



**2019 USA Hockey
Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday ~ February 9, 2019
9:00 A.M. ~ 5:00 P.M. P.S.T.
Red Rock Hotel & Spa
11011 W Charleston Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89135
Veranda C Room, 5th Floor

Present

Jaime Campbell
Flint Doungchak
Wendy Goldstein
Jon Gustafson
Dru Hammond
Thomas Hancock
Chris Hays
Kris Knauss
Steve Laing
Kathy McGarrigle
Lisa McPheters
John Silberstein
Eric Simmons
Steve Stevens
Lester Sparks
Darryl Thompson
Rick Trupp
Scott Zucker

Not Present

Kellie Hays
Steve Thompson

USA Hockey Guests

Ken Martel

Minutes

Call to Order – Kris Knauss

Roll Call & Introductions – Kris Knauss

Approval of Agenda

Thomas Hancock requested to add Awards under New Business; Steve Laing motioned to approve the request; Jon Gustafson seconded the motion; motion passed with no abstentions.

Approval of October 13, 2018 Minutes

Approval requested by Lisa McPheters. Thomas Hancock motioned for approval; Lester Sparks seconded; motion passed unanimously.

District Reports

RIC Report – Steve Stevens & Eric Simmons

District Tournament in Irvine will be supervised by Dan Ellison. He is bringing in an additional official from Alaska and one from Oregon. Eric Simmons and I are running the Las Vegas tournament, and bringing in two officials from

Washington, one from Alaska, two from California along with local officials. Steve Laing requested a list of officials for all three district tournaments.

Steve Stevens announced that he is retiring. Turned 75, and it's time. Going to do district tournaments and national tournament in San Jose. He will officially end his role at the Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs. Kris Knauss told Steve that he has appreciated his temperament in the building and putting the development of the official first which has been huge for the District. Dru Hammond expressed that she is most appreciative for Steve's involvement and dedication.

Steve spoke to CAHA's rule in place that if you use a racial slur you get a match penalty. He would like this board to consider having all affiliates adopt this rule.

Game Reports should be issued within 48 hours. Board to look at that.

Eric Simmons advised that a female official has been selected to do the Worlds. Asked to do a couple games in Alaska at Girls District Tournament as a four-man system. She offered to do it for free. Do we have funding to be able to do a 4-man, and the board's official approval? Darryl Thompson made a motion to approve allowing a 4-man Referee System to be used for Girls District 19U Tier 1; Steve Laing seconded the motion. Kris Knauss objects for discussion. Needs to be addressed at Coaches meeting so there are no surprises. Further to that, Alaska is paying for it. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Eric stated that he would not have been as successful starting as Alaska's RIC without Steve Stevens and personally thanks him for his guidance. Steve will be sorely missed at the national table as well.

Chairman Report - Kris Knauss

Let the minutes reflect that John Silberstein is now present.

Congratulations to PNAHA for passing 10U Half Ice rules. RIC's should get a copy of them to review. Good starting point. Has come under some interest at the national level.

NHL group was at PNAHA meeting. They are figuring out the local temperature as to youth hockey and local ice and associations. Just exploring. Seattle may have a little more of an uphill challenge, than Las Vegas. They are very interested in our support and help.

Youth Council in Orlando was spent primarily on body contact. A lot of discussion and will have something to vote on in June. We've heard the science and the medical component of body contact. We are assessing on where to go next. Do we need to enhance CEP? Official? Teaching better body contact? Everything is on the table. Really looking at High School hockey, which typically has less skilled players and a greater size difference among players. Still dancing around the issue, no set plan.

Chris Hays and I met at the bank yesterday. We removed Donna Kaufman from the account and added me.

Billets – player development camps being filled with outside players. Coach claiming legal guardianship, player says no, I'm just staying here until the season is over. Need to nail this down so that outside players aren't taking development spots away from our District players.

Kris asked Jaime to see what the actual liability policy is at the SafeSport meeting next week.

Financial Report - Chris Hays – written report received.

Flint wants to clarify the budget for the GDC group and put forth the question to the Affiliate presidents as to amount available for GDC's.

\$6 membership increase passed by USA Hockey board of directors.

All Directors and Presidents will have access to QuickBooks Online to view finances.

CIC Report – Flint Doungchak & Rick Trupp – written reports attached.
Flint presented on the Bronze Clinic Review.

Registrar's Report – Wendy Goldstein – written reports attached.
Steve Laing was re-elected by acclamation as a Director, term expires in June 2022.

Nancy Hodge (CAHA) will be receiving her 5-year award this year. Anna Culley (Alaska) is doing an amazing job in her first year as registrar. Vada Burrow is stepping down at the end of this year; Teresa Attebery will be replacing her.

In written report, membership numbers reflected. Unclaimed continues to be a big number in each affiliate. Most likely the majority of unclaimed are Adult league players.

Registrars currently in credential mode. When traveling to tournaments in Canada, USA Hockey rules prevail. Game Misconducts must be served by USA Hockey rules. Wendy recommends that scoresheets are reviewed prior to credentials, prior to the rostering deadline to ensure that 1T rosters are correct.

Encouraging that we move forward with an Electronic Tournament Application.

Billeting. When an out of state player registers with USA Hockey with a local address, that makes it very difficult for registrars to know they are out of state players and it prevents us from ensuring that the billet people have proper background screening and SafeSport. We need to get the billeting process under control.

Darryl Thompson thanked Lisa McPheters for her continued work with the Alaska Registrar and the local program registrars in Alaska, ensuring that they have proper training and a good season.

Risk Manager's Report – John Silberstein

- Excess Coverage for Players. For claims, player's with healthcare coverage must pay \$1000 out of pocket expense. If they don't have healthcare the out of pocket is \$3500. And the out of pocket amount is not waivable. The coverage has a \$50,000 limit and then gap coverage up to \$2 Million.
- General Liability policy has different coverages but is at \$2 Million with no aggregate.
- Products or Completed Operations has limitations.
- Sexual Molestation has a \$4 Million Aggregate.
- D&O Coverage has \$1 Million Aggregate.
- Crime Coverage – minimal coverage offered. \$10,000 deductible with \$100,000 of coverage for Affiliates and the District. \$1,000 deductible with \$50,000 of coverage for Associations. Associations should potentially look at getting additional insurance beyond this \$50,000 limit.
- No Auto Coverage under any of our policies.
- No Workers Comp Coverage.

Our loss ratio is really good. A good body of law exists within our district for sporting events, and this helps.

Call me if you ever have questions about our insurance products. Happy to help, please reach out to me. The sooner you report potential claims to me to get the process started, the better.

I get requests to add rinks, halls, venues to be named as additional insureds for off-ice activities. Tournaments are asking USA Hockey to cover them, yet most of them are for profit. USA Hockey no longer issues an additional insured coverage for these tournament promoters. Local Associations are covered by USA Hockey; but a promoter or rink is not.

Strongly recommends that we all have excess coverage. Obtain an Umbrella Policy through your Homeowners' Policy.

Disabled Section - Kellie Hays – written report attached.

Bobby Freeland Grants – Lester Sparks

Nothing new to report. All of this year's funds have been distributed and I have one pending application for next year.

Player Safety/Concussion – Jaime Campbell – written report attached.

Player Safety Coordinator will be established in all districts for 2019-2020 season. They have asked Steve and me to participating in the implementation plan. Expect this to take 3 to 5 years to get this fully in place. Not sure but there may be some crossover with SafeSport and the Player Safety Coordinator role. This should become clearer over the next 12-18 months.

Concussion. Reviewed all the legislation for our Affiliates that we would expect to see implemented next year and there is none. Washington is talking about updating their state law for a couple years but have not.

Biggest weakness we have right now is that we do not have an electronic mechanism for return to play and clearing injuries. We piloted Nevada last year and it went well. However, the program we used did not check all the boxes that the National Office would like to see, specifically providing detailed injury information. I think we are missing the boat by not having an electronic mechanism in place.

Concussion Champion program has launched. Will be doing Zoom training in April and May. Will be implementing it over the summer.

Girls Concussion Education Program. Pilot will take place in March to May with the Jr. Ducks and Sharks programs and roll it out in Colorado Springs.

Kris Knauss asked, "What does the budget for this position look like. Is there a draft budget being put together?" Stated that payment for this position should be provided by the National Office.

Boys Player Development – Kris Knauss

Need to get all invites out. California and Alaska are complete. Will get Oregon's done today. Still waiting on Washington's advancement list and we have started filling the At Large spots. Things are coming together for Las Vegas. Will be implementing a half-ice session. More scaled down in terms of staff. No team leaders this year. Will assess it once it is complete.

- **Western Region High Performance Camp** – Flint DOUNGCHAK

All invites have been sent out with the exception of Alaska, who has their camp in April, and PNAHA. Rob Kaufman has asked for us to wait until after the PNAHA state tournaments, but the handbook gives a deadline of February 1. Kris Knauss explained that the reason for the February 1 date is to give invited players 30 days to register, at which time all unregistered spots become available and it gives the player development staff time to fill the vacant spots. If we wait until after all state tournaments to start inviting, we likely will end up with a considerable number of vacant spots, and the camp will not be self-sustaining.

MOU for Western Region Camp has been agreed to by Rocky Mountain and Northern Plains. We are just waiting to receive the signed final document.

- **Pacific District Goaltending Development Camp** – Lester Sparks

Camp to be in Anaheim this year, August 2-4, 2019. Will be in Washington next year, as the plan is to rotate the location. This year is the 2006 & 2005 birth years and we need help with allocations and/or invites.

Girls Player Development – Kathy McGarrigle – written report attached.

I will be overseeing the Girls' Player Development Camp. Invites to be sent in next several days to girls from all affiliates. Agreement in place with Northern Plains – they are responsible for the registration fee for the number

of girls that they say they are sending. So, if say they are sending 10 girls and only 4 show up, they are financially responsible for the remaining 6 spots. We are looking to potentially set up an MOU, similar to the boys.

Girls Section – Kathy McGarrigle

Over 60 women from our District playing NCAA hockey. Have another 40 playing ACHA hockey. A lot to celebrate. Think we are on our way to doubling our size for Girls Hockey in our District. Encourage Affiliates to have your girls' representatives reach out to me, work with me to promote girl's hockey.

High School Section – Steve Laing

Eight Girls' teams participating in National High School Tournament, in Cleveland, Ohio. Looking forward to seeing the girls at Nationals for the first time. We will have a team from Alaska participating.

Trying to get an accurate count on the number of High School teams within our District. The numbers that I'm receiving are not accurate and need the Affiliates help in getting accurate numbers.

Met with ACHA and NAHL people for scouting of the High School National Tournament. Good conversations.

Affiliate Presidents' Reports - Thomas Hancock

We agreed to continue the 10% contribution to the Pacific District of our Grant Fund Monies, which is \$15,878. For this year we are earmarking 50% to Player Development, 25% to Disabled and 25% to GDC.

Discussed Girls High School Showcase and a potential implementation of allocations for the future. We are not quite at the numbers now, but maybe in a year or two, and having a process in place for allocations and participation throughout the district will be good.

What can we do for hotel rates for National Tournaments? Not consistent, rates can be untenable. District doesn't really have control over those rates.

For 2018/19, we selected the following individuals for the respective Anderson Awards:

- Andy Anderson Award (Administrator) – Lisa McPheters
- Dempsey Anderson Award (Coach) – Rick Trupp
- Pete Anderson Award (Official) – Matt Ward

Darryl Thompson announced that Thomas Hancock was unanimously re-elected as Chairman for next year.

USA Hockey Reports

Youth Council – Kris Knauss

Nothing to report.

Adult Council – Tom Hancock

Attended my second Adult Council meeting. Not a lot going on except a spirited conversation with regard to USA Hockey's membership fee increase and whether it will affect adult membership.

Legal Council – Steve Laing & Darryl Thompson

There is a proposed draft for Transgender Athlete Eligibility policy, and it will be available in the near future. SafeSport is creating a lot of discussion in many areas, including the legality of it, what's happening with federal government, Center for SafeSport and the USOC, and the cost of doing business. A new Conflict of Interest Policy is out and will get it in the PD Guidebook for next year.

SafeSport Council – Steve Laing

Center for SafeSport is backlogged anywhere from 6 to 18 months. Because they are short staffed, it is possible that the Center for SafeSport can overturn a summary suspension. Affiliate Presidents need to be able to retain the right to remove someone from the ice, suspend them as dictated by the situation.

Beginning in the 2019/20 season, “no minor under the age of 18 can participate on any adult league team under any circumstances whatsoever”. Zero tolerance. Adult teams will be required to submit rosters.

Concerned that SafeSport is becoming so cumbersome that it will push players and coaches away to non-USA Hockey programs, where they don’t have to deal with this. Our minor players do need to be protected, without question. But are we pushing this over the top?

Kris Knauss suggested that we invite Casey Jorgensen to our June meeting in Colorado Springs for further discussion.

Player Development Committee – Kris Knauss

Nothing to report.

Pacific District Website Update – Flint DOUNGCHAK

Flint DOUNGCHAK motioned to move to a Microsoft platform for the website; Jon Gustafson seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. We have not done justice to the members with the existing website. We need to get a new one set up and make it a priority. Motion passed unanimously.

Setting the original budget of \$2500 for operations aside, until new website is set up and a person is determined to keep it updated.

Finance Committee – Flint DOUNGCHAK

Nothing to Report

2019 Pacific District Tournaments – Steve Laing

Just about ready to rock and roll. Schedules have been presented to the Directors and Presidents. Seeding will happen following CAHA state playoffs for youth, and Alaska’s state playoffs for girls. At a future meeting, would like to have discussions about potential changes for our District Tournaments.

We did create a district banner for use this year and moving forward. Meetings with hosts have been positive. Will be doing an additional conference call with hosts.

New Business

- Two Tournament Waiver Requests. Last Frontier Pond Hockey Classic (outdoor) & 2019 Mac Attack (mites). Both are Alaska Tournaments occurring at the same time as Pacific Districts. Darryl Thompson motioned to allow both events to occur as they do not conflict with Pacific District Tournaments; Steve Laing seconded; motion passed with no abstentions.
- Election of Pacific District Chairperson for 2019/20. Thomas Hancock motion to have Kris Knauss remain as Chairperson; Jon Gustafson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Term limits for Section Representatives. High School Section ends in June 2019. Flint DOUNGCHAK motion to re-elect Steve Laing as the High School Section Representative through June 2022; Darryl Thompson seconded. No other nominations or discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting – June 8, 2019 – Colorado Springs, CO

Saturday working lunch and depart on Sunday morning. Lisa will talk to Amanda Radar on hotel details and board meeting location.

Final Comments

Jon Gustafson – Congratulations Steve, looking forward to having Steve Stevens at San Jose for Nationals.

Ken Martel – good

Rick Trupp – good

Steve Laing – Reaffirmed Kris Knauss suggestion of inviting Casey Jorgenson to our June board meeting.

Darryl Thompson – good

Chris Hays – good

Kathy McGarrigle – good

Scott Zucker – Up to 1500 kids in our youth programs.

Lester Sparks –goalie development camp will have more girls then last year, more going on.

Jaime Campbell – thanks to everyone for supporting the player safety position

Thomas Hancock – good

Dru Hammond – NHL in. John is a great representative for the NHL. We may have helped alleviate some of the fears and concerns they had. Wish Steve Stevens luck in whatever he does. A wonderful asset to PNAHA over the years.

John Silberstein – Can send everyone slides from SafeSport presentation in Mid-Winter. Send me an email and I will send to you.

Eric Simmons – Good to see everyone again. Steve is still on my speed dial. Wishing you all the best.

Wendy – issues with Canadians playing in your affiliate during the summer? They have to sign a form with USA Hockey. Cannot just show up and play. Hockey Canada is inactive in the summer.

Flint Doughtchak – Tech Committee is working on a single log on to USA Hockey - coming soon. Please continue to be a little tolerant. To Steve Stevens, my first interaction with you was as a player; then as a coach.; then as GM of a new and struggling Junior team, then here as a board member. Shows your incredible impact through the years with hockey, and I'm sure you will continue to be impactful. Thank you very much!

Lisa McPheters – thank you to Scott Zucker for his help in setting up this board meeting. Cookies are on the way.

And thank you for the Andy Anderson Award, truly thankful and humbled by it.

Kris Knauss – Steve Laing is working on showcase for the girls. Out of state players continue to be a challenge to all of us. Ideas for October board meeting are welcome. Appreciate everyone for their time and commitment to the District.

Steve Stevens – Thank you to everybody, been a pleasure the last 14 years. Guess I'm 3rd in seniority at USA Hockey. Leaving a bit of a hole for them. I am the oldest RIC. Really enjoyed doing this and working with all of you. You'll see me around as I've already been asked to do a few things next year.

Adjournment

Steve Laing motioned to adjourn; Lester Sparks seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.