



Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, October 3, 2015
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Suncoast Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

Present

Flint DOUNGCHAK
Wendy Goldstein
Dru Hammond
Greg Johnson
Donna Kaufman
Kris Knauss
Steve Laing
Natalie McEwen
Lisa McPheters
Eric Simmons
Steve Stevens
Darryl Thompson

USA Hockey Guests

Joe Bonnett – ADM Regional Manager
Charlie Fuertsch – Vice President, Legal Council

Not Present

Jon Gustafson
Chris Hays
Kellie Hays
John Silberstein
Rick Trupp

Chair Donna Kaufman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone. She introduced Lisa McPheters as the new Pacific District Secretary, and advised that Lisa would be making an audio recording of the day's meeting.

Approval of Old Minutes – Kris Knauss motioned to approve the minutes from May 15, 2015; Greg Yochum seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.

District Financial Report – In Chris Hays absent, Donna Kaufman electronically distributed the financial reports for review, copies attached.

Guest Report – Charlie Fuertsch

- As part of USA Hockey's legal council, Charlie's was at the meeting to observe and provide guidance.
- USA Hockey legal is working on a policy to prevent youth players from being allowed to participate from one season to the next without paying their bills in full. This policy would cover players moving from one affiliate to another.

Bobby Freeland Grant – Natalie McEwen

- Discussion was held on awarding a \$2,500 grant to the San Diego Sled program. Detailed discussion ensued regarding the positives and challenges for the San Diego Sled program, and sled programs in general. Natalie McEwen motioned to approve the \$2,500 grant; Steve Laing seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.
- Natalie suggested implementing restrictions on associations applying for Freeland grants. Implement having new associations prove themselves for a year or two; however we want to encourage growth. Perhaps solicit a commitment from an association to be a part of USAH for X # of years.
- 2015.16 Freeland Grant Monies Open until December 31, 2015.

Disabled Hockey – Kellie Hays

- In Kellie Hays absence, Natalie McEwen read Kellie's report (attached). Good information was provided on the National Sled Development Camp and clinics both past and future.
- Steve Laing spoke to the December 2015 Outdoor Hockey Events taking place in Sacramento over several weeks. A sled hockey game has been scheduled to occur just prior to the AHL game. Along with these games, youth tournaments will be taking place over the two-week period. Steve strongly encouraged the USAH Directors present, and others, to try and take in 2-3 days of the events.
- Also discussed was the likelihood of USA Hockey establishing a Warrior Division for Disabled Hockey.

Coaching Program – Larry Bruyere & Rick Trupp

In Larry's absence, Flint Dounghak read his District wide report (attached).

In Rick's absence, Wendy Goldstein read his Alaska report (attached).

Female Hockey – Greg Johnson

- Team Declarations for Girls Tier I & Tier II were electronically sent to the board, and will be discussed under Tournaments.
- Working to identify all District Women's teams.
- Senior A within the District will be established at a later date, if a slot at Nationals becomes available. Professional women players would be allowed to play on Senior A teams.
- Pacific Districts are March 2-6, 2016 in Anchorage, Alaska.
- World ice hockey weekend Dec 10 & 11 – hope to have 17,000 participants. 6 NHL teams are participating.
- Try Hockey for free November 7, 2015.
- HS Showcase for Girls April 14-17, 2016.
- US Female National team – 1 player from California and 2 players from Alaska.
- Rule Change Proposal for 14U Girls teams to not allow 12U players participate on National Bound Teams (Tier I and Tier II).
- 2017 World Women's Championship to be held in the US
- New Girls/Women's Section Director – Don Gould

Player Development – Kris Knauss

- 2015 Boys Select Camp Recap - Youth National Festival
 - 5 year plan at Youth National Festival is to hit a 5% C Player Average Rating
 - This year, we were able to lower the # of C Players out of the National Festival from 13.6% to 5%
 - We had 4 A Players at the 99 birth year, with 2 from California playing on the 5 Nations Tournament team and 2 playing on the Ivan Hlinka Team.
 - 2 Pacific District Goaltenders made the World Jr. Tryouts, Evan Sarthou '97 out of Washington and Kris Oldham '97 out of Alaska.
 - 4 Pacific District Players (1 WA, 1AK, 2CA) on the Central Scouting List.Results stem from strengthening the District Evaluation Camps, inclusive of improving the evaluation process at the camps, yielding a better product going to the National Festivals.
- 2016 Pacific District Player Development Camp
 - Distributed the 2016 Allocations for the 2016 Pacific District Camps, slightly revised from last year.
 - 2016 Boys Camp Location has changed to the Hilton San Jose Downtown. Dates are May 5-8, 2016.
 - 2016 Budget distributed (attached).

Girls Multi-District Camp – Greg Johnson

- For 2015, the Pacific District joined with Rocky Mountain District and Northern Plains District to create a multi-district camp for the girls, enhancing the overall play/compete factor for the females. Northern Plains did not participate strongly at the older age levels, which created a financial hardship for the camp. This has to be addressed and some accountability by Northern Plains. Discussion focused on the whether there is a need to place someone at the Multi District Girls Camp to ensure that the Pacific District is represented accordingly.
- Good feedback received on the camp, with the possible exception of the late date of the camp, so close to the Girls National Festivals.
- Girl's Allocations – Discussion given to pooling allocations with Rocky Mountain District or keeping them separate. Board consensus is to keep them separate. Kris Knauss motioned to keep the allocations separate; Dru Hammond seconded the motion. As this was just a discussion item and not an action item, no need for a motion. Kris Knauss withdrew the motion; Dru Hammond seconded it.
- Southeast looking at joining the 2016 Girls Multi-District Camp.

Western Regional 14 Camp – Flint Dounghak

- Flint provided the Final Report for the 2015 Camp (attached) and the Profit/Loss Statement (attached).
- For the future, looking to do a Coaching Interim Program – third coach with each team – for development. Interim coaches would be recommended by each affiliate.
- In 2016, looking at doing more practices, less games. Need to improve the dry land portion of the camp.
- A video presentation was played showing different elements of the camp and the various social media – Periscope Streaming, Twitter & Facebook - implemented this year. Use of social media was well received, especially by the families of the camp participants.

Guest Presentation - Joe Bonnett

- Where the ADM is today.
- What USA Hockey has accomplished this past year.
- Where the ADM is going in the future.

High School Nationals – Steve Laing

- Billeted Players participating on a Tier I or Tier II Youth or Junior team are not eligible to participate in the High School Section.
- For 2016, there will be two National Tournaments; one for a pure division, and one for a combined division.
- National Tournaments will be held in West Virginia for 2016; Ohio for 2017

Referee Program

Eric Simmons reported for Alaska:

- Average referee age in Alaska is 40+.
- Recognize the need for and are working to get younger referees in place.
- Working to get referee seminars set to take place in the spring.
- New target age for referees is 25-35.
- Working with Steve Stevens to identify female referees in the District to bring up for the 2016 Girls/Women's Regional Tournament in Anchorage.
- Working with BJ in National office for the 2016 14U Tier I National Tournament in Anchorage.

Steve Stevens reported for the District

- Hawaii developing their Officiating Program. Up to 21 referees.
- Working to improve female referees across the district.
- Seminars are in place. Only one Level 4 remaining, October 17th in San Jose.

Pacific District Registrar's Report – Wendy Goldstein

- Player Registration Report (attached). All numbers are up in all divisions from Sept 2014 to Sept 2015.
- District Board Election in 2016. Dru Hammond's seat is up in June 2016. The seat is for a 3-year term. If running, notify Wendy by December 31, 2015. Presently, Steve Laing is the sole person running for the seat.
- Registry Portal is continuing to change and evolve.
- Expense Receipts – from Directors and Associate Registrars. They need to be submitted to Wendy on a monthly basis.

Safe Sport – Steve Laing

- Working to make changes to the Safe Sport program, so it is a more fluid document. The recommended changes have been given to the Executive Council for approval who will then move the changes forward to the board for approval in January.

Tournaments – Donna Kaufman

- A tournament guidebook was established in 2015; updated for 2016.
- The appeal process has changed and is detailed in the guidebook.
- Will be a mandatory meeting prior to the start of a tournament. A second mandatory meeting will be held prior to the Elite 8 (quarterfinals).
- All OT periods will be the same as the regular periods. Teams will switch ends.
- Players cannot access the ice prior to the referees being on the ice.
- No hearings/appeals will take place for Game Misconducts.
- Match penalties - still requires a hearing for whether a player sits 1, 2 or 3 games. National Discipline Committee will be the decision maker.
- During State, Regional, National Tournaments, a player receives a Match Penalty, you need to work with your RIC to ensure this isn't this player's 3rd Match of the season falling under Rule 511.
- In 2017, Quarterfinal games will no longer be played.

- Declarations for Pacific District Youth Tournament Participating Teams
 - Youth – 14 Tier I – 4 teams all CAHA
 - Youth – 16 Tier I – 8 teams – 2 AK, 2 PANAHA, 4 CAHA
 - Youth – 18 Tier I – 4 teams all CAHA

Motion to approve Youth Tier 1 District Tournament participating teams by Darryl Thompson; motion seconded by Kris Knauss. Motion passed with no opposition.

- Recommendations for Pacific District Girls/Women's Tournament Participating Teams
 - Girls 14U **Tier I** - 1 CAHA team - Lady Ducks, automatic bye
 - Girls 16U **Tier I** - 3 CAHA teams– Ducks, Wave & Sharks;
1 PANAHA team - Admirals
 - Girls 19U **Tier I** – 1 CAHA team - Lady Ducks, automatic bye

 - Girls 14U *Tier II* – 1 Alaska team - North Stars
2 CAHA teams - Lady Ducks & Jr. Sharks
1 PANAHA team – Washington Wild
 - Girls 16U *Tier II* – 4 Alaska teams - North Stars, Ice Hawks, Palmer, All Stars
1 CAHA team - Wave
 - Girls 19U *Tier II* – 1 Alaska team - All Stars
1 CAHA team - Lady Ducks
1 PANAHA team – Wild

Associate Registrars are to review and confirm that these teams' 1T's match these declarations.

- Women's Senior B – 2 CAHA teams - Ducks & Sharks – 1 slot at Nationals - talking about a playoff or look at their game results and go from there. Address in January.
- Women's Senior C – 3 CAHA teams - Westside Shockers, LA Traffic & Ducks – 1 slot at Nationals. Possible date and venue, same as Youth Tier I Regionals at El Segundo, CA. Donna to check with El Segundo.

Old Business

- The district had previously discussed having Bridget Hopkinson work as a Girls/Women's co-representative with Greg Johnson, allowing for equal representation of the Pacific District. Good discussion ensued and Steve Laing motioned to have Bridget Hopkinson as a co-representative for Girls/Women's Hockey; Kris Knauss seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.

New Business -

- **Mac Attack Waiver** - Mustang Hockey Association requested a waiver allowing for their end of season Mite event – the MAC Attack Tournament – to be held the same weekend as the 14U Tier I National Tournament in Anchorage (written request attached). Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the waiver; Greg Yochum seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.
- **Tier I Education** - Donna spoke to the potential new requirements for associations to have a Tier I program, and to the possible new High Performance Tier I Division. Detailed information would be forthcoming in the next several months. Affiliate presidents will be receiving this information and need to disseminate it to all associations within their affiliate.

Hawaii Planning

- The Pacific District Directors wanted to ensure that everyone was aware of the directive from USA Hockey's Executive Director that no one from USA Hockey's national office will be allowed to attend the meeting.
- Meeting dates – February 12-14, 2016
- Affiliate Presidents' Dinner – Friday, February 12, 2016.
- Board Meeting – Saturday, February 13, 2016 – place and time TBD.
- Sled Hockey Event is planned for Sunday, February 14, 2016 from 7:00-10:30 am.
- Ice expense of \$500 needs to be covered. Steve Laing motioned for the Pacific District to pay this expense; Greg Yochum seconded the motion. Upon further discussion no motion was needed. Steve Laing withdrew his motion; Greg Yochum seconded.
- Wendy Goldstein is reviewing the Waikiki area for a potential hotel.
- Pacific District will pay hotel expenses for Thursday, February 11th through Sunday, February 14, 2016.

Final Comments

- Darryl Thompson – Alaska is working on developing requirements for an association to determine if a team is truly a Tier II team or not. We need to ensure teams are truly competitive, and avoid players/teams playing above their skill level.
- Greg Yochum – Las Vegas is developing the rink. New website - Nevadahockey.org. For the 2015-16 season, fielding two AA teams, 14's and 16s. Robert Purdy is Nevada's Secretary. Mike Sullivan is Nevada's Treasurer.
- Gordon Brown – National Tournaments being held in our district, is there any requirement for other affiliates to help out? Welcome as a guest, but no requirement for participation.
- Donna Kaufman – Looking for a proposed guidebook job description for Bridget Hopkinson's position. Asked Greg Johnson and Bridget to work on, with Steve Laing and Darryl Thompson and propose it to the board for approval.

Dru Hammond motioned to adjourn the meeting; Darryl Thompson seconded. Motion passed with no opposition.