



Pacific District
Annual Board of Directors Meeting
Embassy Suites Convention Center – Las Vegas
3600 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, Nevada
702-893-8000

February 7, 2015

1. The Annual meeting for the Pacific District was held on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Madam Chair Donna Kaufman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone.
2. **Introductions:** Donna Kaufman welcomed everyone. All parties introduced themselves. The following individuals were present: Natalie McEwen (Oregon President), Wendy Goldstein (USAH District Registrar), Dru Hammond (PD Director), Kris Knauss (PD Player Development), Steve Laing (CA President), Steve Stevens (USAH PD Referee-in Chief), Darryl Thompson (Alaska President), Greg Yochum (Nevada President), Larry Bruyere (District Coach-in-Chief), Jon Gustafson PD Director, Kellie Hays (PD Disabled Representative), Chris Hays (PD Treasurer), Nancy Hodge (CA Registrar), Vada Burrows (CA Registrar).
3. **Agenda Additions:** The chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the minutes. The following items were added to New Business: Hockey in Kenya video, Logo, Approved Clothing and Website.
4. **Approval Prior Minutes:** Dru Hammond asked the group if there were any changes or corrections of the October 25, 2014, Seattle, Washington meeting minutes. Kris Knauss motion *[to approve minutes]*, seconded by Jon Gustafson. No further discussion. Motion passed.
5. **District Financial Report:** Donna Kaufman distributed her financial report (Attachment 1) to everyone and gave a quick overview to clarify specific items in the report. She also reported that she had opened the new District account. The balance in checking is \$71,364.76 and savings is \$124,415.91.
 - Darryl Thompson motion *[to accept Donna's report]*, seconded by Kris Knauss. No discussion. Motion passed.
 - Donna reported she had filed the 990 for the District.
6. **Reports**
 - **Coaching Program:** Larry Bruyere indicated that his report was pretty much redundant from last time. Numbers will probably be the norm in the future. 21st and 22nd. Everyone knows we held the masters in Las Vegas. Thanked everyone who volunteered. It did operate in the black. Others have not been so fortunate. Mark made it clear that the donation from this District made the difference. Level 1 programs went really well and they got rid of some of the redundancy. They will do the same with Level 2 this year. Larry asked Donna when we could request Block Grant money. She responded that the president's met last night and Steve Laing will give a report later in this meeting. If he wants to put in a request he can put it in at time. Larry indicated that he wishes to get some assistance with the CEP training. Donna questioned what the funding would be used for and indicated in the past that funds were returned to USA Hockey. She asked if he could wait until the May meeting.
 - **Female Hockey:** Greg Johnson was unable to attend the meeting and submitted a written report. Donna indicated that everyone could read that report at their leisure. (Attachment 2)
 - Bridget relayed to Wendy her concern about the Multi-District camp date. Kris Knauss said that Gord Brown had stated his concerns as well.
 - Darryl also stated that there was an appeal in front of National Tournament Committee. He laid out the current scenario for the Board. Rostered team as a Tier I, but should have rostered as a Tier II

team. Wendy questioned it. Sent them notification that they were not qualified and what their process rights were to appeal. Darryl asked if Wendy had discretion to change it. She does not; it is at the National Tournament committee's discretion. It was suggested that perhaps we could add some checks and balances to ensure that this doesn't happen again. There is a huge concern that a number of parents and players are sitting there with airplane tickets they have purchased and might not be aware that at this point they have been disqualified. Discussion on if qualified as a Tier II team what actions the District might need to make going forward. Overall, it is important to do what we need to do to make sure this doesn't occur again in the future and to protect the integrity of the process. In the future we might have to consider if and what consequences might have to be implemented in situations of this nature.

- **Referee Program:** Steve Stevens opened his report by discussing female officials. At the Multi-District camp, Rocky Mountain is putting together a female officiating camp as well. There is difficulty in recruiting female officials. Rocky Mountain is going to provide \$150.00 per official to attend this event. What they are wondering is if the other Affiliates or District would also match the \$150.00 contribution to get more females to attend. Realistically Steve believes the District would only be looking at a max of 15 females wishing to attend. This is a total of \$2,250.00. Overall, as far as females are concerned the Pacific District is doing very well. Jamie Huntley is currently in Montreal; Bree Stewart is in Spain, and Jill Salvo has been put on full time in the North American Hockey League. These gals are willing to spend their own dollars to get to this event. However, if we could contribute the \$150.00 and pair it with their \$150.00 contribution it would almost cover their housing and transportation at this event. Steve Laing asked if the Affiliates had been approached. Steve Stevens replied that he came to this board first. Steve Stevens indicated that he might be able to contribute some funds, but thought he would approach this board first and see what our thoughts were. With all the girls going to Colorado Springs they will be exposed to a scenario they have never had. Donna suggested the request for funding be moved to new business.
- Steve Stevens also reported that it was a good move this year with Erik coming on board from Alaska. We kind of threw him to the wolves, because we immediately put him on the Rules Committee. He is an educator and presents subjects well and was very much accepted by the group. Erik, Steve, Dan Elision, and Ben Stair plan to attend Districts. This is kind of self-serving because next year we will have two National Tournaments within the Pacific District. All four officials will attend Nationals this year. That will prepare them for next year. Official numbers are down this year. The new guys didn't have an issue with the new required modules, but the older guys did. All in all Erik and Steve believe the numbers will go back up next year. Erik looks forward to going to San Jose and Utah.
- Registrars Report: Wendy Goldstein submitted a written report and reviewed the information contained within. (Attachment 3)
- Risk Management: No Report.
- Disabled Report: Kellie Hays stated that they voted on the next two Disabled Festivals. Next year it will be in Detroit, Michigan and in 2017 in San Jose, California. So everyone needs to put on their calendar Thursday, April 6 to Sunday, April 9, 2017. Jon Gustafson and Kellie will be working on a committee to prepare for this event and she is looking forward to everyone volunteering to assist with the event. She has the budget and committee information from Boston to use. She will be attending the Festival in Buffalo this year. She requested that everyone reach out to the disabled programs in their areas now so that they can start their fund raising activities now. Kellie believes that our teams and athletes have plenty of time to raise funds and get our athletes there. Nationals are April 6-9, 2017. Donna stated that this event overlaps the other National tournaments. However, with that said, when you have a tournament in your back yard that is where you go. Development of disabled

coaching materials is ongoing and disabled registration is still a subject of concern. Registration for disabled athletes varies by District and Affiliate. The primary concern is that the disabled athlete gets registered. It is just difficult to tell because some are registered within other youth programs, some have their own programs, and there are other mechanisms used to register these athletes, they are just all over the map. Donna asked why they couldn't just select a button to identify them. It has something to do with the ADA.

- Some highlights from the District include a sled hockey clinic in San Diego. They have been working for years to get an event there, and are pleased it finally occurred. Steve Laing stated that as a District we need to work behind the scene to make the Disabled Festival in San Jose a success. We need to make sure that Kelly can attend the event in Detroit and Buffalo. That way when we prepare our budget in 2017 we will know what worked and what didn't and we can then sit back and enjoy this event. We will discuss this a bit later during the President's report. Donna stated how hard Kellie works and recognized her efforts because we would not be where we are now if it wasn't not for her. See her written report. (Attachment 4.)
- The meeting was called back to order and Donna stated with start with tournaments. Norman Spiegle and Dave Klasnick responded to Donna's emails and we will not know until Monday or Tuesday the determination on the U19 girls. What effectively will happen on that schedule is if we don't need the game slot it is because there were five teams you played two games in the morning and you had a fifth game later. So those days you won't have that last game. We will have a California team that thinks their first game is not until Friday, but will have to be there on Thursday. That is currently Donna's biggest concern because she has the Ducks team thinking that they don't have to be there until Friday. That California team is now going to have to be there on Thursday. Donna hopes that Monday or Tuesday we will have the final answer and she doesn't expect any changes after that.
- Donna has made an executive decision that she is going to allow the Tier I 16's and 14's to only play a best-of-three on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We will have a credential meeting for them on Friday prior to play so they don't have to come in on Wednesday night. The five team divisions that do have one day off, Donna is going to have them come in on Wednesday. She is doing this because she believes that they need to have their credential meeting before the puck drops in their division. So she will have a special meeting with those four coaches on Friday. Steve Laing asked if we knew what time that meeting would be. Donna responded she would probably want to do that around noon, because the 16 team plays at 2:45 p.m. on Friday, and the 14 team play at 3:00 p.m. If we do it at noon, it allows their teams to get on with their preparations for the tournament. Donna will get that information put out to everyone. Donna suggested that we hold that meeting in that room that is behind Stanley's.
- Donna then stated that she needed to know who all from the District Board was going to be coming. Donna needs to know how many room reservations she needs to make. Right now she thinks she has five rooms for Directors plus another five. She just wants to make sure she has enough rooms for everyone. If you're not coming Wednesday night would you please shoot her an email with your plans. The host was okay with putting up five rooms, Donna doesn't believe they need to put up more than that. She suggested that the District pick up the rooms if we have more people than that coming from this Board.
- Darrell Thompson stated that moving forward we need to realize we've had a lot of challenges this year. We have three or four teams from Alaska have to and come in on Tuesday, which is great; however, these are prime business travel days and the rooms are more expensive and difficult to get. In looking into the price for these rooms they were running \$300-\$400 apiece. Alaska called in a lot of favors to get the rooms for a decent price. It is nice knowing they're going Thursday through Monday in an effort to get away from that business travel, we just need to know when we do our

planning that this impacts the teams that travel great distances. It is just something for us to think about.

- Donna mentioned that the same difficulties exist for California teams when they're going North to Alaska. If they don't get out on an early flight and hit Seattle at the wrong time, they end up having to stay over a night and catch the 6:30 AM flight to continue south. We have to recognize that going both directions has its challenges.
- Steve Stevens asked Donna if he was correct that he gets his room through the officials. Donna replied yes he is correct.
- Donna Kauffman asked if everyone knows when Nationals are and if anyone has any questions. For those of you that were in Orlando, a very last-minute decision was made by the Youth Council they had a vote to get rid of the quarterfinals, and they made that effective for 2015. Then on Sunday morning Dave Klasnick that was running around trying to talk to everyone because he had received comments from the host that they had already purchased ice and there was hotel obligations already to go. So they had a special meeting a week after that and it was decided to resend that vote. So, there will be quarter finals at Nationals. What they are going to do going forward it Tier I she doesn't know. There is a big philosophical difference between the player development guy and the coaching program. They don't believe that athletes, especially at ages 16 and 18 at the Tier I level, can perform at their peak if you're asking them to play two games in one day. So it is still going to be on the table to talk about, but just not this year.
- The other thing that affects Nationals was the last minute talk about 2016 having a 2000 birth year only tournament at the National level. Youth Council approved that. Then the registers had issues with that because we don't have a 15 only age classification. The guidebook says, that we only do Nationals for the age classifications that we have in the guidebook. That will also be reconsidered and put back on the table until they can figure how to get that through. Donna believes that Dave Klasnick would like to see the whole body vote on this before putting it through. Donna was asked where we are on this as a District. Donna stated that the Pacific District decided not to reconsider. Turns out we were the only ones that voted not to reconsider. Kris Knauss asked for clarification, if this meant that we would not discuss this until June. Donna replied that that is correct. Nothing will probably happen until 2017 unless there is a conference call in February or March.
- Kris Knauss then asked when they were going to resolve the issue about quarterfinals. Donna responded that that went back to the Youth Council too. She believes a lot of pressure is coming from player development and coaching to take that away. On the other side, there are teams that will only come if there are three games, possibly for without quarterfinals. Donna feels they believe in the ADM philosophy of ADM long-term athletes and high performance athletes that you have a better quality of games if there's only one game. They believe that that semi-final game is really important, and that they should only have one game to play on that one day. Kris Knauss then asked if they would do it at all three levels. Donna responded that she felt they would.
- Donna asked if we had anything on High School Nationals. Steve Laing stated that teams can roster up to 30 players, and when it comes to game time you can only list 20 players on the game sheet. There is a pilot program this year in high school; they are going to a four-person officiating system. Absent full approval of the national Board of Directors, the additional cost of the officials will be picked up by Matt Leaf from the national office. They are going to look and see how this works; however, Steve believes that they will begin to use a four-person system at all Nationals. Steve Stevens stated that he's not a big proponent of the four men system. With that said, he thinks it is a good thing in these tournaments. We've done all way with the number of games that the District Tournaments, so this provides an opportunity to participate in this level of tournament. Steve Laing

indicated he would be one of the national directors for high school, and Steve Stevens indicated he would be there also.

- Steve Laing stated that they would have two different Nationals. They will have a pure division and the combined division. So there will be two games played on Sunday morning, and two sets of trophies handed out. That will just continue to increase the number of teams competing.
- Donna Kauffman acknowledges that this didn't have to do with high school; however, she noted that there was some concern earlier in the year about the progressive penalties. She wondered if they had noticed as much impact as they initially anticipated with it following the player and not the team. It is Steve's belief that it is not being tracked because a lot of people don't know how to track it. It has been presented to the board in less than favorable way; therefore there's been a lot of pushback on it.
- In California, Steve Laing doesn't have a problem tracking these games. He has the Tier I, Tier II, and High School Commissioner to track these games, and that's their job. They track every single game; you have to download your scoresheet by computer within 24 hours of that game or your fined \$50. They did run into an issue with one kid, there Association stated that this was the first penalty he had ever had. Naturally, I questioned it and called Matt Leaf. Sure enough, they were right, that was the kids first ever penalty. In researching what had happened here we found that the referee had submitted it and then didn't think it went through so he resubmitted it, and resubmitted it, and resubmitted it at least three or four times. So the moral to the story is click once.
- Donna stated that she thinks everyone is having their state tournaments, so she should have everyone's declarations. So after California gets done with their tournaments she will send out the schedules with the actual names. So far things seem to be going great in San Jose. San Jose is always a great host, and this year is no exception.
- SafeSport: We accidentally skipped SafeSport. So, SafeSport is up next. Steve Laing reported that SafeSport is going well. The nice thing about it is USA hockey is highly committed to it. They have been inviting in the Affiliate SafeSport coordinators to all the meetings. They've been holding meetings that are several hours long with several people at the meeting. The dynamics of the meeting are great. It is a great opportunity for coordinators to meet with other state coordinators and share their issues and concerns. Pacific has done especially well. Steve sees a lot of reports, but what he really likes is that he is extremely pleased with the way they are handling business. The District coordinators are demonstrating a lot of common sense. When it comes to the level where a club can't handle it on their own, the SafeSport Coordinators are taking care of business. They are holding suspensions and hearings when necessary, which is good. The biggest issue right now is the locker room. Steve stated that he is never going to deviate from his preaching about the seriousness of locker room observation.
- In California they had an issue that began in the locker room due to lack of an attendant, and then spilled over into the parking lot. It was not pretty. The parent involved was a no-show at the hearing and hence received a five-year suspension and was directed to participate in anger management. It is being appealed to USA hockey.
- They also had a coach that cornered to 13-year-old official and convinced that official that what he saw was not what he saw, and what he heard was not what he heard. That particular coach has also been suspended indefinitely pending his hearings. The 13-year-old eventually stood by what he originally heard and saw.
- Steve complemented all the affiliates on their choice of us safe sport person and stated that they did a great job in their selection process. Keep up the good work.
- Darryl Thompson stated that there is going to be a change to Bylaw 10 on sexual abuse cases. There will be a separate entity that handles all the sexual assault cases by the USOC. If there are other things attached to it such as social media, harassment, or physical abuse then the USOC will take the

whole package. Casey Jorgenson is going to work on language that balances summary suspension power. Steve Laing reminded the Affiliate Presidents that they have the right to perform a summary suspension to any person within USA Hockey including officials. It's up to the president to decide if they want to offer that authority to a vice president or so SafeSport person. Just remember not to abuse summary suspensions.

- Steve Laing would like to see added to the website SafeSport Certificates and list a SafeSport compliance list as well. Steve would like to have people be able to go to the district website and see if people have been screened and that they have cleared SafeSport as well. There was some discussion if this could be done. Donna Kauffman said there was an Excel spreadsheet that could be pulled; however, there might be an issue with administrator types and other volunteers. Much discussion and concern about the old garbage in garbage out. We will look more into this subject and the feasibility for listing on the District website.
- Steve Laing also mentioned a rumored incident involving a coach and an 18-year-old youth. That would be considered consenting adults. It will not come to USA hockey because it is AAU. The coach was one time on the California compliance list, but he has since been removed. The bottom line the issue is being handled, it did not involve us, but it did involve European kids.

7. Player Development – Kris Knauss

- Things are coming together for the San Jose camp. Last weekend Kris attended the PNAHA Development Camp. They had a successful turnout and Kris felt that Rob Kaufman put on a good event. He felt that all the folks from PNAHA did a good job. There was a lot of good talent in the younger group that will be coming up through the ranks. There also was a CAHA Camp that Ty Hennes attended last weekend. All the invitations are now out. Some issues with Rocky Mount Register. Also, when affiliates don't send out lists or post to their website as to who made the camp. Kris sometimes has to clarify information. This is fine, he doesn't mind doing it, and there are just some problems with the program.
- He doesn't have a lot to report regarding the camp, but he does have a lot more college coaches going to attend the camp. The goal was 10, and he believes they will be close to that goal. In terms of long term planning, he has set some goals on where he would like to go on the player development side. One of those goals is to getting our own Pacific District ADM Representative. Kris has talked to Kevin McLaughlin about this and JJ. Kris thinks that Kevin understands it. Bonnet is a lieutenant at our Pacific District Development Camp this year. He also has Kevin Ryder and potentially Peter Ward coming out to the 14 camp. We're looking at inviting and ADM person out to the Pacific District Player Development Camp. One of Diggers last accomplishments was to greenlight the ADM getting a goaltender representative in Colorado Springs. He thinks it will be positive to have another body that comes out to the District annually focusing totally on goaltenders. Everything seems to believe moving forward well. I don't have anything to report on the girls except that he would like to get a little bit more in fault with the girls camp, particularly the numbers. His second goal would be to have an international presence with the IHF involved in the 14 camp. Kris thinks that would be good for the kids and maybe incorporated in the Multi-District Camp. Right now we have about 230 players involved between Pacific District, Rocky Mountain, and Plains District.

8. USA Hockey Discussion

- Donna Kaufman opened up the discussion on long range planning. She reminded everyone that we are going to have a change at the top with a new president this year since Digger is not running. That will open a spot for the treasure. Donna thinks they were hoping that Dave Klasnick would consider the position; however, Dave likes his position on the Youth Council. Norm Spiegel has been doing his due diligence to try to find candidates. Everyone believes that they have probably pegged Jim Smith for president. There's a lot of discussions out in the hall on whether the group likes or doesn't

like that. No matter what we think it is today, by time we get back to Annual Congress that will probably change anyway. Donna is not sure at this point in the game whether there is much opposition, or if there is even another candidate to be considered.

- The Board is going to be going through long-range planning, so they have asked Councils, Sections, Districts, and Affiliates to look at some long-range planning. The bottom line is where we want to be in five or 10 years. As USA Hockey tries to put together their plan, it would probably be a good idea for Pacific District to look at where we want to be at least from a numbers standpoint. How many do we have, how many females do we want to set a goal for, how many adults can we attract. Perhaps we should try to brainstorm as to what we would like to talk about. Then we could jot those ideas down. Donna recognizes that this might be a little bit difficult at this point since we don't know where National is going to go. However, she thinks we have an idea of what direction we want to go within the Pacific District.
- Pacific District Long Range Planning: Donna stated she's can out open up the floor, and we started with Kris since he mentioned he'd already been thinking in that direction. Where do we think we want to be? From Kris's standpoint he would like to see our C rating fewer than 10. It is more like a five year plan. He also needs to look at the girls' camp and set up some parameters. He would like to see a mentor out of the larger Affiliates, he believes that is important. He would like to see goaltenders identified at an earlier age. He would like to see our Pacific District goaltending personnel go to Ann Arbor and participate in their program and be more of a point of contact. Steve Laing and Kris Knauss talked about having a National Team Development Program. With the larger markets like California he has found he would just like to have a point of contact there, rather than have to go to Ann Arbor. As a District he believes we're doing a good job, he would still like to see some of the numbers increase. We need to identify how we can help some of the other Affiliates. He was listening at the Youth Council to the U20 piece. The NA3 came and asked for more import players on rosters. That would take away approximately 78 American roster spots potentially in that league. Kris believes the direction of that league needs to be discussed. This will result in fewer opportunities for goaltenders.
- Kris believes the bigger issue for the District is the Youth Tier I. From the top down we see so many of these players move east for what they consider exposure opportunities. Kris believes that Youth Tier I has become a for-profit business in our District and many other Districts. In talking to some of the ADM staff it is clear that what they are trying to do is to somehow tie the Youth Tier I into the ADM model. Our Tier I Junior League is USHL and the Tier II Junior League is the NHL. We need to look at somehow what works best in setting criteria for on ice and off-ice development plans for those Tier I programs, just like they do for the model programs in ADM. He thinks one of the interesting discussion points is going to be potentially limiting the number of out of District players on Tier I rosters. For our District we may be at odds with some of the folks in the Midwest, because we do lose a lot of those Tier I players to the east. It would be interesting to see if the criteria was changed based on what they think is exposure could force our coaches to develop our players here. It would then make them have to do a little more work. Kris believes that these are important components in development for the future.
- Larry Bruyere stated that since we're talking about Juniors that it might be noted that we don't have much of the USA hockey presence here with Juniors. Since that AAU is south of NORPAC we have no presence to his knowledge. Jon Gustafson thinks the issue is due to the lack of ice. John stated that many Junior leagues have approached him stating that they'd like to start up another league. It just doesn't make sense to them because of the ice situation. As far as long-range planning goes Donna stated that we need to ask ourselves do we want a presence or not at the Junior level. If we do, then how do we start facilitating that. Larry stated that we do have some Junior programs in the same

buildings as our youth program. Jon stated that if we do really want to do this then we have to create a cradle-to-grave program where there is a natural progression so our players don't have to go East and can stay West. So there is a real challenge, where do we start it, how do we get the ice, and we have to recognize it's expensive. So how are we going to do it, and address all these areas? Larry responded that Tier I is expensive also. However, his comment is that typically you don't play Division I college unless you've played Juniors. It just seems to him that in the terms of long-term planning that this should be a progression that we should be considering within the District. Jon responded that they want to do this; they just can't seem to get to the next step. Steve Laing mentioned that he had signed off twice on the NAP3 but the requirements seem to be the limitations to getting these started. It seemed to him that one of the issues was even seating. Donna stated that there is a seating requirement, but what her U20 committee is going to touch on is the fact of, what exactly is Junior Hockey. If you talk to a lot of the staff they believe that Junior Hockey is the USHL or NHL which is a competitive level of Juniors for a stepping stone. You talk to the Tier III guys and they believe it's more of an age classification. It is for that 18, 19 or 20-year-old that isn't really ready to stop playing, but you really don't want to put that 18-year-old and an adult league where there's beer already. So it's more of an age classification to capture those kids. So you need to ask yourself is it more of an age classification or do you consider it more a level of play. Donna believes that is more of where the philosophical questions come in when they talk about Tier III hockey. Then the Junior guys will say that's not really Junior hockey. There are some Tier III operators that are looking at the niche not at D1. They are putting a lot of kids in ACHA and D3. They are just not moving kids until they're ready to go. So the bottom line is, are we looking for age or are we looking for competitiveness. Some of the conversation that was put on by the Youth Council was maybe we are no longer looking at Youth, Juniors and Adult. Instead, maybe we're looking at attracting Tier I and Tier II, and recreational. So basically your tier 1 would be USHL and down, your Tier II would be NA's and down, Tier III would be where you play your Junior recreational. You just really have to start to define what you believe Junior is. If you think it really is the level of the USHL trying to get ready for D1 hockey, then recognize that that's the very cream of the crop for 17, 18, 19. So, are we looking for the cream or everyone in that classification.

- Greg Yochum asked where would we put these teams that can support a \$1 or \$2 million budget. He believes that that's the biggest issue. If you are going to have these teams you have to be able to sell the tickets. The reality is we couldn't even look at this for next year, perhaps the following. Kris stated that perhaps the committee needs to decide are we happy not having Juniors, and can we support them cradle-to-grave. Donna commented that this is really going to be interesting, because if it's decided it really is an age classification then the Tier III guys will all fall underneath the Affiliate Presidents as a 20 and under group. So does that fit with the Youth side or the Junior side. So there is going to be a lot of discussion on this. Regardless, we should have something from this District to understand what that might mean to everybody at this table.
- Donna thinks it's a possibility that we might see a reorganization of all the age groups when it comes to ADM. Kris thinks it really comes to birth years. It is clear that in some affiliates it benefits them, and yet in others it doesn't. He thinks what Jon says is correct, that some things aren't under our control. But probably our focus should be on development and what it takes to keep kids in our District. We need to remember that kids that are 12 and 13 years old do want to stay in the District, instead of being forced to leave home. Maybe that is something that we can have a greater grasp on changing.
- Greg Yochum brought up how quickly the adult section is growing. An example is Oregon. Perhaps we can get someone back on the Adult Council. Donna stated that we used to have someone on the Adult Council. Everyone agreed that that's one place we can start. The other area that Greg is

concerned about is that mites. Is AAU impacting those numbers? As a board we don't think so, because most the Affiliates are still seeing growth at that level. It is true we have lost some players to AAU, however, USA Hockey isn't worried about that, because we believe we have the better program.

- Darryl Thompson stated that why we have concerns about AAU, perhaps we also need to be concerned about NA3. He's just not warm and fuzzy about their programs yet, he's heard feedback that is not positive. His last three guys came back with horror stories about shady guys and shady experiences. Steve Stevens understands, but indicated that many times it just depends on what area you go to because there are some good programs and yet there are some really bad programs. The same seems to run true for AAU.
- So Donna Kauffman recapped this section of the agenda. So far she has Player Development, and a Junior piece. Within those two areas is how do we keep our kids in the District longer. Also, the goal is how to get more involved at the adult level. Darryl Thompson stated that in Alaska they are now expanding efforts at the adult female level. They just have a ton of talented females that have played competitive hockey at both the Tier I and Tier II levels, as well as college hockey. They are just floating around playing in the different women's leagues and not participating in the District. One night Darryl approached them at the Subway rink to see where their interest was. They were very receptive, and said "hey, let's go!" So, at least from an affiliate standpoint, Alaska is going to do what they can to try to get them more involved and perhaps even with adult women's Nationals.
- Donna added that at her rink, they have about 32 hockey moms that are learning to play, and out of that they have developed some very passionate little girls. So the question would be, how do we utilize the women to help grow the program for the younger girls. How do we integrate the two of them. Jon said that in San Jose they do Girls, Give Hockey a Try and try to make sure that the women are a part of that. It has been very successful for them, and their retention rate has been high.
- Some discussion on players that are moving on from the player development camp. Some kids are playing out a state attending prep schools and then the word comes back that they want that player to move on out of the affiliate. That often times puts the president of that affiliate in a bind. Kris stated that he tries to take some of that burden off the affiliates by saying that he gave them an at-large position, but the same thing happens to Kris at the National level. He runs into problems when a kid doesn't want to return back for the affiliate camp and yet the national office wants them for the NTP program. We are always at risk of losing spots if we don't send the right kids. Kris believes that we have made the District camp very competitive, and based on what we're sending the District camp size is okay. We have some other challenges and unfortunately some of them are within our control and some of them are not.
- Donna thanked everyone for their input and indicated that these were some really good discussions to help map the route in our long-range planning. After we all go to Annual Congress we might have a better idea of what they want to do which might help us in finalizing our long-range planning.
- The board decided to take a break instead of going to lunch because there was not much more to discuss. Dinner arrangements were made in the meeting was called back to order by Donna. Next on the agenda was Old Business.

9. **Old Business:**

- Donna reminded Oregon and Nevada that they need to submit their assessment monies. Natalie asked if Donna could remind her as to what those amounts were for. Donna stated that before Charlie left it was \$1,878 for Oregon and \$1,003 for Nevada. Natalie questioned the amount. Donna indicated that she would contact Charlie and verify that information for her. Kris Knauss stated that perhaps that included player development fees. Donna informed the president's that she would send all of them an email that would encompass all the different fees so that they would know where they

were at. Also, Donna reminded everyone that if we get more players there will be additional charges as well. California is going to forward on the information for the District Tournaments, and then we should be good. She went on to state we would do block grants later.

- **Treasurer's Position:** Donna explained that unfortunately Due to the things that had happened, Greg, Dru, and Donna were unable to get together to work on the treasurer position. We didn't really get to do that formally. Greg and the affiliate presidents did talk last night. California had submitted a name, Mark Gray, and he is now their treasurer, so we are now going to pull his name from the slate of candidates. Subsequently, the committee has found a new name, Chris Hays who is here today. Donna will provide Chris some time to talk a little bit about who he is and what he does. The other candidate is Gloria Leo from Oregon. Her information has already been submitted to everyone and we had a little bit of time to talk to her back in October. Chris Hays introduced himself; he is married to Kelly Hays who is our Disabled Representative for the District. He is a CPA, but what he specializes in is not compromised by tax season. He has been a treasure for other nonprofits including LAHA Hockey. Chris now serves as only an advisor to LAHA Hockey. Kris Knauss shared with Chris that at the Player Development Camp they often need a quick turnaround in the checks being written. This event can be very busy and a big challenge, and Chris just wants him to be aware that. He stated that he wanted to let him know that he appreciates his willingness to step up to this position because it can be very hectic.
- Chris asked if we have a finance committee. Dru Hammond stated that a motion was made at the October meeting that we form that committee. That committee currently consists of Donna Kaufman, Dru Hammond, and Greg Yochum. Donna indicated with the long-range planning there may be some changes on how we have to handle things as well. Donna indicated that this committee is going to be meeting to make sure we have some checks and balances in place. The finance committee will come up with the policy of the structure for how decisions are made and who can have decisions to make them.
- Donna stated that we've already been able to talk to Gloria and now we have talked to Chris and these are two candidates for the position of treasurer. ***Kris Knauss motion [that Chris Hays be appointed to the position of treasurer]***, seconded by Jon Gustafson. Discussion. Purchasing QuickBooks online seems to be the best idea for transparency for the District, Greg Yochum as a committee member is good with that. Motion passed. Chris was invited back in and congratulated on his new appointment.

10. New business

- Steve Laing announced that the presidents had met last night absent Gordon Brown. The group discussed block grant funding for this season. After some discussion on budgeting and income for the District the presidents moved forward and approved a 10% allotment for the District that totals \$13,500 which is in line with past practice. This breaks down to about \$2,500 Alaska, \$7,500 California, \$370 Nevada, \$640 Oregon, and \$2,500 Washington. The presidents are asking that that money be put into the District general account to allow for travel expenses for affiliate presidents, directors and disabled at District events.
- At this point Steve announced he would like to make several motions regarding the budget for the board's approval. Donna Kaufman directed the group to Charlie's February report (General Funds) so that everyone would understand what Steve was talking about. ***Steve Laing motion [to approve \$3,000 from #F "District General Funds" to our CEP Program]***, seconded by Darryl. What this money would allow is for the CEP Program that Larry puts on to provide for travel for those that he brings in for additional help in providing for example a Level IV Clinic on two different dates in two different states. Larry expanded that this to explain it is also a training ground for those folks so they

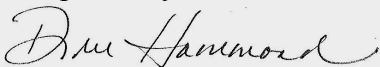
can go perform training at local programs back in their own affiliates. Donna asked if there was any more discussion. Being none, of the motion passed.

- The next motion was in response to Steve Stevens earlier request for the referee clinic for females. **Steve Laing motion, [that up to \$2,250 be allocated to fund the females \$150 a piece for the camp]**, seconded by Darryl. That money will come from lying item number B, Girls Development Camp for the girls' referees. Motion passed. Steve Stevens expressed his appreciation.
- The next motion that Steve is going to present would be coming out of the \$13,500 that the affiliate presidents just gave to the District. The current balance in the disabled program is \$1,566. **Steve Laing motion [that out of the \$13,500 that \$4000 be allocated to disabled. The remainder (\$9,500) would stay in the General Fund to offset travel expenses for directors and presidents to attend our District events, i.e. our camps, etc.]** second by Jon Gustafson. Kelly asked if that would cover her two sled clinics. Donna indicated she would still have about \$1,500 is left on the budget for this year that is unspent. Another alternative would be unallocated block grant funds if she needs more money. So Donna explained that if between now and August she needs more than the \$1500 then she can come to the Board of Directors and ask for discretionary money out of the general funds that has not been spent. Motion passed.
- Steve Laing announced the winners of the Anderson awards. The Andy Anderson Award for an outstanding administrator is going to Annetta Powel from Alaska. The Dempsey Anderson award for an outstanding coach in the District goes to Rob Profitt, also from Alaska. Finally, the Pete Anderson outstanding referee in the District award is being presented to Erik Nyberg from Oregon. Steve stated that trophies will be ordered by Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.
- They talked about the upcoming National events for 2016. The U14 youth will be in Anchorage, Alaska. The U16 and U 18 youth will be in San Jose, California. So we are looking for a good show from this board at both of those events. And we need to start planning sometime this year on the 2017 Sled Festival. They also talked about the District camps; the Western Regionals High-Performance, the Sled camps, youth camps, and girls' camps. There wasn't much discussion on that, everybody seems to be pretty happy about the way things are going. They held the roundtable afterwards. Steve met with Donna Kaufman this morning about previous expenses and that is all taken care of. They also discussed last night about the two items that will be coming up on the agenda next. It was a good meeting. Steve also indicated that he was reelected as chair of the member presidents.
- Since Steve is the chair of the member presidents, Donna asked if he wanted to talk about the logo. Everyone is not satisfied with the current logo that we have, it has been suggested that we create a new logo. A couple years ago Steve brought in three logos for consideration. He actually kept the logos. Donna suggested that he email the logos to everyone and take an electronic vote as to which ones they like. Kris Knauss also had some ideas for logos, and would submit them as well. For clarification, Donna explained to the group that the logos would be sent by email to everyone. Once you decide which logo you prefer you can email a response back to Steve. We will then have a new logo, and some will be put in charge of giving this some new clothes. Keep in mind when deciding on a logo, that you can make modifications to the colors and/or other suggestions of improvement. It is just as does sign concept and I welcome any suggestions. Donna indicated that this is February 7, so by March 7 we should have a new logo. Just remember we need to get moving on this because we will need to purchase new metals for the tournaments for next year. Kris reminded everyone that no matter what local you like keep in mind that logo needs to go on clothing and on metals. Not all logos and lend themselves to all applications.
- Donna stated that this takes us into the next topic, which is the website. With the new logo and new branding, long-range planning, who are we and what we want to do, freshen it all up, it is time to

focus on things like the website. Donna turned the subject of website over to Kris. He stated that our current website is fine, it does the job, but there are some challenges with it. He has spoke to some of the guys and he has concerns that on some of the pages there are certain restrictions for putting things on the site. He wants to add more pictures to the site. Part of the challenges seem to be the ease of doing different things. He would like to look at different options. CAHA has good success with its site and companion app. He would just like to see the site come into a little bit of more modern times. He just thinks to go along with our long range planning that we should have more updated look and a more updated feel. He doesn't know if anyone agrees or disagrees, but he thinks it is worth the discussion. Donna asked how we move from here to there. She asked what direction he wants to go in the response was that he just wanted to move forward. Kris likes the CAHA site. Steve Laing stated that his website person would be happy to create for Pacific District. Steve stated that his person wanted to know what we paid to have this website done and what we pay monthly. Steve stated that he budgeted \$1500 to create the website and maintain it in California and he was never billed. He will also create an app. Donna asked Dru if she knew what the cost of our website was, her response was she thought it was close to \$400 a-year. Steve asked what the \$400 covers and Dru responded everything. That covers the template and there are no monthly payments. Donna asked if the intent was for him to maintain the site as well. What would happen is he would create the website for us and then we would need somebody here that would put in the daily information, attachments, cut-and-paste, whatever we want done to it. Anytime we want any changes, modifications, or add-ons to the website he will do that for you. If there are large programs you want linked to the database, he has no problems taking care of that. It's just a matter of a few minutes to move things and put them in different places. California has a person that handles all his everyday stuff. He post stuff to the website does this and that. Kris asked what they pay his webmaster and Steve responded nothing. Today he hasn't built California, but Steve thinks that has more to do with the fact that he's heavily involved in California hockey. ***Jon Gustafson motion [that we reach out to Chris and have him provide us with a hard quote so we can review it]*** second by Darryl Thompson. Some discussion. Kris Knauss just wants to make it more of a resource to parents, players, and coaches, referees. Motion passed.

- Jon Gustafson took over running the meeting so we could elect the chair. ***Kris Knauss motion [to nominate Donna Kaufman as the chairman]***, second by Steve Laing. No discussion. Motion passed.
- Donna announced that the next Pacific district board meeting would be May 16, 2015. She asked if we want to hold the meeting somewhere else other than Seattle. It was decided that the meeting would indeed be held in Seattle.
- Donna stated that one of the things that she picks up from visiting other organizations are some new and different things. When visiting Alaska, they have a section called correspondence. She announced that we do indeed have some correspondence. We have received a letter from Planet Ice Sports thanking the District for the goalie equipment that was awarded to Klamath Oregon Ice Sports.
- Brief round table. Chris Hays thanked everyone for their support, Steve Stevens also thanked everyone for approving the female referee stipend, Larry noticed he needs to add a coaching contact to the site and will get with Dru.
- At 1:05 p.m. Kris Knauss motion [to adjourn], second by Natalie McEwen.

Respectively submitted,



Dru Hammond