



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

Saturday ~ October 13, 2018  
9:00 A.M. ~ 5:00 P.M. P.S.T.  
Manhattan Room  
Doubletree Hotel El Segundo

**Present**

Flint DOUNGCHAK  
Wendy Goldstein  
Dru Hammond  
Thomas Hancock  
Chris Hays  
Kellie Hays  
Kris Knauss  
Steve Laing  
Kathy McGarrigle  
Lisa McPheters  
Eric Simmons  
Steve Stevens  
Lester Sparks  
Darryl Thompson  
Rick Trupp  
Scott Zucker

**Not Present**

Jaime Campbell  
Jon Gustafson  
John Silberstein  
Steve Thompson

**USA Hockey Guests**

Donna Kaufman  
Ken Martel

---

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Knauss called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll call was taken, attendance reflected above. Kris welcomed Flint in his new role as a District Director. USA Hockey approved the appointment.

**Persons To Be Heard**

Junior Council Chair Donna Kaufman reported on the shape of Junior Hockey within the United States. Working on contract with NAHL presently. Will then turn attention to the Tier III leagues. Kris Knauss welcomed Donna in her new role.

**Approval of Agenda**

Kris Knauss requested approval of the agenda as is. Lester Sparks motioned to approve; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion; motion passed with no abstentions.

**Approval of May 19, 2018 Minutes & July 1, 2018 Teleconference Minutes**

Lisa McPheters requested approval of the May 19, 2018 minutes and July 1, 2018 Teleconference minutes as written. Dru Hammond motioned to approve; Lester Sparks seconded the motion; motion passed with no abstentions.

### **Finance Committee Chair Appointment**

Kris Knauss stated the need to appoint a new finance committee chair now that Donna was no longer a Pacific District Director. Darryl Thompson moved to appoint Flint DOUNGCHAK as Finance Committee Chair. Scott Zucker seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

### **Chairman's Report**

Kris Knauss welcomed everyone to the meeting. Said that the 2018/19 season is ramping up and we have a number of people in new roles. Kris thanks Ken Martel for what he is doing in California. The number of model clubs is up and we have done a fantastic job growing the market throughout the district. The goaltending development camp went really well. For a "start from scratch" experience, Kris felt it was done well for the first year. National tournaments have been awarded to San Jose for the 14U Tier I Division for 2020 and the Anaheim Jr. Ducks 18U Tier II for 2020. Great news for our District.

### **Financial Report**

Chris Hays provided a detail written report to the board. Fiscal Year End is August 31, 2018. Documents distributed show how we did over the year. Will be invoicing for the 2018/19 season with the updated rates. All self-funding programs have done well. All Director expenses will now be under the Pacific District. For 2018/19 will be setting up financials with QuickBooks online.

### **District CIC Report**

Flint DOUNGCHAK reported that the Level 4 Clinics Vegas Directors and Administrators Course in general, was enormously successful with 70 attendees. The agenda included speakers from the District, the National Office, the Aspen Institute, and a model club in Kalamazoo Michigan. An extra thanks to Joe Bonnett and Kevin McLaughlin, both of whom supported the event with significant time and resources. (Additional information is in my written report.)

The following weekend we held a Level 4 in Spokane, which was hosted by SAYHA and covered Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and Bronze Clinics. The traditional Level 4 took place over 3 days (2.5 days of classroom time). Instructors included Joe Bonnett, Jamie Sawchuck, Mark Tabrum, Steve Thompson and myself. We did adapt the format to include an on-ice portion. The Level 1 and Level 2 clinics were on Saturday and the Level 3 and Bronze Goalie Clinic were on Sunday, that same weekend, and we utilized the combined resources of the weekend, including PNAHA Goaltending Coordinators Mike Landry and Darin Campbell.

For logistical reasons, it's been determined for the Bronze Goalie Clinic Structure that all Bronze clinics will now take place during Level 3s in our District.

Search is underway for a new District CIC, but a candidate has not yet been identified.

### **Alaska CIC Report**

Rick Trupp reported that Alaska held a Level 4 clinic during Aug 18-19 in Fairbanks, Alaska. Kirk Kullberg, ASHA's ADM coordinator, Wiley Rogers, ASHA's goalie co-coordinator, presented as well as, the new UAF coaching staff and local Alaska presenters. All other clinics are well underway for this fall in the state. Alaska will be holding Bronze Goalie clinics in Anchorage on Oct 20 and in Fairbanks on Nov 17. Alaska is planning a High Performance clinic during the April 19-21, 2019 Alaska Boys Development Camp.

Looking at the big picture with respect to the embracing and delivery of the American Development Model in Alaska, we are showing positive growth. Walking into rinks in Anchorage, I see an increase in coaches using techniques and coaching strategies in running their practices. Having an ADM coordinator and goalie coordinator at the affiliate level along with the support by the affiliate, is making interaction more possible in reaching out to local associations. The end benefit is a better hockey product on the ice; hope to see that continue.

### **RIC Report**

Steve Stevens stated that recruitment is always an issue. Not sure what spurred it, but already this year we ended up with 27 new officials in Spokane, in Vegas we had 64, and in Los Angeles we have 60+ new people, with

additional seminars to go. These numbers are very encouraging. We need to figure out how to retain at least one-third of these new officials.

Steve reported that things in Nevada are working well and believes any issues have been resolved. He also reported that we had a Girls/Womens Clinic in August. Working to continue to improve Referee growth and development for women. Leave it up to the Girls to run the camp. We are there to guide and help them. There was no expense to the district for this camp.

Game reports – seeing a few more of them. The system is good if it is used properly. The Pacific District uses the system well.

Steve Stevens and Eric Simmons expressed concerns over the Youth Tier I District Tournaments for referee staffing purposes. Having the 18U and 14U divisions together creates challenges due to the distinct differences in the playing levels, and 18U is a 4-man system; 14U is a 3-man system. But they will work diligently to accomplish what is needed for the event. Concerned about the expenses involved, and that the district members understand that they are legitimate expenses. And that we are trying to ensure the official pool is a well-balanced, mix of district officials that are qualified to work the tournaments.

The Girls District tournament is in Alaska and a week before the Youth Tournament, which is a good thing. Alaska is deficient in qualified female officials for Alaska, so we may incur additional expenses to bring female officials to Alaska.

Eric Simmons said that officials' registration has changed hugely over the past year, and while it is new, it is being received well. USA Hockey has established a new level beyond Level 4. First symposium for Level 3/Level 4 Tenure ship program will be next July in Minneapolis. USA Hockey is planning to move the Symposium around the country, try to make it accessible by everyone. Biggest complaint from officials is the issue to register. This should help make the whole process a little more streamlined. I will be attending the inaugural symposium in July.

Eric Simmons reported that Alaska official numbers are hard to tell this early in the season. Only finished one new Level 1 clinic. Couple coming up in the next few weeks. Continued growth in the official section has to happen as our player numbers go up. Exam process for officials has changed extensively. I am now the chairperson of the Officials Exam Committee. I have always thought that teaching coaches about the referee job would be good and I have been talking with Rick Trupp about doing that this year in Alaska. I am USA Hockey's Officials Representative to NASO – National Association of Sports Officials. Every sport has representatives at this event. Talking about official issues across all sports, to include abuse of officials, sharing ideas, getting the word out to coaches and officials. In our backyard this summer in Spokane, Washington.

### **Registrar's Report**

Wendy Goldstein address that a Registrar's role is to approve rosters:

- Compliant with USAH guidelines
- Compliant with Affiliate rules

To date, 813 rosters have been submitted – 47 waiting for approval, all others have been approved.

Affiliates have been asked to include their Associate Registrar at their rule change meetings. The registrar may be able to help with verbiage and understanding of the application of the rules. Registrars can also advise as to whether the rules change is enforceable. Request 5 hard copies of rules if possible to share with all Associate Registrars in District – we can learn from each other rather than reinventing the wheel.

Affiliates need to have a process in place to check for a player's financial status. All players moving from one association to another needs to have a release (financial free & clear). District Registrar can contact other District Registrars if delinquent player has left their affiliate to participate in another affiliate.

Recommend that the District develop a billeting policy. SafeSport has guidelines but not sure that the Affiliates are following those guidelines.

Director Steve Laing's 3-year term expires June 2019. Intention of running for this position requires notification to District Registrar in writing by 12/31/18. Affiliates will be notified of nominees by 2/15/19 or declare the Director if no election takes place because only one nominee is running. If an election is required, ballots will be sent to association registers by 4/1/19. Ballots will be counted if returned by 5/1/19. Election results will be sent to affiliates by 5/15/19. Each association's votes are based on number of registered participants as of 3/15/19.

The District player numbers are up 2.78% as compared to last year at this date.

#### **Disabled Section**

Kellie Hays reported that the 2018 Disabled Workshop was held in Las Vegas October 4-7. Participants could choose between three tracks: sled coaching, special coaching, and administrative. Topics included Club Excellence, fundraising, grant writing, Try Hockey for Free, social media, and internships. A disabled Officials clinic was also held. The National sled team practice and the Warrior Classic, presented by Terry Fator, were also held at City National Arena.

The Blind Hockey Summit is being held in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11-14, including the first ever USA vs Canada Blind Hockey series. The Pacific District has two athletes on the team - Blake Steineke (San Diego) and Mark DeFlorio (Seattle).

A youth sled hockey clinic was held Sunday, September 9 in Las Vegas, with over 40 participants. Ralph DeQuebec and Josh Hargis facilitated and they connected with the participants. Gina (youth) from HockeyforKids.org and Sal (adult) are working with the Golden Knights to have an exhibition between periods at the Vegas Golden Knights game November 14, 2018.

LA Kings Sled have pre-registered 35 participants for a Veterans sled clinic Wednesday October 17, 2018.

Seattle Adaptive Sports is hosting "An Evening of Celebration" Fundraising Gala Friday, October 19, 2018. Tickets are still available, and silent auction donations are gladly accepted.

The Pacific Sled League has the following weekends scheduled:

- November 9-11 (Phoenix),
- January 11-13 (San Diego - Irvine, CA - in conjunction with Youth Sled Tournament)
- March 8-10 Colorado.

There is a need for roughly \$1,500 to replace 20 helmets used by Disabled. Does the district have money for these helmets or do we need to use the Disabled money? Can we put in for a Bobby Freeland grant? A Bobby Freeland Grant could be requested but if present grants are approved there is no more money. It is possible that the Presidents' could allocate money from their funds for this expense.

#### **Election of Girls/Womens Representative**

Chairman Knauss asked the board to move to the Election of a Girls/Womens Representative to replace Greg Johnson, who resigned from the position. Kathy McGarrigle has been nominated from within the district for the position. Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the nomination and Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. It was stated that the term of the position runs until June 2020. Darryl Thompson spoke to the fracture of Girls hockey in the district, as well as strong personalities. Kathy spoke that she is up to the challenge and the need to get the district working together. Thomas Hancock spoke to Kathy's work ethic in California to growing girls hockey in the State, and believes she can bring that work ethic forward to the district. Motion was called for a vote to elect Kathy McGarrigle as the Pacific District's Girls/Womens Representative. Motion passed with one abstention, Dru Hammond.

### **Bobby Freeland Grants**

Lester Sparks stated that all grant requests and information had been distributed to the board. Three new grant requests have been made – Pudget Sound; Western Washington; Juneau Douglass Youth Hockey. After reviewing the three requests, Darryl Thompson motioned to fully fund all three; Flint Doughtchak seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

With \$5,000 remaining, three repeat requests for BF Grants were reviewed – Kalamath; Rose City; Hockey Club Fairbanks. Thomas Hancock motioned to split the money equally among the three entities; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with one NO, Dru Hammond.

### **Affiliate Presidents' Reports**

**Darryl Thompson/Alaska** – Our affiliate has a new SafeSport person, new ADM coordinator, new Registrar, and new VP of House/Recreation, all good people with hockey backgrounds. All recreational hockey is now non-checking in Alaska. Eric Simmons received the Andy Anderson award, which was presented to him at the last ASHA meeting. While we worked the 10U half-ice issue diligently, it didn't completely pass, but we are continuing to work in that direction. Report from officials has been favorable. Alaska has a couple SafeSport issues going on.

**Thomas Hancock/California** – SafeSport, we are fairly aggressive on this. Appointed Jaime Campbell as our SafeSport Coordinator and she has and is doing an amazing job. We held the Tier II jamboree again to assess teams and it went very well. We did have a SafeSport issue with an Official. We addressed it and requested of USA Hockey a national suspension to which they concurred.

**Dru Hammond/Washington** – PNAHA has a new SafeSport person – Nicole Adams. She is energetic, with a law degree. NHL announcement for expansion is expected to be around the first of December. The facility will be phenomenal, a 3 rink facility. PNAHA had a 400-mile radius travel limitation for 10U hockey and this year, they elected to remove this policy. Believe the rule served us well, but the full board wanted to remove it.

**Lester Sparks** – Jennifer Southall will be taking Kellie's place as our Disabled Hockey Representative. We are in the process of finalizing our rules and regulations. Entering year 2 of all half ice for 10U. Looking to build and have Tier I hockey at the 18U level.

**Scott Zucker** – New Nevada Officials President is Daniel Leavitt. He has been great to work with, possess a strong line of communication. Feel we are moving in a positive direction. Official numbers have increased and believe this is a big part of the number increase. Working on policies to deal with unruly parents and coaches to set expectations. Registration numbers are outstanding. At 751 registered members, up 316 from last year at this time.

### **USA Hockey Reports**

**Youth Council/Kris Knauss** – Currently the Youth Council is having a lot of discussions on about how to move forward with checking. Everyone should be aware that this is a big topic moving forward. The Youth Council is in the process of reviewing and awarding the 2020 national tournaments. 2019 girls are being held in Irvine. USA Hockey sent out the electronic version of the Tournament Handbook – agreed no gate fees for Nationals and tournament fee will not exceed \$1,500. In the Tournament Handbook, please review requirements to stay at a host hotel (page 16), language is specific and fees for non-compliance are sizeable. Tier I calculations for the 2019-20 season were sent out last week. Want to make sure everyone is aware. Please read and make sure to be aware of the rules pertaining to 12U Girls playing 14U Tier II (ONLY) hockey.

**Legal Council/Steve Laing & Darryl Thompson** - Transgender policy is presently being developed and will be presented to the Executive Committee in November, then to the full board at mid-winter meetings. SafeSport will be addressed by what rules are passed by the US House.

### **SafeSport Report/Steve Laing**

Suffice it to say that much more has been put on our plate with managing SafeSport.

- Monthly Affiliate Report to the National Office of all complaints, decisions, outcome. Sent to Joyce. Copy the affiliate president and Steve Laing. To ensure everything has been submitted. Federal Law. Not USA Hockey, not the USOC.
- Penalties for non-reporting. State/Civil and Federal offense to not report.

- Parents and youth training will be mandatory by federal statute. Currently putting together a training program, most likely online. Not sure when the final product will be available.
- Reporting structure has not changed.

Complaints to the national office include coed locker room policy. Parents are confused by the policy and don't like it. Another complaint is an increase in bullying. Hearing that "Coach is bullying". Is this a reality or is Coach just coaching. The Spec Committee wants to add a Player Safety position for every District.

Affiliate Presidents will be receiving an e.mail within the next week on Team Up/Speak Up day for 2018. Please get the information out to your associations.

### **High School Section/Steve Laing**

High School Nationals will be in Cleveland March 27-31, 2019. There will be a maximum of 32 teams between Pure and Combined. Nevada and California have Division II teams that want to participate.

Girls High School Team. Possibly from Alaska. Steve to have the application forwarded to Darryl Thompson.

High school showcase does not allow sophomores to play. Steve Laing is okay with allowing sophomores if it helps compliment the roster. Flint Dounghchak commented that this could result in having these sophomores being recruited away. Overall, the Board does not like the idea of adding sophomores. Illinois is requesting that only sophomores and juniors are allowed to play. Asking the ACHA their opinion on adding sophomores.

Girls Showcase Team – would like to have a Pacific District Showcase Team this year as well. The entry fee last year was \$350 for the team. This year the entry fee is now at \$950. Thomas Hancock motioned for the Pacific District to have a Girls Showcase Team; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Conversation ensued and it was decided that each Affiliate would pay a fee to cover the tournament fee. Motion was called for a vote and it passed with no abstentions.

### **Girls Section/Steve Laing**

Please be aware of the rules pertaining to 12U Girls Playing up on Girls 14U Tier II teams. There is a limit of three and stipulations as to no other options to play hockey, etc. Questions, ask.

### **Girls Multi-district Camp Report**

Steve Laing said the 2019 camp will be June 8-12 at Colorado College. Last year 290 girls attended. The ideal camp size is 280 to include 80 14U; 80 15U & 120 at 16U. Will be revisiting allocations. Cost of camp is \$645 per player. College coaches on the ice. College Players will serve as team leaders. No prep school fliers or conversations occur at the showcase. Lester Sparks asked if you could do a mentor-coaching program similar to the Western Regional High Performance Camp? Steve said he would check into doing this. Geoff Pashkowski from the Rocky Mountain District has suggested using District Tier coaches as team leaders, but not really in favor of this. Northern Plains is the third district involved in the camp. Due to history, the thought is that Northern Plains should front player fees or an upfront administrative fee. If they don't come or start pulling their players, we will keep that fee.

Financially the books reflect Income at \$188,000; Cost at \$167,000; Profit at \$21,000. Presently this camp does a rolling accounting. Would like to see it be open and closed each year. Will be looking at the WRHPC MOU to create an MOU for the Girls Multi-district Camp.

### **District Goaltending Development Camp**

Lester Sparks and Steve Thompson reported on the camp dynamics. All District GDC's worked the camp. Will be making some logistical changes. For 2019 need to figure out jerseys and a better meeting room. Content was exceptional. If any one wants to put in a bid for hosting the camp, we will consider moving it. The Chef Meal Program was a great experience for the players. On ice activities were fantastic. For the first camp of this type would rate it as a B+.

### **Boys Player Development**

Kris Knauss stated that he was really proud of the overall results/grades, and proud of the players and the coaches throughout the district in the development of players. Each year our grades are improving.

Presented a draft 2019 Boys Player Development Camp Budget and stated that the camp is moving to Las Vegas. Continue to assess the camp expenses and try to improve on the camp for all. Camp dates are May 9-12, 2019 at City National Arena. 2019 Affiliate Allocations will reflect a slight change, really insignificant.

Kris Knauss addressed the potential for income by selling merchandise at the Boys Player Development Camp. In order to do so, an upfront cash requirement of \$10,000 would be required. Dru Hammond motioned for the District to fund this \$10,000 requirement; Lester Sparks seconded. Discussion was held as to the merit of using a merchandiser or selling our own products. Motion was called to a vote and passed with no abstentions.

Discussed the necessary development of the Western Regional High Performance Camp MOU. Flint will discuss this more with regard to the WRHPC.

### **Western Regional High Performance Camp**

Flint Doughtchak – camp dates for 2019 will be June 15-20 at Colorado College. A couple things we did this past camp was an end of camp survey, where we received 100% participation. We also had Jaime Sawchuk as a sports psychologist at the camp that worked with each team and player on smart goal setting, and honestly we hit it out of the ball park with this aspect of the camp.

On the future of the camp, Sent out the MOU to all of you. Have spoken to Rocky Mountain District Directors. The final edits regarding the MOU had to do with if the camp should cease to exist. The challenge has been an inability to get a final, audited statement for the camp. I spoke with TC yesterday and feel confident that they will either have a final, audited statement for me by next month or they will be changing out the financial person to get this done. By the end of this month, we need to know what the line item amount is stating the cash balance moving forward.

### **District Tournament Report**

Steve Laing presented District tournament team numbers per Affiliate and recommended to the board as to structure of each tournament division:

#### **Youth Tier I**

18U Tier I – 7 teams applied, even # tournament, 4 team tournament to consist of 2 CA, 1 OR, 1 WA = 7 GMs  
16U Tier I – 7 teams applied, even # tournament, 4 team tourn. to consist of 1 AK, Host + 1 CA, 1 WA = 7 GMs  
15O Tier I – 4 teams applied, even # tournament, 4 team tournament to consist of Host + 2 CA + 1WA = 7 GMs  
14U Tier I – 8 teams applied, even # tournament, 6 team tournament to consist of 2 AK, 2 CA, 2 WA = 12 GMs

#### **Girls Tier I**

19U Tier I – Host (Ducks) automatic Nationals. 2 team tournament – 1 CA and 1 AK best of 3 GMs  
16U Tier I – no district needed. Host (Ducks) automatic Nationals.  
14U Tier I – no district needed. Host (Ducks) and District (Sharks) move forward to Nationals.

#### **Girls Tier II**

19U Tier II – 2 teams applied, 2 team tournament to consist of 1 AK and 1 CA, best of 3 GMs  
16U Tier II – 5 teams applied, even # tournament, 4 team tourn. to consist of Host + 1 AK, 1 CA, 1 WA = 7 GMs  
14U Tier II – 8 teams applied, even # tournament, 8 team tourn. To consist of Host + 2AK, 3 CA, 2 WA = 15 GMs

#### **Women**

Senior B Division – 1 from CA going as Host only  
Senior C Division – 2 from CA going, 1 as Host & 1 as District Rep

Steve Laing motioned to approve the tournament structure as detailed; Flint Doungchak seconded the motion; Discussion ensued as to limiting the number of Girls teams participating at Districts. The May minutes reflect that the board elected to start requiring “play-in” games (State tournaments, etc.) for Girls participation in District Tournaments, much as Youth teams are required to do. Motion was called to a vote; motion passed unanimously.

#### **New Business**

- A. Pacific District Website Management & Maintenance – Kris Knauss recommended engaging Alex Stimson, who the majority of the board knows, for management and maintenance of the Pacific District Website. Suggested a fee not to exceed \$2,500. Darryl Thompson moved to attain Alex with the corresponding fee; Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and the comment was made that Alex’s work at National tournaments has been outstanding. Steve Laing said that the current website has been an issue. The motion was called for a vote and passed unanimously.
- B. District Handbook Approval. The updated handbook changes were provided to all for prior approval. Dru motioned to approve the handbook changes; Lester seconded the motion; Steve Laing objected to open discussion. Steve Laing would like to remove alcohol from the handbook. Steve Laing makes a conceptual amendment to remove alcohol from the handbook; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion; amended motion passed unanimously. Original motion to pass the handbook called to question; the new handbook was adopted unanimously.
- C. Section Representatives Terms of Office (Ending in June) to be included in the handbook.
  - Disabled Section Representative – 2021
  - Girls’/Womens’ Section Representative – 2020
  - High School Section Representative – 2019
- D. The District provided a plaque to say “Thank You” to Chris Carceranos, webmaster.
- E. The District provided a plaque to say “Thank You” to Greg Johnson, Girls/Womens Representative.
- F. The District provided a boxed gavel set to say “Thank You” to Donna Kaufman, Director et al.

#### **No Executive Session.**

#### **Next Board Meeting – February 9, 2019 – Las Vegas, Nevada.**

#### **Adjournment – Board Member Comments**

Flint Doungchak – Thank you for placing your faith in me as a Director. I will continue in the role as District CIC and want to be transparent about working both positions. Also, thank you Donna for everything that you do.

Rick Trupp – Article on Buddy Bender, wanted everyone to be aware of it.

Lester Sparks – thank you Donna for all your support and work on behalf of all of us in the District.

Donna Kaufman – Ready to let Oregon fly. Thank you to all.

Darryl Thompson – Thank you to Donna for all you do. Congrats to Nevada on growth. I’m willing to take Tom’s Girls’ Showcase Challenge.

Wendy Goldstein – Thank you to Donna and thank you Lisa for your help with Anna Culley.

Steve Laing – Thanks to all for helping me out on tournament bids.

Lisa McPheters – Thank you Donna for everything you’ve taught me and do on behalf of the District.

Kris Knauss – Thank you Donna for everything and as a mentor. Thanks to Lisa for the many things she does for the District.

Darryl Thompson motioned to adjourn; Steve Laing seconded.