



**2018 USA Hockey
Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday ~ May 19, 2018
9:00 A.M. ~ 5:00 P.M. A.S.T.
Kuskokwim Room
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel

Present

Jaime Campbell
Flint Doungchak
Wendy Goldstein
Thomas Hancock
Chris Hays
Kellie Hays
Greg Johnson
Donna Kaufman
Kris Knauss
Steve Laing
Lisa McPheters
Eric Simmons
Steve Stevens
Lester Sparks
Darryl Thompson
Steve Thompson
Rick Trupp

Absent

Jon Gustafson
Dru Hammond
John Silberstein
Scott Zucker

Minutes

Call to Order

Kris Knauss

Chairman Knauss called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll call was taken, attendance reflected above.

Persons to be heard

Kris Knauss

Chairman Knauss asked if there were any persons to be heard, and advised that they would have a 5 minute time limit to speak. Cristy Hickel was present and spoke with regards to Girls/Womens Hockey and how important it is and how much she supports it.

Approval of Agenda

Kris Knauss

Kris Knauss said he would like to move the review of the 2018-19 budget up to item #6, prior to reports, on the agenda. Thomas Hancock motioned to approve this action; Lester Sparks seconded the motion and it was approved with no abstentions.

Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the agenda with this change. Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Approval of February 3, 2018 Minutes

Lisa McPheters

Thomas Hancock motioned to approve the February 3, 2018 minutes as written. Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Motion carried with no abstentions.

Finance Committee

Donna Kaufman

We have determined that we need to change our budgeting process and have a MOU with the camp that we put on. We will be discussing the MOU later. Discussed expense reports. In February we implemented that expense reports are to be turned in by event. This seems to be going well. Beginning with the 2018.19 season, our treasurer will be reimbursing all expenses, and this should streamline the process. QuickBooks online, we are not quiet there yet, but if we decide to go that direction we will need to start in September.

Our bylaws provide a mechanism on how our district gets its funding which is through player assessments. Currently that assessment is \$1.00 for each registered player. This assessment can be increased by the board of directors based on needs of the corporation. (See Pacific District Guidebook page 63) At this time I would ask the board to consider an increase from \$1.00 to \$2.00 for each registered player. Thomas Hancock motioned to approve said increase; Steve Laing seconded the motion.

Donna opened the floor for discussion and addressed that for years, the Directors expenses of approximately \$43,000 have been paid for by USA Hockey, not the district. USA Hockey advised about a year ago, that the district would need to become self sufficient. In our budget review process, we have identified some expenses that could be eliminated, but we are still looking at roughly \$40,000 in expenses. The only way to cover this is through a membership increase. Without it, we will need to cut programs throughout the district, which is not a viable option.

Kris Knauss added that the district membership has grown to 50,000 members, which requires more financial support to be able to continue to provide the quality of service that we do. Additionally, USA Hockey is pushing back to our district with programs they want us to provide, such as the Goaltending Development Camp and Player Safety. All of our rolls are growing alongside the district growth.

Thomas Hancock said that he philosophically disagrees with ideas of any cuts to programs or services. He really likes the implementation of the Goaltending Development Camp and what it provides to the goalies and programs within the Pacific District. If our only options are to increase the membership fee or cut programs, the choice is clear that we have to implement the increase.

Darryl Thompson said that he agrees that services and programs should not be cut, but that had the topic of a fee increase been discussed at the February board meeting, that would have enabled him to go back to the Alaska Affiliate Board and presented the proposed increase to them. It is their money, not his, that we are talking about increasing.

Donna Kaufman said that the board has been discussing a membership fee increase for over a year now. At the February meeting, she said that we all knew there was a requirement for a fee increase, but it was not clear on the required amount, as she had not yet worked through the budget in its entirety. If there was confusion on that, she apologized, but she felt it was clear that some amount of membership fee increase would be required.

Rick Trupp asked if there was any other way for the district to get additional funding, i.e. grants, etc. Kris Knauss said that the Affiliate Presidents have stepped up in a big way to support the GDC event financially, but we at this juncture in large part because the National Office is no longer going to support the way in which we have done business. Of the 12 districts in USA Hockey, there are only 3 that have been doing business this way, and USA Hockey is now requiring those 3 districts to be self-sufficient.

Chairman Knauss asked if there was any further discussion. Being no further discussion and with the motion on the table to increase the membership fee from \$1.00 to \$2.00, Kris asked Lisa to call the roll for voting:

Kris Knauss – Yes
Donna Kaufman – Yes
Steve Laing – Yes

Darryl Thompson - No
Thomas Hancock – Yes
Lester Sparks - Yes

Motion carried 5 to 1. *(Please note that Dru Hammond was not in attendance.)*

Donna Kaufman turned the floor over to Chris Hays to review the 2018-19 budget.

Chris provided printed copies of the budget for all (attached). Items to note include:

- On the Balance Sheet \$50,000 in player assessment fees and \$18,000 in tournament fees. These are receivables still to come in.
- Boys Player Development Camp, currently reflecting \$170,000 Revenue with \$157,000 expenses. When all expenses are in, the camp may provide revenue of approximately \$5,000.
- New this year is the Girls Development Showcase, reflecting \$16,380 Revenue with \$12,104 in expenses. Expecting \$4,000 in additional expenses so this will be a break even event.
- Bobby Freeland Grants – have paid out \$17,500 this year. The most we've ever paid out. That being said, we budget for \$20,000.
- Chris asked for guidance on when he should invoice the Affiliates for the Block Grant monies. Discussion ensued and it was determined that the Affiliate Presidents' decide how the Block Grant money will be utilized at the February board meeting. Based on that, Chris can invoice the affiliates following the February board meeting.

Donna Kaufman addressed the proposed budget for the 2018-19 season as recommended by the Finance Committee:

- Firstly they applied the Affiliate Block Grant monies as determined by the Affiliate Presidents – 50% to GDC; 25% to Player Development; 25% to Growth Programs.
- Disabled Budget reduced from \$10,300 to \$9,000.
- With the majority of the work established, Player Safety Budget reduced from \$6,500 to \$3,000.
- Added District Meeting Expenses, which are required, to the budget for expenses of approximately \$31,000.
- Other event travel (one off kinds of travel, i.e. funeral attendance, etc.) remained the same.
- Slight increase for USA Hockey Meetings of \$4,000 to cover car rentals, etc. that USAH will no longer cover.

Donna Kaufman motioned for approval the 2018-19 Budget as proposed for the Pacific District, September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Donna thanked the Finance Committee for all their hard work on putting the 2018-19 budget together.

Donna Kaufman motioned that funds be collected as follows:

- On September 30th, collect player assessment fees and block grant money;
- On December 31st, collect tournament fees and player development fees;
- On April 30th, collect the balance of the player assessment fees;

to provide a structured time frame for collection and operational money for the district. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and it was recommend that invoices be sent to both the Affiliate President and Affiliate Treasurer so that the Affiliate Presidents are aware of what is being invoiced and when it gets paid. Motion carries with no abstentions.

Donna Kaufman stated that USA Hockey likes expense reports to be submitted for an entire event, in one submission. The finance committee believes that the District adhere to this same policy and Donna motioned that all District Director expenses will be sent to the Pacific District Treasurer, report organized on a monthly basis, organized by events and shall be copied to all the USA Hockey Pacific District Directors. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and it was established that all expense reports for all pacific district personnel will be sent to the Pacific District Treasurer on a monthly basis, organized by events and ALL voting directors of the Pacific District Board will be copied on them. Motion carried with no abstentions.

Chairman's Report

Kris Knauss

Chairman Knauss thanked everyone for making the trip to Alaska. Gives you a little bit of the flavor of our State and better understanding of what it means for us Alaskans to travel out of state for meetings. When we get to the

budget, you will see that part of the budget process is to change our meeting structure to the May meeting taking place at Annual Congress in early June. Everyone would arrive a day early; we'd have our meeting on Wednesday. This would be a great cost savings for the Pacific District. Darryl Thompson motioned to pass this revised meeting structure and Lester Sparks seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously, with no abstentions.

I have also brought with me a handout reflecting Affiliate fees per player throughout USA Hockey. Please take one of these handouts and review it.

This year I directed the 40-man camp for USA Hockey. There were two Alaska kids present at the camp of 48 players. Was a great experience all the way around. My expenses were picked up by the NTDP. The skill level is down from the prior year. The challenge USA Hockey is going through is the major junior fight. All players selected by USA Hockey for the NTDP teams sign a two-year contract that contains a \$60,000 buy out clause.

We have been discussing an increase in the membership rates for 1.5 years. In February, we tabled the decision until we could see a true picture of our budget and what exactly the national office was doing to us. From a volunteer standpoint, Wendy's workload may have just gotten a little easier and Chris Hays workload doubled.

CIC Report

Flint DOUNGCHAK & Rick TRUPP

Rick Trupp reported on Alaska. Will be holding a Level 4 Coaching Clinic in Fairbanks, Alaska on August 18 & 19, 2018. Working towards standardizing the on ice activity for all coaching clinics. Will be doing some instructor training throughout the summer, and working with Kodiak and Juneau to develop instructors in their specific areas. I want to see Alaska tie in more with Steve Thompson and Goalie Development Education. Lastly, I am hoping with two new Division 1 College Coaches in Alaska we can get them and their staff more involved with our programs.

Fling DOUNGCHAK provided a written report (attached). Level four clinic dates and locations have been set. We will be doing a full-fledged NARS at the Red Rock in Las Vegas in September 6-9, 2018. Will be posted as a Level 4 clinic, but it is a NARS event. Second Level 4 will be in Spokane at Eastern Washington University September 21-23, 2018. Supporting our northern portion of our district as well as opens the market to Idaho and Western Montana. Instructor training will be most likely the third weekend in July in the Los Angeles area. Clinic surveys will be sent to coaches following a clinic. That survey will be forwarded to us so we can determine if we are providing the proper training to our coaches. New manager of CEP's is Brent Sidel. He's a Spokane native and comes from our district. Flint asked Steve Thompson to discuss the Goaltending Education that's being rolled out. Steve said they would be certifying coaches for goaltending education through a goaltending clinic:

- Bronze Certification for Level 1 & 2 coaches
- Silver Certification for Level 3 & 4 coaches
- Gold Certification for Level 5 coaches

Within the Pacific District, Steve would like to see all coaches start out at the Bronze certification. Lots of information to be distributed and district wide, our coaches are not as versed in goaltending instruction as in other areas of the country. Within the district there needs to be a goaltending clinic offered prior to the start of the season so that all coaches have an opportunity to get the training prior to the start of the season.

RIC Report

Steve STEVENS & Eric SIMMONS

Steve Stevens said that the Pacific District officials covered 73 district games and overall it went fairly smooth. We were slightly over budget on travel, and that just depends on where the district tournaments are as to expense. Disabled festival – 4 people went. Was able to pay for some of their expenses from the referee funds. Very well represented at USA Hockey Nationals. We had quite a few of our personnel working quarter, semi and championship games. Northern California is going to have three early seminars, to get younger people ready for the season. We would like to see if we can get the registration date for officials changed from August to April. We are hosting a female officiating camp in Tacoma in August 23-26, 2018. It is almost full. Short, intense camp and we have quite a few hockey people coming in to work this class. No specific level, but they get credit for a level 3. Hawaii is working on developing their officials. Believe they now have a total of 19.

Eric Simmons spoke to putting officials from other states on championship games. So if California is playing Washington, we were able to place Alaska officials on those games. Did not hear any specific grumblings about Districts. Going to wait to see how the early seminars go around the district before doing any early seminars in Alaska. June and July finds Alaskans doing a lot of other activities then hockey. Fairbanks is having some internal strife. Younger upcoming officials that want to have things done differently then what has happened in the past. Both sides have good points and I need to spend additional time in Fairbanks to work on getting things resolved. Mentorship program is in its third year and it's been amazing. We have a 300% increase in retention at that age level. Darryl Thompson would like to see a point of emphasis from the officials with respect to goaltender slashing. How can we get this to happen? Eric Simmons said bring it up to me and I will make it a point of emphasis for all of our seminars.

Registrar's Report

Wendy Goldstein

Numbers are up a little over 5% as a district. Unclaimed players, which is a point of emphasis. Players need to get claimed so we know who our players are playing for. Insurance claims cannot be processed unless we know whom they are playing for. Need to improve on that. Usually unclaimed players are adult players. We have 521 different combinations of team designations within our district. We are trying to condense this number and make our teams more alike than different.

Reminder - everyone needs to do their 2018.19 USA Hockey Registration, as well as background screening within their home state and their SafeSport.

Disabled Section (written report attached)

Kellie Hays

Kellie provided us a slide presentation of the Disabled Festival. Weekend was a celebration for special, blind, warrior and deaf hockey. Challenge Alaska Warrior team placed as runner up in their division. Two athletes in our district, one from Seattle and one from Southern California made the National Blind Hockey Team. Weekend two focus on sled hockey and we had representation from the San Jose Sharks Adult Program, San Diego Adult Program, Sno-Kings, Jr. Kings and Alaska Challenge. Both the Jr. Kings Sled and San Diego Sled placed runner-up in their divisions. Next year's festival is in Tampa, Florida, again over two weekends. In October 4-7, 2018 the USA Hockey Disabled workshop is going to return to Las Vegas in conjunction with the NHL Warrior Classic, more information to follow. I also forwarded to everyone Jeff Dick's write up on behalf of Alaska Challenge and their three teams participation at the Festival and wanted me to be sure to express their appreciation to everyone for their support. A lot of growth in Disabled Hockey in Las Vegas, with several events planned for the summer.

Bobby Freeland Grants

Lester Sparks

We had applications from seven associations this year and granted \$17,500 of the \$20,000 we had allotted for Bobby Freeland Grants. I am in the process of getting back to the seven associations and getting their documentation for the grants given. For next year, we have reduced our budget to \$12,500, and I already have one request in my hands.

Player Safety/Concussion

Jaime Campbell

Jamie provided an overview of the Player Safety Position as a Pilot position this season within the Pacific District. For USA Hockey, their goals or focus for the 2017-18 year were to

- Pilot this Player Safety Position
- The Players Health Pilot Program in Nevada
- Create a more stringent Concussion Protocol on a national basis
- To see defibrillators in every rink within the US.

Believe we have successfully created a district wide concussion protocol, providing forms and education for every state ensuring compliance with each state's legislative laws. Moving forward for the 2018-19 season, the national office's focus is

- An Athlete Injury Management Program
- National Concussion Protocol
- Implementation nationwide of a Concussion Awareness Statement signed at time a person registers for membership with USA Hockey.

My primary work this summer will be to establish a Concussion Champion Protocol. The Official's organization/referees will need to ensure their officials are receiving proper concussion education. We will be changing "Concussion Chronicles" to "Player Safety Planet" as I've come to realize that throughout the world, organizations are working on player safety in all capacities and there is much information to share and educate our membership on player safety.

Doc Stewart's next focus will be on RTP – Return to Play, and the formation of a National Return to Play Protocol within USA Hockey. The protocol dictates what we can and can not do, it is no longer just an acknowledgement or guide.

Lastly, I worked on the Player Health Pilot Program within Nevada this season. For USA Hockey, the biggest value is to create a database of our general membership to track athlete injuries and recoveries. This program brings tremendous value to the athlete, parent, coach, team manager, administrator in measuring a player's health and mental wellness. We worked extensively with Planet Health to assess and develop the right information to track. If you are interested in exploring a relationship with Planet Health, please check the information provided on the Pacific District website.

Affiliate Presidents' Reports

Alaska (Darryl Thompson) – I don't have much to report. We did implement a 10U Half Ice Pilot program for the 2018.19 season. Six games per season and the Affiliate will help fund some jamborees. Question was asked what the main points of opposition were to 10U Half Ice. Darryl stated that one area of opposition came from the officials if Joe Barth was in the room. Felt the half ice concept did not provide a good training ground for new or young referees. However, Eric Simmons has been much more positive and supportive about the concept of half-ice and the value to younger officials. Darryl said the big push back was logistics, logistics, logistics. Coaches and organizations did not want to be told what to do, and didn't feel their 10U player would develop as half ice is not real hockey. Biggest push back seemed to come from coaches who had their own kids at that age level playing, and they wanted their kids on full ice, and weren't interested in trying or learning the advantages to half-ice hockey.

California (Thomas Hancock) – New for us is the adoption of non-national bound high school divisions to replace the 18A & 16A divisions that have all but disappeared due to the high school leagues. We are now up to 100 high school teams in the state, with 20 of them being pure high school teams. This season we implemented a Tier II evaluation process to flight our Tier II teams. We mandated that Tier II teams had to participate over Labor Day weekend in San Jose to be evaluated and placed within our league structure. We had a team of 8 evaluators making recommendations. Most teams/coaches were accepting of the process, which gave them a clearer picture of how they measured up within the Tier II competition. The idea of this was very contentious in the beginning, and we had to come up with some specific structuring to get all associations to buy into it. I believe it was an overwhelming success, with much better competition for the players.

Oregon (Lester Sparks) – Administratively, I was re-elected for two more years. We are wrapping up our bylaws and rules and regulations. We've not had any since 2008. We will be 10U Half-ice throughout our state, including our travel team. We are looking to have an actual league at 14U and above this year, and having teams within the state play each other. Continue to build upon the successes of this year, and looking ahead 3 years hope to have a Tier II league with 2 to 4 teams, and hopefully in 4 or 5 years a state-wide Tier 1 team. We had four girls participate in the High School Girls Showcase, and all four of them got scouted with two of them apparently receiving D1 offers. The goaltender from Bend, Oregon was selected as goaltender of the tournament. Pretty awesome experience for them and Oregon is very proud of them.

USA Hockey Reports

Youth Council

Donna Kaufman

National Tournament Guidebook Proposed Changes

- Girls Tier 1 will be treated like the Youth Tier 1 and the tournaments will be non-host tournaments.
- Girls Tier II 16 team tournament this year instead of 12 teams; some conversation ensued on how the extra 4 teams were selected. Primarily depended on how a team performed in their district playoff. These tournaments will be non-seeded events.
- Declaration Date for Girls Tier II moved back to November 15th.

- A legislative proposal is being floated to allow, in certain situations, a 12U girl to play at the 14U Tier II only level, up to a maximum of 3 players.
- Host hotels. Must have 3 tiers of hotels - budget, midlevel, and full service. Must hold 12 rooms (Senior women only 6 rooms). Room block open 10 days prior to the tournament. 75% of team member and staff must stay at the hotel for the duration of the tournament. If a team does not comply they will receive a \$5,000 (\$2500 Senior Women) penalty; if a team lives within 100 miles can choose to not stay at a tournament hotel but will have to pay a \$500 fee.
- Medical will require at least one person on site at all times supervising the paperwork and authorizing return to play. Additionally, one medical person per two sheets of ice to address injuries.
- Mid tournament mandatory meeting will no longer occur.
- Sample schedules in book will be changing, only using numbers for Tier 1 tournaments. Tier II tournaments are non-seeded.
- High seed will be home team throughout the entire tournament.
- Keeping Quarterfinals at Tier 1.
- Tier 1 Youth national tournaments will have their mandatory meeting on Tuesday nights, games will start on Wednesday, and championship will be on Monday.
- Going to eliminate the tournament gate fee, replacing it with a tournament fee.

Junior Council

Donna Kaufman

Working with the NAHL on a contract. USHL contract is complete. NCDC is not coming back under USA Hockey.

Legal Council

Steve Laing & Darryl Thompson

Steve stated that back in October 2017, Darryl was placed on committee to review bylaws of the Atlantic District. Because he had a conflict, Steve took Darryl's spot on this committee. The committee recommended some very significant changes in the Atlantic District's Bylaws, making them similar to our district bylaws. The Atlantic District reviewed the proposed changes with their attorney and their board ended up approving and adopting the recommendations. USA Hockey should have a Gender Policy coming out soon.

Darryl stated that a Conflict of Interest Policy is up for adoption at Annual Congress. Should it pass, USA Hockey is recommending that all districts adopt a similar policy.

SafeSport Report

Steve Laing

Between mid-September and mid-December of 2017, there were 27 reports sent to the national office from our district. Out of the 27, two resulted in discipline action. SafeSport falls under the USOC since April 2017. The USOC is posting offenders names and punishment on their website, making it a public record. Bottom line is, if you see a behavior that is wrong, speak up to help prevent inappropriate behavior from occurring.

High School Section

Steve Laing

Our district had four teams participating at High School Nationals – Santa Margarita, CA (Champions), Jsera, CA, St. John Bosco, CA and the Jr. Vegas Golden Knights, NV. 2019 High School Nationals will be March 27-April 3 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Girls Player Development & Girls Section

Greg Johnson

USA Hockey's 18 Select Camp is bringing in 70 girls at the 2001 age level. Our District has two invitees, Dominic Petrie from California and Hannah Hogensen from Alaska. Being invited to the 18's Select Camp is quite an honor and I am real proud of these young ladies. Overall, believes there is better buy in from the players, parents and coaches to the Girls Development Camp process. He and Steve Laing will be reviewing and address the allocations within the district to ensure they are fairly distributed to the affiliates. With regard to Tier II Nationals and the selection process for 4 at-large teams, he believes the Tier II committee is doing a good job.

Our Multi-District – Pacific, Rocky Mountain and Northern Plains - Girls Development Camp has 285 registered players, more than ever before. Coaches and players are reaching out for any open spots, but believe we are full. Was happy to see that USA Hockey added one D and one G spot at the 2003 age level. Our district's overall performance at National Camp has remained pretty steady, performing better at the younger age levels. My

thoughts on the Multi-District Camp, is there is still the elephant in the room with regard to the financials. All of my efforts and requests have gone unheeded and I am now thinking that this needs to be handled at the Director level between the Pacific District and Rocky Mountain District. I have spoken with Geoff Pashkowski and believe he has repeatedly requested the financials from the Rocky Mountain District Treasurer. We have not received the financials for the past three years and there is no transparency. Steve Laing said he would set up a conference call with RMR's and the PD's directors.

Steve Laing spoke on the Girls Showcase. The Pacific District put a team together of 18 girls, 10 from Alaska, 4 from Oregon, 3 from California and 1 from Washington. We had two outstanding coaches, Bobby Long from the Sharks and Brandon Harbour from Alaska. Kellie Hays was our team leader and she was outstanding with the girls. Congratulations to Oregon for the success of your four girl players, in particular for your goaltender to be selected as goaltender of the tournament. Kellie showed photos from the Showcase as a slideshow. We were eliminated from the final round, so we went to a Cardinals baseball game on Sunday. Our goal is to put another team together for the 2019 Showcase.

District Goaltending Development Camp

Lester Sparks & Steve Thompson

Budget is based on 24 players at \$525 per player for total revenue of \$12,600. Expenses, inclusive of all food, swag, travel is at \$12,500, making the camp self-funding. The allocations and schedules are all set. The GDC's have provided a list of goalies to be invited. They struggled a bit on the female side, as some GDC's are unaware of any female goalies at these age levels. This appears to be a challenge on a national basis. Affiliate presidents, please reach out to your programs and encourage them to contact us with any female goalies so we can ensure that the right ones get invited. We are looking for any goaltender that has the potential to move from Youth to College. All district GDC's will be at the camp and we are looking for a speaker that is a Sleep Specialist, to address making naps part of a goalies routine. We are also looking to require that any coach that is present at the GDC Camp has already taken the Goaltending CIC course and earned their Bronze, Silver or Gold level. We need guidance on setting up registration and purchasing items needed for the camp. Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the GDC budget of \$12,600. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried with no abstentions.

Boys Player Development

Kris Knauss

- The 2018 Boys Player Development Camp was good. Our budget was \$202,000 and we are currently in the black. We had a good turn out of scouts, as well as college evaluators. Sharks Ice did a good job, improving over last year with regard to food. We pretty much turned the goaltender selection over to the GDC's this year and believe they did a very good job. I have a list of who made it to the national festival from each age level and will pass it around for review. At the 17s (2001) all allocations were filled and this was our strongest birth year. The 16s (2002) was our weakest birth year and we left several forward spots vacant. The 15s (2003) were okay. Traditionally they are the hardest to select, and we will see how they rank at the next level. A couple years ago, national office limited our goalie allocations to one per age division. This is very frustrating for us as we find that typically we have two goalies per age that we'd like to move forward.
- **Western Regional High Performance Camp MOU.** Bruce Urban and Geoff Pashkowski produced this MOU as we have had concerns over the lack of financial transparency from the Rocky Mountain Treasurer over the years. Flint and I have both reviewed and recommended changes to the MOU, in particular with strengthening the financial accountability aspect as well as the player allocation process. We have also asked that a separate bank account be established solely for the WRHPC, as that money should be kept separate from all other Rocky Mountain District funds. I believe this is a good first step from the Rocky Mountain District. The issue is not with their directors, rather with the person doing their financials. Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the MOU as amended and Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and Thomas Hancock made a friendly amendment to the motion that player allocations per district/affiliate should be driven by the prior year's registration numbers as a starting point, and not just continue status quo. Lester Sparks seconded the friendly amendment. With no further discussion, the friendly amendment carried unanimously. The board then voted on the original motion, which also carried unanimously.
- **2019 Boys Player Development Camp.** Kris stated that he is considering changing both the location and structure of the Boys Player Development Camp. In today's youth hockey world, the players attending this camp are accustomed to traveling on their own. Restructuring camp to allow this, with no hotel oversight, team

leaders, transportation requirements, meal requirements will allow the District to charge a more reasonable fee for attendance. As it stands now, the camp fee at the high end is at \$750 and if we continue with the existing camp structure, the fee will likely be at \$800 for next year. We receive great feedback on this camp and how we run it, but believe we need to take a hard look at the expense of the camp per player. Remember that the camp fee does not include airfare or travel expense to physically get to the camp. Just because the camp has been run as an all-inclusive camp for an extended period of time does not mean we have to continue this pattern. As to moving the camp, I have discussed this with Jon Gustafson, who is not happy with this possibility. The camp has been in San Jose for 5 years now, and I think it is time, in fairness, to give other areas of this district the opportunity to bid on hosting the camp. We don't have a volunteer base in San Jose, everything is paid – scorekeepers, officials, etc. I will have an RFP out to each affiliate prior to Annual Congress. If you have a location interested in hosting, please have them complete the RFP and return it to me. A mandatory requirement is that the rink facility has a minimum of two sheets of ice. Vegas have already provided a rough proposal, which I have made copies of for each of you. We may have to hold a special meeting this summer to determine camp location as contracts have to be arranged for. Waiting to decide until October is probably not in the camp's best interest.

- **Select 17 Process.** It has become evident over the years that at the 17 age level, 50% of the players belong there and 50% do not. This is the most difficult age group to fill, with a fair number of cancellations. I end up using all alternate players and then go beyond that to fill the spots and balance the teams. This year's evaluators discussed this at length and we came away with the recommendation of reducing the number of players from 80 to 40 and structuring a 40-man camp, where a selection committee is formed with members from all Affiliates and the 40 participants are hand selected, eliminating the need for Affiliate Camps at the 17 age level. Steve Thompson and Flint DOUNGCHAK, both present and involved at this year's Player Development Camp, said they believe this is the correct direction to head for this age level. Potentially hold the 17s 40-man camp on a different weekend than the 15s and 16s, which good fix some of the logistical issues discussed earlier. Darryl Thompson asked if this was a development camp or a tryout camp, as we've always maintained that it was more than a tryout, that there's value added to the camp for the bottom 40 players. The discussion around the 17-age level was very good. Thomas Hancock said that perhaps we should consider going from 80 to 60 initially. From the camp director and evaluators view, the bottom line is that the bottom 40 players are not adding any competitive value to the camp at all, which takes away from the top 40 players experience. Kris said he wanted to put this idea out for consideration.

Tournaments Report

Donna Kaufman

- 2018 District Tournament Recap. San Jose did a great job hosting an extremely large, all encompassing District Tournament. Believe that all personnel there did a good job. Rink provided a great atmosphere for the athletes. A suggestion from Jon Gustafson is the creation of a District Tournament Host Handbook, which we will be working on.
- National Tournament Proposed Change. For all national tournaments in all Quarter, Semi and Championship games, the overtime procedure will change to one (1) full overtime period and then a shootout procedure. This will be vetted and voted on at Annual Congress.
- Proposed Format and Team Selection for Girls Districts. A written proposal has been provided (copy attached) to all that would change so Girls District Tournament formats bringing them into alignment with Youth District Tournament formats. This has the potential of not all girls teams being eligible for District play; Affiliates will now have to offer State Tournament Playoffs to determine the Girls team moving forward to Districts. This is due in part to tournament expense, size and competitiveness of teams. Lester Sparks motion to accept the new format and team selection process as written; Thomas Hancock seconds the motion. Discussion commenced. Darryl Thompson asked if this was potentially limiting the number of girls teams getting to attend Districts. Donna Kaufman responded yes, just as we limit the number of youth teams attending Districts. With no further discussion, Kris Knauss called for a vote. The motion passed 4 yeas with Darryl Thompson as a no vote.
- District Tournament fee increase from \$1300 to \$1600. Donna Kaufman proposed the increase to cover the expenses incurred with \$1200 going to the Host, \$150 to Officials and \$250 to the District for travel expenses. Lester Sparks motioned that the fee increase be approved; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Discussion followed that if we are increasing tournament fees, we need to choose wisely as to which District Personnel

travel to which District. With no further discussion, Kris Knauss called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

- Host Provides & Pays for District Hotel Rooms. Donna Kaufman made a motion that the Tournament Host be required to arrange for and pay for 3 rooms for District Personnel at Youth Tournaments and 4 rooms for the Girls Tournaments. Steve Laing seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2019 District Tournament Hosts & Selection
- For 2019, Girls Nationals will be in Anaheim, California. 18U Tier II Nationals will be in San Jose, California. Congratulations to the Lady Lions on winning Womens C at 2018 Nationals.
- Youth District Tournament bids were submitted by Jr. Vegas Golden Knights for 14U and/or 16U/18U; Anchorage Hockey Association for 14U; Anaheim Ducks for any and all levels. Jon Gustafson did say that the San Jose Jr. Sharks would host anything if need be. Discussion ensued and Donna Kaufman proposed a motion that the 14U & 18U Tier I District Tournament be held in Las Vegas with the 15U & 16U held in Anaheim, both tournaments taking place March 7-10, 2019. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Discussion followed with some concerns expressed on adequate Officials personnel for Vegas. Kris Knauss called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Girls District Tournament bids were submitted by Anchorage Hockey Association (AHA) and Seattle Juniors in PNAHA. AHA will be fielding a team at all Tier II levels and Tier I teams at 16U and 19U. Seattle Juniors will likely be fielding teams at 14U and 19U Tier II, possibly 16U Tier II. Darryl Thompson motioned that AHA be awarded the 2019 Girls District Tournament to be held February 28-March 3, 2019. Steve Laing seconded the motion. Discussion was held that this tournament continues to move back and forth between California and Alaska, and Washington is a viable girls market that should be given serious consideration. Kris Knauss called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously. Chairman Knauss stated that the board will need to give deference to other markets for 2020.

New Business

2018.19 District Meetings

- October 13, 2018 – Los Angeles, California. Darryl Thompson motions to approve this date and location; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- February 9, 2019 – Las Vegas, Nevada. Darryl Thompson motions to approve this date and location; Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
 - a) Possibly a Girls Summit to be held on Friday, February 8, 2019. Greg Johnson will keep us advised on this.
- June 5, 2019 – Colorado Spring, Colorado. Lester Sparks motions to approve this date and location; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

District Handbook Changes

Thomas Hancock motioned that the Player Safety & Concussion Pilot Program be extended for one (1) additional year as a pilot program. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Discussion ensued that maintaining it as a pilot program until the district knows USA Hockey's position on it is likely best. Chariman Knauss called for a vote. Motion carried unanimously.

No Executive Session

Adjournment

Steve Laing - good

Darryl Thompson - good

Greg Johnson - good

Thomas Hancock – Would like to thank the host for a job well done.

Wendy Goldstein - good

Lester Sparks – Thank you to the host.

Steve Thompson – Any concerns or feedback on the GDC's, please let me know.

Jamie Campbell – Thanks the board for the opportunity to work with all on player safety/concussion protocol.

Chris Hays – Check your e-mails

Kellie Hays – Thank you for your hospitality and continued support. Really had a blast as team manager for the girls' high school showcase team.

Rick Trupp – good

Steve Stevens – Thanks the board for your support. Thank you Lisa for great accommodations.

Eric Simmons – Alaska High School Championships are earlier than 2019 Girls Districts. Officials will rise to the challenge and make it work.

Flint DOUNGCHAK – Thank you to everyone for your support throughout the year. WRHPC invite to all Directors, Affiliate Presidents to attend. USAH IT person should be finalized in June.

Lisa McPheters – Remind everyone that dinner is at 49th Street Brewing Company with a 5:30 pm reservation.

Kris Knauss – Thank you to Wendy for her administrative work within the district. Lisa will be taking on some of those duties moving forward. Thank you everyone for coming and see you at dinner tonight.