

**Pacific District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 19, 2012**

The Annual meeting for the Pacific District of USA Hockey was held on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2012, at the Double Tree Suites Hotel in Seattle, Washington.

Madam Chair Donna Kaufman called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM and welcomed everyone. Donna congratulated Dru Hammond on her new position with the board as a District Director. Donna also introduced Gordon Brown as PNAHA's representative. All parties introduced themselves.

The following persons were present: Gordon Brown (PNAHA), Charlie Fuertsch, Dru Hammond, Donna Kaufman, Steve Laing, Natalie McEwen, Dan Rogness, Darryl Thompson, and Kevin McNaughton.

The following guests were present at the meeting: Bruce Urban – At-Large Director, Steve Stevens – Referee-in-Chief, Kellie Hays – Disabled Hockey, Jon Gustafson – Director Elect, Wayne Sawchuk – Player Development Alaska, Chris Milles – Alaska Referee in Chief, Larry Bruyere – Pacific District Coach in Chief.

The chair asked for changes to the agenda. No additions

**Minutes:**

**Motion was made by Dru Hammond, seconded by Steve Laing, and unanimously approved the minutes from the Seattle meeting of October 15, 2011.**

**Treasurers Report:**

Charlie Fuertsch wasn't able to complete the financials for the meeting. He will provide a complete copy to all board members by next week. He provided a quick recap on the boys and girls development camps; stating everything appears to be within budget.

**Block Grants**

Dick Coombs was not able to make it to the meeting today. Donna Kaufman indicated Dick has provided all the documentation to Charlie Fuertsch for submittal to Jim Smith. All the paperwork appears to be in order for this year.

**Bobby Freeland Grant**

Natalie McEwen indicated there was one outstanding request; they had given their request to Charlie yesterday. We are still assessing grants from previous years. Donna asked if the application was available on the web-site. It is but needs a little updating.

Charlie Fuertsch shared with the board, one of the programs indicated their grant had not been a success. He felt the board should beware should the program apply again in the future. Other people shared some of their experiences with the grant fund. The month of May is a dormant time of year for hockey. Most programs are "burned out" at the end of the season, but should start back up in a couple of months.

A reminder to the affiliates, please remember to get the word out to their associations. Donna gave a quick recap of the amount of funds available throughout the year.

## **Reports**

### **Coaching Program:**

Larry Bruyere gave a report for the Pacific District coaching program. (See attached) There was discussion on the computer module program. The content is great, but the coaches do not have access to go back and review the content throughout the year. USA Hockey is looking into this. Although some of the content is repetitious.

Chris Milles shared that some of the rural areas in Alaska had a hard time with internet connections. The coaching committee is also working to make the programs more user-friendly. It's important to ensure good communication on the program requirements.

Larry reminder the board the coaching Level IV clinic will be August 10-12 in Las Vegas at the Tuscan Suites.

### **Disabled Hockey**

Kellie Hays attended the meeting and presented her report to the board. (See attached)

Donna Kaufman asked how the registration process is working with the program. Kellie indicated it is still a work in progress and she is still learning. Donna recapped her experience as a spectator at one of the festivals and how incredible the experience was. Kellie is expecting growth this year. Steve Laing indicated CAHA is anticipating purchasing 12 sleds and will be able to take care of storage as well. Kellie is looking for contacts in the sporting arena to help maximize equipment purchases.

### **Female Hockey:**

Margo Dreyer was not able to attend the meeting. She submitted a written. (See attached)

### **Player Development:**

#### **Boy's Camp**

Bruce Urban reviewed the recent district evaluation camps in the Seattle area. (See attached)

Charlie Fuertsch thanked Bruce Urban for his many years he has put into this program. This is going to be a task that cannot be completed by one person. Wayne Sawchuk is willing to handle the evaluator portion of the camp. Charlie would like to host a meeting to work on the future direction of the camps to ensure continued success. This meeting will address both the boys and girls camps.

Bruce is working on a time line for the boy's camp, so there's an understanding of all the different requirements. He is also looking at building an organizational chart. Bruce is willing to answer questions and share his experiences to assist the program.

#### **Girl's Camp**

Margo was not present at the meeting but send a report for this section. (See attached)

#### **Multi-District Camp**

Charlie Fuertsch stated invitations have been sent out to the players for the Multi-District camp. Currently, there are 4 players registered to date. In the past, the district has not participated in the 15 camp. Charlie is hoping there will be enough interest this year. If we do not have the interest, Charlie will cancel our participation in the camp. This is a difficult time for some programs to send players due to try outs.

### Boys 14 Camp – Rocky Mountain

Bruce Urban indicated there are approximately 135 players registered for this camp. Pacific District has 82 slots and all but 9 have signed up for the camp. The program is working to finalize the staff. They are also looking at the best airfare location. Everything appears to be on track for the camp. Donna indicated this camp should also be part of the discussions with the player development meeting.

### High School

Steve Laing has been tasked to work with the affiliates to see if there is any interest for a combined team for a High School tournament. He asked each affiliate president their position for both the boys and girls programs. Steve also asked if any of the affiliates were interested in hosting a High School National tournament.

### **Officials Report:**

#### Alaska Report

Chris Milles presented an update on Alaska and provided a report. (See attached) There was discussion on the cost of referees for the cross ice program in Alaska.

#### Pacific District

Steve Stevens updated the board on the status of the Pacific District Officials program. California is looking at a rule change. They will be running a pilot program looking at head contact. All head contact will be a minor with 10 minute misconduct or a major and game misconduct. This is for California only; however, teams coming into California will be required to participate. This will not affect District or National tournaments.

Oregon no longer has a referee in chief. Steve has a candidate he is interested in appointing. Natalie McEwen also approves of his candidate selection. The California camp will have a one day level 4 training. A level 4 session will be hosted in Tri-Cities, dates to be determined. Steve has tried for a level 4 session in Las Vegas without much success due to numbers. He is also working with Jon Gustafson on a camp in Northern California.

Steve is going to the District Officiating Seminar in Cody WY. Steve has recently changed the district seminar coordinator and district database coordinator.

Jon Gustafson asked about the funding from the NHL and if it is used to help with the development of officials. Jon would like to see the growth of referees and if funding can help support it.

Chris Milles presented a proposal for an increase in the girls referee fees. He shared the reasoning for the inequities within in girls. They are also looking at a small increase in youth divisions. Board members shared their thoughts on the increase proposals.

Tier	ASHA State	Pacific District	Proposal 1 PD	Proposal 2 PD
Girls U14	89.00	\$90	\$130	\$150
Girls U16/U19	100.00	\$100	\$160	\$180
Bantam I/II	148.00	\$140	\$150	\$150
Midget I/II	222.00	\$160	\$180	\$180

Motion was made by Darryl Thompson, seconded by Natalie McEwen to approved the District referee fees of proposal # 2 of Girls U14 - \$150; Girls U16/U19 - \$180; Bantam I/II - \$150; Midget I/II - \$180

Motion was defeated - 2 votes for / 3 votes against

Motion was made by Steve Laing, seconded by Charlie Fuertsch, and unanimously approving the District referee fees of proposal #1 of Girls U14 - \$130; Girls U16/U19 - \$160; Bantam I/II - \$150; Midget I/II - \$180

### Registrar's Report:

Dan Rogness shared with the board the registration summary. See below.

USA Hockey Registration Summary														Season: 2010-2011	
USAH Data as of: 05/14/2012 11:20 AM MDT														Page: 1	
Affiliate	Assoc	Unclaimed	Players & Unclaimed			Coaches			P + Uncl	Youth	PPR	CPR	ERP	Other	
			Paid	6&U	Total	Paid	Unpd	Total	+ C Total	P/C					
ALASKA	50	641	7772	898	8670	758	16	774	9444	5	986	24	48	0	
CALIFORNIA	83	2864	23855	773	24628	1303	5	1308	25936	6	2625	196	80	0	
HAWAII	1	7	7	0	7	0	0	0	7	**	0	0	0	0	
NEVADA	8	312	1043	52	1095	40	1	41	1136	7	66	4	5	0	
OREGON	9	92	757	64	821	136	1	137	958	4	13	4	6	0	
WASHINGTON	39	1170	7347	545	7892	510	3	513	8405	6	473	13	36	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>5086</b>	<b>40781</b>	<b>2332</b>	<b>43113</b>	<b>2747</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2773</b>	<b>45886</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4163</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>0</b>	

  

USA Hockey Registration Summary														Season: 2011-2012	
USAH Data as of: 05/14/2012 11:27 AM MDT														Page: 1	
Affiliate	Assoc	Unclaimed	Players & Unclaimed			Coaches			P + Uncl	Youth	PPR	CPR	ERP	Other	
			Paid	6&U	Total	Paid	Unpd	Total	+ C Total	P/C					
ALASKA	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	
CALIFORNIA	51	554	7626	900	8526	709	13	722	9248	5	1059	25	49	189	
HAWAII	81	3950	23228	815	24043	1257	3	1260	25303	6	3761	229	80	448	
NEVADA	1	8	7	1	8	0	0	0	8	**	0	0	0	0	
OREGON	8	11	1032	56	1088	140	1	141	1229	2	82	4	5	12	
WASHINGTON	8	158	818	73	891	134	3	137	1028	4	23	2	5	32	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1302</b>	<b>7078</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>7621</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>8234</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>112</b>	

  

USA Hockey Registration Summary														Season: 2012-2013	
USAH Data as of: 05/14/2012 11:32 AM MDT														Page: 1	
Affiliate	Assoc	Unclaimed	Players & Unclaimed			Coaches			P + Uncl	Youth	PPR	CPR	ERP	Other	
			Paid	6&U	Total	Paid	Unpd	Total	+ C Total	P/C					
ALASKA	24	197	208	5	213	0	0	0	213	**	0	0	23	0	
CALIFORNIA	48	2025	1946	81	2027	0	0	0	2027	**	0	0	47	0	
NEVADA	2	80	77	5	82	0	0	0	82	**	0	0	0	0	
OREGON	3	37	35	2	37	0	0	0	37	**	0	0	2	0	
WASHINGTON	15	309	299	10	309	0	0	0	309	**	0	0	14	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2648</b>	<b>2565</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>2668</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2668</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	

Dan indicated this report also has a section for the upcoming year. Dan has a break down for each state.

Dan shared information about the recent District Director election. Dan read sections out of the annual guide about a requirement of a single person not able to vote for multiple organizations. As well, an affiliate may not direct an association how to vote. The board discussed the current process and how to ensure votes are correctly cast. Charlie Fuertsch stated he believed Alaska was in disarray due to three candidates. Steve Laing read a section of his email to their associations. Donna reminded everyone the district has an election process we need to follow.

This recent election may have been an anomaly due to the candidates. Dan indicated the process worked well with 55% of the votes cast.

### **Risk Management:**

John Silberstein wasn't able to make the meeting or submit a report.

### **District Tournaments:**

Donna Kaufman reviewed the recent tournament. She went to the Girls' Tier I and II. Fairbanks hosted another great tournament. Donna also went to El Segundo. Unfortunately, the rink lost two compressors in the championship game. An issue at this tournament was a \$40 gate fee which should be reviewed for the future.

Charlie weighted in on the ice and gate fees. He also discussed the disparity of awards from one tournament to the next. Darryl shared Alaska has provided the gold pans. The board will look into this subject.

Dru Hammond indicated the Simi Valley tournament was also a great success. She shared there were some concerns about the individual awards not being up to par. Apparently there were also complaints about the facility; however, none of the board members received this complaint.

### **National Tournaments**

Donna went to the Girls Tier I/II in Frisco, Texas. It was also a great tournament and experience. Bruce Urban was in Washington DC for the Pee Wee Tier II. This is their third year hosting. The tournament was non-checking and a great tournament.

Steve Laing went to the High School Tournament in Utah. It was a great tournament as well. He was also at the Wayne, NJ tournament. The tournament was incredible, including the food. There weren't any discipline hearings at this tournament.

Chris Milles discussed the attempt to run the scoring box with only one person in the Dallas Tournament. This caused some confusion as a goal wasn't properly recorded. The district needs to make sure we have the appropriate off-ice officials when conducting tournaments.

Chris also believes the rink should have someone other than just the jam driver on the ice to help with nets. He also commented that the hospitality rooms have deteriorated. This is primarily where the directors, tournament officials, and referees eat as they spend almost the entire day at the rink.

### **USA Hockey Discussion**

#### **Youth**

Donna Kaufman discussed a few of the USA Hockey legislation proposals. The youth council is trying to define 8U; starting in 2013-14 requiring all programs play cross-ice hockey. The board members discussed if there would be exceptions. There are some programs not quite ready to fully implement the programs. There's also a concern if programs will attempt to register as a 10U program to avoid the cross-ice mandate. The board had good discussions on the focus of the player development philosophy, similar to the checking issue. Larry Bruyere discussed game philosophy for cross-ice. He believes a uniform system would be the best practice. He also believes the district could build a structure to be used by the associations.

Donna provided a copy of the agenda from the youth council for reference. She asked if the board members had any other concerns or questions about other legislative proposals.

There is also a proposal about the number of foreign born players on a team. Another proposal pending is how the junior council will be structured and how to become a member of the council. There will also be a proposal on the ADM program. Donna asked for the affiliates input on the subject.

No other sections were discussed at this meeting.

#### Multi-District Meeting

Charlie Fuertsch passed out a copy of the agenda. He quickly reviewed the topics of discussion.

### **Old Business**

#### Safe Sports

Steve Laing showed the board the binder on the player protection program. This came as a directive from the US Olympic committee. They have been able to modify the program to a 38 page handbook. This is a program to protect players from multiple abuse issues, such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, hazing, etc. Darryl Thompson was curious if USA Hockey's insurance or risk management has approved the policy.

Steve shared a couple specific sections from the handbook. Each affiliate will be required to have a "Safe Sport" liaison. Screening and training will be a requirement for volunteers who have direct access to minors. Steve reviewed the different levels of criteria to implement this program. Steve will provide a copy to the board.

#### Web Site

Dru Hammond briefly discussed the issue of the migration of the new USA Hockey site. Unfortunately the migration pulled in extremely old material that is no longer relevant. Dru and Kevin are working to clean it up. Dru is also looking into a paid site for the district.

**Motion was made by Darryl Thompson, seconded by Charlie Fuertsch and unanimously approved to spend up to \$1,000 a year on a web-site for the district.**

Dru and Kevin will work to get this site up in 30 days.

### **New Business**

#### Tournament Bids

Donna Kaufman passed out a listing of the associations interested in hosting tournaments. She reviewed the list with the board.

**Motion was made by Darryl Thompson, seconded by Dru Hammond to have the Youth Tier I in Alaska with a friendly amendment to be host by Alaska Jr Aces in Anchorage, AK. 5 votes for / 1 vote against – Motion passes.**

**Motion was made by Steve Laing, seconded by Darryl Thompson and unanimously approved the girls' Tier I and II be awarded to the Anaheim, CA.**

Donna Kaufman will visit with the Lady Black Star to confirm their ability to host the Women's tournament. Donna will report back to the board via email.

**Motion was made by Charlie Fuertsch, seconded by Steve Laing and unanimously approved the Girls' and Youth tournaments be on March 7-10, 2013 with coaches meeting on March 6, 2013.**

Chris Milles asked about referee travel block grant availability for District tournaments. Donna suggested Chris review the last four year's history of referee travel. Charlie suggested Chris and Steve Stevens review their budgets. Should they require additional money, they can present a request to the board for approval of additional funds from the general fund.

#### Screening

Dru Hammond advised PNAHA no longer has an Axiom representative. She is unsure about the quality of service we are getting from Axiom. She just wanted to share some frustration she has encountered with this program. The safe sport program may help resolve this issue in the near future.

#### **Future Meetings:**

The Mid-Annual Meeting – October 27<sup>th</sup> in Seattle, WA. It will be at the Double Tree Suites, in Seattle, Washington. Dan Rogness will send out the notification.

#### **Board Member Comments:**

Darryl Thompson – It was wonderful to have been involved in the Fairbanks girls' tournament. Alaska also hosted a Labatt's adult hockey tournament. Hockey for Life as a positive fun sport.

Steve Laing – SCAHA has a new Commissioner - Bob Drifill and Helen Alex is the Deputy Commissioner. Tom Hancock is the new Northern California president.

- LA Hockey Club and LA Selects merged and are not the LA Jr Kings
- California Stars merged with California Wave are now the California Wave
- Beach City lighting merged with Anaheim Jr Duck
- La Hoya Jaguars merged with San Diego Jr Gulls.
- Orange County merged with Anaheim Jr. Ducks
  - AAA 12 & 14 Anaheim Jr. Ducks
  - AAA 16 & 18 Orange Country Hockey League

Natalie McEwen – Oregon has a lot on its plate at the moment. They will have five open board seats for the upcoming season. They are also working to keep the high school program afloat. Oregon is looking to replace their RIC and CIC. They believe they have a good candidate for the RIC.

Dru Hammond – Dru will uphold Oregon's request on coach's sanction. PHAHA have their elections coming up in June for President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. PNAHA voted to go 100% ADM this year. Joe Doyle has been supporting their association.

**Motion was made by Steve Laing, second by Darryl Thompson to move into executive session – 3:52pm.**

**Motion was made by Steve Laing, second by Darryl Thompson to come out of executive session – 4:18 pm.**

**Motion was made by Steve Laing, seconded by Natalie McEwen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 4:19pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin McNaughton", written in a cursive style.

Kevin McNaughton



USA Hockey  
Pacific District CIC report  
Meeting May 19<sup>th</sup> 2012

Larry Bruyere

As I stated in the last report for the Feb meeting, the CEP Clinic participation numbers were affected this year by the new parameters that have been established by USA Hockey. With coaches only being allowed to take one certification class each year, the class numbers should even out by next year. The certification clinics are in the process of being re-designed to reflect the current material and the modules are also being modified and shortened slightly to eliminate some of the redundancy.

CEP Clinics offered last season:

Level I clinics		
California 8, Oregon 1, Washington 4, Nevada 1	434 attendees	
Level II clinics		
California 6, Oregon 1, Washington 3, Nevada 1	133 attendees	
Level III clinics		
California 8, Oregon 1, Washington 3, Nevada 1	152 attendees	
Level IV		
Las Vegas 1	88 attendees	

Pacific District CEP Instructor Staff:

Nancy Hodge – CEP Program Admin	Flint Doungchak – Eugene, OR
John Rotar Eagle Point, OR	Erich Weber – Oregon
Jason Galea – San Diego, CA	Rob Foster – Los Angeles, CA
Karl Schoech – San Jose, CA	Adam Kilbourn – Las Vegas, NV
Rob Kaufman – Gig Harbor, WA	Rick Ellsion – Spokane, WA
Doug Kirton – Seattle, WA	Lloyd Degelman – Spokane, WA

I have attended the following USA Hockey Coaching Education Program functions since the beginning of the year and I am actively involved with two CEP committees currently making changes and updates to the coaching curriculum.

CEP Workshop in Nashville – March 2012

CEP Workshop in Denver – April 2012

Multiple conference calls

Pacific District  
Disabled Hockey Report  
May 19, 2012

**Current Programs**

Nationwide, Special Hockey currently has 50+ programs, comprised of over 100 teams. We've identified **7 Special Hockey** programs in the Pacific District:

CA - Los Angeles	Contact: Rita Eagle, California Condors
CA – Pasadena	Contact: Crissy Finney, Pasadena Maple Leafs
CA – Valencia <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: David Chase
CA - Oakland/San Jose Ice	Contact: David Hicks
OR – Eugene	Contact: Kellie Hays, Eugene Jr. Generals
OR - Portland <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Bryan Roeder
WA- Spokane/Gonzaga	Contact: Dr. Mark Derby, Gonzaga Bulldogs

Nationwide, Sled Hockey has approximately 90 programs, with **12 Sled Hockey programs** in Pacific District, in various stages of development:

CA - San Diego	Contact: Tricia Betts
CA – Ontario	Contact: Todd and Christie Jenkins, Jr. Reign
CA – Oxnard	Contact: Mel and Rhonda Waidmann
CA – Bakersfield <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Scotty Hay
CA – Cathedral City <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Judy May
CA - Oakland/San Jose	Contact: Trooper Johnson, Melissa Fitzgerald
CA – Sacramento	Contact: Jenny Yarrow, Ray Free, Sacramento Lightning
OR – Eugene <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Kellie Hays, Eugene Jr. Generals
OR – Portland <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Lester Sparks, Jill Boeschenstein, Ben Stadey, Jim Keene, Josh Amber
NV - Las Vegas	Contact: Barbara Chambers, Paralympic Sport Club
AK – Anchorage	Contact: Jeff Dick, Alaska Avalanche
WA - Seattle <b>(devt)</b>	Contact: Tami English – Seattle Adaptive Sports Kody Doty (Tacoma – On hold)

**Disabled Festival** was held in Dallas, week of April 13, 2012. The festival was held at two rinks on four sheets of ice. Pacific District Athletes participating:

Special: California Condors Special Hockey Program

Sled: Ahmad Karimzada (U.S. National Development Sled team) Las Vegas, NV

Sled: Derek from Ontario Jr. Reign played with Florida

News: Josh Amber Sweeney (U.S. National Sled team) is relocating to Portland next year. This will help us develop our roster of sled clinic facilitators in the West.

The Disabled Athlete of the Year is Ron Hermansen from Coon Rapids, Minnesota.

The dates of the 2013 Disabled Festival will be March 21-24, 2013 in Philadelphia. At the USA Hockey Congress, the 2012 Disabled Festival site of Dallas, TX was determined. Most likely the Disabled Festival will be held on the East Coast in 2013. I would like to see Pacific District apply to host the 2014 Disabled

Pacific District  
Disabled Hockey Report  
May 19, 2012

Festival, with applications due May 1, 2012. As new disabled programs are being established within the district, we need these programs to connect with USAHockey and register their participants.

### **Sled**

Within the district, Sled Hockey is experiencing rapid growth as new administrators have requested information to host clinics and learn how to get a sled hockey program started.

Upcoming Sled Clinics:

Cathedral City, CA, near Palm Springs July 22.

Seattle, late summer 2012

### **Special**

David Chase is forming a program in Valencia, CA.

We have received a few inquiries in the Portland area. We need a program champion.

### **Goals**

- Determine USA Hockey registration status of each program, distribute information to manually register first year participants (free) as well as registering coaches and mentors.
- Transition existing sled hockey clinics into USAHockey registered programs.
- Enhance the communication between the programs, helping programs to access resources.
- Update District Website with registered programs located within district.
- Special: Develop regional tournaments.
- Sled: Grow programs to develop a league format in the West.
- Sled: Continue to grow Facilitator Roster within District. Current clinicians used: Rico Roman, Jen Lee, Ahmad Karimzada, Tom Lopeman, Josh Sweeney, Ray Free

### **Where Help Is Needed**

- Is there a location/area within district to host 2014 Disabled Festival. Recommended 3 -4 sheets of ice.
- Help identify more existing Special/Sled programs to build network.
- Communicate information regarding programs, contacts, grants, opportunities.
- Disabled hockey requires equipment for youth *and adults* so programs are often looking for equipment at discounted rates. Received Block grant for equipment, need to purchase.

### **Resources**

#### **Special:**

Implementation Guide (downloaded online) by Tracy Tucker in Colorado  
National Conference Calls  
ASHA grants  
New United Commercial Travelers (UCT) Association partnership

Pacific District  
Disabled Hockey Report  
May 19, 2012

**Sled:**

Sled Hockey Newsletter  
Sled Hockey Manual 177 pages  
West Coast Conference Call facilitated by Norm Page and JJ O'Connor  
Lend-a-sled (clinics) and Sled Grant (programs)  
Coaching Manual and DVD

Kellie Hays  
[kelliemhays@gmail.com](mailto:kelliemhays@gmail.com)  
541.954.5644



**Bruce Urban**  
Director At-Large

526 W. Dragon Tree Avenue | Queen Creek, AZ 85140  
cell 907.232.2098 | email bruceurban60@gmail.com

May 19, 2012

TO: Pacific District Board of Directors  
FROM: Bruce Urban, Select Camp Coordinator  
SUBJECT: 2012 Select Camp Report

This is the fourteenth year for the central combined select camp. For the last seven years the camp has been held at the Kent Ice Centre in Kent, WA. The primary goal of this camp is to identify and select the best players from within the Pacific District to advance to the National Camps. The District Camp was held on the last weekend of April (April 26-29) for the 1997 birth year and the first weekend of May (May 3-6) for the 1995 and 96 birth years. This was the first year in perhaps 11 years that the 14 year old group was not in camp due to USA Hockey eliminating that age group at the National Camp level.

The total number of participating players was as follows:

1997	102
1996	76
1995	65
Grand Total	243

Since the 14 year old group (1998 birth year) was eliminated the thought was to bring in more Select 15 players (1997 birth year) for an expanded camp. The number of players that normally attend at this age is 80. This year there was 102. One reason for the expansion was that there was room for them in terms of hotel space and ice time. Another reason was the District Board had made a decision to make another attempt at selecting a team to attend the Kent State, OH Festival. This would provide a larger pool to select this team. It also provided an opportunity for some players to attend and experience the District Camp. At the time of this report it is still too early to know if enough players will register to participate in the Kent State Festival. While the concept of bringing in more players was one that was well accepted by the District it probably was not the best of ideas. The evaluators concern was the talent level dropped off surprisingly quick. The evaluators commented there was difficulty at times in identifying the better players when they were playing with and against lesser talented players. Although there was a need for fewer team leaders and evaluators (one age group vs. two) the other support staff was the same as it normally would be for two age groups so not much savings there.

The 16 year old group (1996 birth year) had 76 players signed up and 73 participating due to late scratches from illness, injury and family discipline. This group was one of the most competitive in sometime. There were several spots still unfilled as late as Sunday morning especially in the goalie position. Out of the eight goalies that were participating there were still 5 in the running for one spot. It was very difficult for the evaluators to make this selection given the fairly equal



USA Hockey, the national governing body for the sport of ice hockey, is a member of the International Ice Hockey Federation and the United States Olympic Committee



abilities of the 5 goalies. This prompted the question once again of whether there should be an evaluator in the group that was specifically looking at goalies. This evaluator should have some experience at playing goalie as well as coaching goalies. This is something that the lead evaluator for the camps should consider for future years.

The Select 17 (1995 birth year) only had 65 players signed up with 5 players not participating due to illness and injury. When the central camp first started some 14 years ago the total number of players for the Select 17 group was 80, the same as other age groups. Over the years there has been some difficulty in getting a full quota of 80 players. At one time the player development representatives from each Affiliate agreed to reduce that number to 68 players. This still made it competitive with four teams. This year with the numbers signed up there was not quite enough for 4 teams so 3 teams were formed. Unfortunately there were enough goalies and defensemen for four teams that had to be placed on 3 teams. There were an adequate number of forwards for 3 teams but not nearly enough for 4 teams. Forming and scheduling 3 teams was a challenge but in the end it worked out.

This particular year there was a total of 4 known concussions, all during the second weekend. All four were removed from play for the remainder of the camp. Two players were sent home, one local and one from Alaska. The four concussions may have been more than the total of the previous four years combined. None of the concussions were the result of hits that would have been considered major penalties in a regularly played game. While there was not a professional trainer or EMT person on site, in two of the cases a parent who is a doctor checked the players out and recommended the players not continue and be checked out by their own physician upon returning home. The local player had his father in attendance and took his son to the hospital to be checked out. The fourth player self reported his injury on Saturday night as there was no indication that anything happened. He was kept under observation and returned home the next day with other team members. After having a discussion with Wayne Sawchuk there should be some strong consideration in having a trainer or EMT on site for future camps. Jay Miller from Washington offered to have his trainer be at the camp next year. I highly recommend that the Camp Director take him up on the offer and if not at least have a local EMT on site. This will definitely add a small cost to the camp in some form of payment and perhaps a room at the hotel and meals. Whatever cost there is it will definitely be well worth it.

The evaluators, team leaders and other staff folks were as always outstanding. Many of the folks have worked the camps in the past. This helps to make the camp operate more fluid with fewer learning curve hiccups. There are a few areas to be addressed for the future. Each Affiliate, as in the past, needs to submit names for team leaders and evaluators. This has been a practice for the Select Camps since the first camp in 1999. These people need to commit to the camp for the entire weekend. By either arriving late and/or leaving early, places a huge burden on the entire process. There have always been other staff members to fill in the gaps at least for team leaders. As for evaluators if they show up late, leave early or just no-show they do the camp and their Affiliate an injustice. Their input on players from their own Affiliate and all players in general is extremely important. This format of having an evaluator from each Affiliate was developed so that each and every Affiliate had an equal say in the selections to the National Camps. Many Districts have coaches from outside their programs come and do the evaluating. That is certainly something this District could do; however, there would be some additional cost to fly those

evaluators to the camp depending on where they are coming from. I would strongly recommend against it and I believe the evaluators within the district would as well. Who knows these players better? I suggest the answer is our own coaches.

Now that there is no longer a need for a Select 14 District Camp as structured in the past, there probably should be some thought regarding the scheduling of the other three age groups. Wayne Sawchuk and I had a conversation during the two weekends of camp on how it could possibly be reduced to one weekend. One discussion was about the 15 camp as it was structured this year. I indicated earlier in this report that having more than 80 players was probably not a good idea. Keeping it at 4 teams of 20 is better for the competitiveness and for the evaluators. The 16 group should remain at the 4 teams of 20 with a total of 80. There has always been enough at this age group to make that work. Sometimes as in this year there was only 76 but in other years there can be as many as 84. In any event, setting the number at 80 should not be a problem. In recent years there has been somewhat of a drop off at the 17 group. It has been a struggle to get even 4 teams of 17 players and when there are enough players for 4 teams there is a struggle to get quality players. As indicated earlier in the report, having 3 teams can make for some challenges. It can be done but really not recommended. Wayne and I discussed the possibility of having only two teams for the 17 group. The make-up of the team can be a bit different than the norm of twenty. For example the team could consist of 12 forwards, 8 defense and 2 or possibly even 3 goalies for a total of 22 or 23 total players per team. The games could be a bit longer than the one hour norm since there are more skaters which can provide a better opportunity for the player to showcase his skills. In order for this format to be put into place the Affiliates will have to work very closely with each other in agreeing how many players at each position each Affiliate receives. This number can certainly change from year to year. For example, on a given year an Affiliate may not have a lot of quality defense but perhaps have a lot of forwards. Affiliates are going to have to have a give and take from year to year and understand it is not how many players may get to camp from their Affiliate but how many quality players are sent. The people who make this decision on who and how many lies with the Player Development Rep from each Affiliate and the District's lead evaluator. They are the people who are so to speak in the trenches and should know the make-up of their players.

A weekend schedule can be accomplished to accommodate this many teams on one sheet of ice. It will make for long days for some staff, but if coordinated properly it can work. Wayne worked on a mock schedule which I believe can work and still get everyone out of town by mid afternoon on Sunday. I did check with the hotel and there would be enough rooms for everyone as well. The important thing here would be to lock down rooms as early as December if at all possible. Making the camp one weekend instead of two will reduce some staff costs for those people who come both weekends. I would strongly recommend that the board consider this recommendation.

The other item that I would recommend is keeping the camp at the current location for several reasons.

- First off it is in close proximity to the airport. The less travel between the airport and camp location the fewer problems that may arise. Getting players and staff back to the airport on Sunday in time for their flight(s) can be a challenge. Unforeseen traffic,

accidents, and/or highway closures can lead to missing flights and perhaps some additional costs for the District to cover.

- Secondly, the hotel used (Hawthorn Suites) is in my opinion a perfect setting. We have established a very good reputation with the hotel, the surrounding area does not lend itself for players to want to wander off and the rink is very close in proximity.
- Lastly, the Kent Valley Ice Centre is almost perfect. While it only has one sheet of ice (two would be better), the camp essentially can schedule the entire day if necessary. The management has been very good to the camp and has virtually provided anything that we have needed. Lunches and dinners are prepared and served on site and also has a full service café for the parents and for players' desiring more to eat.

My last comment is one of thanks. This central camp format was developed 14 years ago and approved by the Directors, Registrar and Affiliate Presidents that sat on the board at that time. Lynn and I cannot thank them enough for allowing us the latitude and freedom to make any changes necessary in order to evolve this program to where it is today. We have personally thanked many of you and feel privileged to have been associated with you both professionally and as a friend. We feel the program is as healthy as ever but also feel that with any ongoing function or program that changes are inevitable. Changes are often needed and sometimes hard to implement. I am confident this board will move forward in a positive direction with continued development. I also want to thank the current Board for allowing me the opportunity to continue in this position for the last two years even though I was no longer an official member of the Pacific District. I would like to think that every ending is a new beginning.



# Girls'/Women's Pacific District Report

May 17, 2012

## 1. Affiliate Tryouts

- a. I would like to remind everyone "The Affiliate tryout camps shall occur no later than the last full weekend in January. "
- b. Ensure all girls participating in your affiliate tryouts are entered into Rocky Mountain Register.
- c. All paperwork from the affiliate tryouts (code of conduct and medical release forms) are signed and kept for the District Select tryout.

## 2. District Tournament

- a. Fairbanks, Alaska did a superb job of putting on another spectacular District tournament. The hockey was GREAT, the food unbelievable and the weather fabulous (by Alaska standards)! Thanks for everything!
- b. The winners of the tournament went on to either the Tier I or Tier II National Tournament – all teams favorably represented our District.

## 3. Girls' Tier II National Tournament - Firsco, Texas

The competitiveness of these Tier II teams was remarkable this year. During the tournament there were very few games that were scoring nightmares – that being "too many goals against no goals". I believe as we continue to go down this road of Tier II we are going to see the playing field even out more. ...and Donna – what a great Director! Thanks for the laughs and multiple learning situations. You are the BEST!

## 4. Girls' Select Tryouts

- a. Buses – I will be the first to admit, the arrival times were all messed up and I apologize profusely for this. Dan, thanks so much for working with me on getting all the girls to the buses – I know it is an enormous job and I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your help. I PROMISE the flight schedule will be correct next year!
- b. Hotel, Rink, Bus transportation – was once again stellar this year.
- c. Seminars – The girls had the opportunity to listen to Dr. Koppel, Sports Psychologist, University of Washington. Dr. Koppel works with Seattle Mariners and Seahawks, he addressed two different topics, one for the 16 – 17 year olds and one for the 14 – 15 year olds. The girls thrived on his knowledge. Next year he is going to speak on concussions as he is [Director of Neuropsychological Services and Research at the Seattle Sports Concussion Program](#) in the Seattle area.
- d. Concussions – One of the goalies arrived at tryouts after having multiple head injuries during either softball or hockey with a three week period leading up to the District tryouts. USA Hockey wanted her on the ice for a brief period of time and asked she be kept completely away from the pucks as this was a warm up skate. I honored his wishes, however, once the pucks came out Steve Laing and I discussed the situation and both of us agreed to have her removed from the ice (my feelings were she should have never been allowed on the ice). I asked our USA Hockey goalie evaluator to remove her from the ice – which he did. I'm pleased to announce she has been chosen as an At-large to the National Camp – Steve Guider and myself urged USA Hockey to advance her onto the camp!

- e. Three players choose not to attend the tryout after paying:
  - i. Juliana Ferrentino – Gluten intolerant – Caterer and I tried to work with the parents on this. Caterer purchased gluten free food for this child and the parents choose not to send her two nights before the tryouts. Suggest no refund.
  - ii. Morgan Elledge – parent called the day Morgan was to leave and told me she missed the flight and she didn't know if she could get her on a later flight. Bottom line – she was informed by the school she missed too many days of school and the school would not let her make up the work. Suggest not refund as the child and parent should have known the consequences of missing too many days of school
  - iii. Hannah Arin – injured. Recommend the \$100.00 refund as described in the **Pacific District Select Player Development Camp Policy**

5. Mid-Am Player Development Camp – the following are the number of girls that have been invited to participate in this development camp

- a. Goalies –
  - i. 1995 – 3
  - ii. 1996 - 5
  - iii. 1997 - 3
  - iv. 1998 - 4
- b. Players
  - i. Forwards
    - 1. 1995 - 5
    - 2. 1996 - 5
    - 3. 1997 - 5
    - 4. 1998 - 4
  - ii. Defense
    - 1. 1995 - 5
    - 2. 1996 - 3
    - 3. 1997 - 4
    - 4. 1998 - 5

6. PLAG – Play Like a Girl electronic newsletter – the above article has been submitted to PLAG and will be electronically mailed to all female hockey players in the country sometime in June.

7. 2013 Pacific District Select Tryout dates – **April 25 – 28, 2013.**

Regards,

Margo Dreyer

## Pucks, Performances and Piñata's

Congratulation to all the girls' that tried out at the 2012 Pacific District Girls' Select Tryout. The weekend was marvelous with many different seminars and a lot of skating!

There were 4 seminars: **Sports Psychology** - Dr. David Coppel PHD, (Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Neuropsychologist, and Sport Psychologist; Director of Neuropsychological Services and Research Seattle Sports Concussion Program Clinical Professor, Department of Neurological Surgery University of Washington. Dr. Coppel's topics covered Basic Mental Skills for Performance for the 1998 and 1997 girls; The 7 C's of Successful Performance for the 1997 and 1998 girls. This seminar was a HUGE success! **Hockey Opportunities** - the girls were able to ask ANY question they might have for the panel of coaches and evaluators. Ben Smith, USA Hockey Olympic Coach; Pamela Dreyer, 2006 Olympic Goalie; Brooke Whitney, Patty Kazmaier winner; Steve Guider (USA Hockey Goalie Coach); Emily Teachout, Cindy Daily, Shelley Willis, Kathy McGarrigle, Mindy French, Melissa Deardorff (DIII); Cassi Campbell (DIII Graduate). The girls also heard from Annette Lin (National Ref) The questions asked were fantastic! **Strength and Conditioning** - conducted by Ellen McGough, University of Washington with her staff of students. **Nutrition** - Mary Ryan, Bastyr University, spoke to the girls about their nutrition.

Pam Dreyer suggested we get piñatas to celebrate Cinco De Mayo. We actually purchased the piñatas May 5 with anticipation of letting the girls break the piñatas at the hotel; however; the girls arrived back at the hotel exhausted and sleep was more important! Sies De Mayo, saw the piñatas (one for each age division) hung from a tree alongside the rink after their last skate, the girls used a hockey sock (stretched to size by our own "White Man" instead of "Blue Man" to prevent them from seeing the piñata, and after several turns by their teammates – they were handed the hockey stick and WHACK! WHACK! WHACK! Or was it WHOOF! At any rate the piñata was broken and the goodies eaten!

What a great time this weekend was for all involved! Hockey is truly an amazing sport with amazing people helping all of our girls – as John Dottie said "We are all one BIG family"!



**AK RIC Report  
Pacific District Meeting  
Seattle  
May 19, 2012**

**Registration Numbers (as of May 16, 2012):**

Level 1 Complete: 175  
Level 1 Incomplete: 35  
Level 2 Complete: 70  
Level 2 Incomplete: 16  
Level 3 Complete: 74  
Level 3 Incomplete: 3  
Level 4 Complete: 8

Total Complete: 327  
Total Incomplete: 54  
Total Registered: 381

**Evaluation Program:**

USAH has rejuvenated the Official Evaluation Program with an on-line system that puts all evaluations into a national database and emails the official a copy of the evaluation after it is input into the system. The on-line evaluations can be completed at the rink provided there is internet access available.

During the Labatt's Adult tournament, we brought up an evaluator to conduct evaluations. It was well received as the adults have only been evaluated locally and an outside evaluator provided a different and unbiased perspective.

Next fall, we are looking to do this again during the squirt/pee wee jamboree associated with the Alaska League. There may also be midget games during that weekend for additional evaluations.

**Cross-ice officiating:**

The Interior Alaska Hockey Officials Association in Fairbanks has been providing officials for cross-ice games since the program was initiated. This is providing an opportunity to expose younger officials to officiating.

The Anchorage Hockey Officials will be working with the local associations to begin using officials on cross-ice games as a way increase the number of officials. Officials have

never been used for cross-ice in Anchorage. As a result, there have been fewer games available at the mite and squirt level for younger officials and AHO has had to restrict the number of new officials in seminars at the younger age groups because if too many registered, there would not be games available for them to officiate and they would become disenchanted with the program.

This topic was discussed at the April ASHA meeting and it was suggested that the officials association and hockey associations work to involve officials in cross-ice. ASHA also encouraged other areas of the state to use officials for cross-ice games.

The topic was also discussed in Florida and it was noted that by limiting the number of new officials that can register and combining that with those that typically drop out, the overall number of officials was likely going to decrease over time.

By getting officials on the cross-ice games and retaining them, it is hoped that the number of officials will increase instead of decrease over time.

#### **District Tournament:**

Girls Districts was in Fairbanks. There were 3 women officials from the PD (CA and WA) that participated. All three of them attended Nationals. The tournament reportedly went well.

#### **National Tournaments:**

In addition to the 3 women from the Lower 48, Alaska sent 3 officials to National Tournaments. I also attended the Girls II Nationals in Dallas.

#### **Official Development:**

This year another official from Juneau attended the Seminar Instructors Camp in Colorado Springs.

One official from Fairbanks will be attending the Western Regional Officiating Camp.

Chris Milles  
AK RIC