



Pacific District Board Teleconference Meeting

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

6:30 pm PST

Present

Gord Brown
Dru Hammond
Donna Kaufman
Kris Knauss
Steve Laing
Natalie McEwan
Lisa McPheters
Darryl Thompson
Greg Yochum

Not Present

Wendy Goldstein
Jon Gustafson
Steve Stevens

At 5:30 pm, District Chairperson Donna Kaufman called for roll call to establish a quorum. Secretary McPheters conducted the roll call with 6 voting board members present, joined shortly by Director Knauss to establish a quorum.

Item 1. PNAHA's request on behalf of Kent Valley 16U Tier I team wanting to withdraw from the District Tier I Tournament.

PNAHA President, Gord Brown gave background summary. At the October 2015 board meeting PNAHA requested two teams move forward to the District Tournament. Kent Valley thought their 16U Tier I team would get players cut from the local junior teams, which would make them more competitive. This did not happen and the team is weak. At the January PNAHA board meeting, the board voted to have President Brown request that the Kent Valley 16U Tier I team be allowed to drop out of the District tournament, based on the fact that they are not a competitive team. If they were allowed to drop out, what, if anything, would the sanctions be?

PNAHA President Brown motioned to allow the Kent 16U Tier I team to be excused from participation in the District tournament. District Director Knauss seconded the motion.

Alaska President, Darryl Thompson spoke against allowing this as it sets a terrible precedent. Once a team declares themselves a Tier I team with the intent of participating at the District tournament, they need to fully plan on participating. Teams need to make better decisions prior to making their tier declaration.

District Director Kris Knauss concurred that once teams declare, it sets a bad example to allow them to pull out. The district needs to be consistent with the message given back to teams who want to pull out. Director Knauss stated that the district needs to ensure that our most competitive teams are competing for our District's championship games. Is October too early for declarations to be made? The board needs to discuss this for the future.

District Chairperson Donna Kaufman, who is also the District Tournament Director, said that allowing the Kent Valley team to pull out would create a 7-team tournament, with 4 teams from CAHA, 2 teams from ASHA and 1 team from PNAHA. Seven team tournaments are a challenge to create an even playing environment for all teams. Director Kaufman does not think it's appropriate to allow a team to not come due to the strength of the team. This has not been allowed in the past, and any past sanctions have been strong. Believes the Kent team needs to attend and represent as well as they can.

Nevada President Greg Yochum stated that a 7-team tournament doesn't make sense. Agrees with Director Knauss that the District needs to review the process of Tier teams declaring.

District Director Dru Hammond said that a 7 team tournament does not work and that a team should not be allowed to pull out of the District tournament based solely on performance.

Oregon President Natalie McEwan concurred that a team cannot change their mind about participating because they don't have a winning record.

Chairperson Kaufman called for a Vote, specifying that a Yes vote would allow the Kent Valley 16U Tier I team to pull out of the District tournament. PNAHA President Brown stated that PNAHA abstained. There were zero Yes votes; the motion did not carry.

PNAHA President Gord Brown had a follow up question as to the consequence/sanction should the Kent Valley 16 Tier I team elect to disregard the board's decision and not attend the District tournament. At this time, a team would be directed to the Pacific District Guidebook, page 38, paragraph 8 (online guidebook, page 39, paragraph #8) for sanction guidelines.

Item 2. 4-man Referee System for 16U & 18U District Tournament Games.

Director Kaufman said that a 4-man referee system will be used at Nationals for all 16U & 18U Tier I games. Do we want to have the same referee system in place at Districts? Presently the cost for a 3-man system is \$180.00, a 4-man system is \$250.00 or \$70 more per game. 16U/18U Districts are a total of 22 games X \$70 for a total cost of \$1,540.00.

Director Hammond made a motion to approve the 4-man referee system and additional cost; Nevada President Yochum seconded the motion.

Discussion:

A 4-man system was used last year at High School Nationals and the feedback was that it was clumsy. In part because this was the first time it was used. However they are going forward with using it again this year.

District RIC Steve Stevens was not on the teleconference but asked Director Kaufman to include this on the agenda and was in support of it.

Nevada President Yochum said he thought it is important to keep both the National Tournament and District Tournament consistent in any way possible. If the cost to go to a 4-man referee system is \$1,540.00 then this would be the right direction to go in.

Director Knauss said he spoke with Alaska's RIC Eric Simmons, who worked one of the national tournaments last year. RIC Simmons is in support of using the 4-man system.

California President Laing prefers to use it to keep District consistent with Nationals.

Director Kaufman called for a vote with a Yes vote meaning the District would implement a 4-man referee system at Districts and cover the additional expense. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Update on Hawaii events

California President, Steve Laing stated that the Sled Hockey Event will be Sunday morning, February 14th. Registration will begin at 7:30 am, and help will be needed with this. Additionally, help will be needed putting together the sleds and assisting the disabled people to get into the sleds. Any one wishing to help out on ice are welcome, and bring your skates.

Sunday's event should be 2 full hours on the ice.

Director Kaufman suggested that perhaps we could put the sleds together on Friday afternoon, prior to the dinner meetings.

President Dinner will be on Friday – if any affiliate president can not be there on Friday please advise Steve.

Directors Dinner will also be on Friday – Donna is setting up.

Director Kaufman is meeting with an Adult hockey group on Friday afternoon, February 12th. Director Hammond said that she would attend this meeting.

Full board meeting is on Saturday, February 13th.

Medals for the District tournament are changing to incorporate the new District logo, and medallions are being made to give out at the February 14th Sled Hockey Event.

Director Laing said he was having tee shirts made and other than white, people would like black tee shirts.

Alaska President Thompson made a motion to adjourn; Director Hammond seconded.