.

Dru Hammond motioned to adjourn; Darryl Thompson seconded.