



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

Saturday - June 8, 2019
12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. M.S.T.

El Paso Room

Hotel Elegante, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Present

Jaime Campbell
Flint Doungchak
Dan Ellison
Wendy Goldstein
Dru Hammond
Thomas Hancock
Kris Knauss
Steve Laing
Lisa McPheters
Eric Simmons
Lester Sparks
Steve Stevens
Darryl Thompson
Steve Thompson

Not Present

Chris Hays
Jon Gustafson
Kathy McGarrigle
John Silberstein
Rick Trupp
Scott Zucker

USA Hockey Guests

Nicole Adams
Teresa Attebery
Anna Culley
Charlie Feurtsch
Nick Fouts
Nancy Hodge
Casey Jorgenson
Donna Kaufman
Jack Tragis

Minutes

Call to Order

Chairman Knauss called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll call was taken (reflected above), and Introductions were made of the guests in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of February 9, 2019 Minutes

Kris Knauss requested approval of the February 9, 2019 minutes as written. Thomas Hancock motioned to approve; Dru Hammond seconded the motion; motion passed with no abstentions.

Chairman's Report

Kris Knauss – Many of us attended this morning's USAH board meeting. Some budgetary items did pass. Declaration of Fair Play did pass. It's a good document, better than a rule change at this point. Casey Jorgenson has arrived; we will move on to SafeSport and Casey at this time. Changes in SafeSport are going to create a bigger responsibility for the Affiliate Presidents.

Financial Report

Chris Hays was unable to attend the board meeting but provided a detailed written report to the board. Kris Knauss ran through the detailed numbers with the board.

SafeSport Update

Casey Jorgenson spoke to the changes occurring in SafeSport. Critical piece is making all the changes work throughout the affiliates, districts. Increases the responsibility tremendously for the people in the field. USA Hockey will be getting checked up on for compliance. Our volunteers will be receiving emails from Joyce for reminders. Compliance is critical. Non-compliance good impact our ability to be a National Governing Body. We are working on structuring a process to ensure that compliance is occurring at every level. Center for SafeSport will be doing audits and can do spot audits. Any coach, including student coaches that will be 17 in the 2019.20 season, will be required to have taken SafeSport.

CIC Report (Written report attached.)

- Flint Doungchak congratulated Steve Thompson on his selection by USA Hockey to be the ADM Manager of Goaltending. Really want to thank Steve for his involvement and commitment with the District. We will continue with the GDCs and the programs within the Affiliates, as well as the Pacific District Goaltending Clinic.
- Flint will provide the new body checking document to be sent out to everyone.
- A sub-committee was appointed to review the coaching education program. Are we doing a good job educating coaches and there is some concern that the Level 4 coaches who have not done any training since attaining their Level 4 - these coaches have never had any ADM training? Perhaps we need to revise this.

Rick Trupp was unable to attend the board meeting but provided a written report (attached).

Chairman Knauss welcomed Charlie Feurtsch to the board meeting, requesting the minutes to reflect his attendance.

Kris Knauss thanked Steve Stevens for his many years of service and presented him with a plaque as a thank you from the district.

RIC Report – Steve Stevens, Dan Ellison & Eric Simmons

Steve Stevens gave his final report to the board. He took the RIC job when his predecessor was fired. He has known Dan Ellison for years and believes he is the right person for the job. Through the years Steve has met a lot of great people and made many good friends. He's pleased to report that the current state of officials is very good. He will always be available to Dan and Eric for any questions. The District Tournaments this year went very well. Eric was in Las Vegas to help out and really thankful for that. Dan oversaw the tournament in California. The National tournament in San Jose was great.

Dan Ellison offered thanks to Steve Stevens for taking him under his wing. He also gave thanks to the Board for their support of him taking on the role of Referee in Chief. Been involved with hockey since 1965, fell in love with the sport and plan to continue as long as I can. Believes we are doing well within the District regarding officials. We do have some retention issues that we will be addressing. Really looking forward to working with Flint on the Body Checking and Abuse of Officials and reigning in the respect issues which goes both ways. Tracking performance of officials and calling of penalties – looking to get this in place in California and will help us determine how officials are doing. Working the District Tournament in Irvine with Kris Knauss. Was a great experience. Female officials from the District are great. Gotten to know Eric over the last couple years and looking forward to working with him. Business items to address – National tournaments use a 4-man system for 15s and the District should be doing the same thing. Also, for District Tournaments, payment to officials needs to be simplified. Payment can be made to the Pacific District or to the Pacific District Referee account. If the host needs 501(c)3 paperwork or tax ID information, this needs to be done in advance of the District event so that payment is not restricted.

Eric Simmons also thanked Steve Stevens for his support as Eric took on the role of Referee in Chief for Alaska. Initial year was overwhelming, and had it not been for Steve I likely would not have stayed in this role. Steve was

amazing then and will continue to remain a tremendous asset. I can't thank him enough for everything he has done for me and for officiating. Regarding the Girls District Tournament in Anchorage, phenomenal job by Jamie Huntley and all the female officials overall. Five Alaska females involved so kudos to Alaska for developing their female officials well. I've been participating in the CEP clinics for the last several years, so a little ahead of the curve with this. It has really helped with the abuse of officials. I think the Fair Play initiative will continue to help and as we educate coaches, officials and somehow include the parents in this, it will only continue to get better. It will help our retention, which has improved through our mentorship program. We hit a 90% mark with new level 1 officials, but that is outstanding. I'll be happy moving forward if we are able to hit 70%. Several other districts have asked for our program information and what we are doing to develop officials.

Registrar's Report – Wendy Goldstein (written report attached)

- A big thank you to Nancy and Anna, here today, and Jeremy and Vada for their work as registrars this past season. Jeremy is in Connecticut working, and Vada has retired. Replacing Vada is Teresa, welcome, who is not new to registration and what we do.
- At this time there are 1,941 rosters in the Pacific District Registrar Portal. Overall our District has a 4.08% increase in number of players; by contrast the national increase was 1.03%. Sled hockey 107 registered players (not include Oregon). 80 Special Hockey Players (none in Oregon and Nevada). Warrior hockey 69, all in Alaska. We do not have any of the other disabled categories within the District. Coaches are increasing in the district. Still need to work on our unclaimed members. National office has asked the registrars to work on limiting and redefining how teams can be identified in the portal system.
- Affiliates need to advise their members to have association registrars state through their registry portal whether they will continue in the role of registrar for their association. If they do not do this, that association will not have access to the registry portal when the season starts.
- If people are leaving your Affiliate to go play elsewhere and they owe you money, please let us know and we can help you collect prior to them getting rostered on a new team.

Disabled Section

Kellie Hays has retired. She did an outstanding job for the District and we have a plaque for her as well. We will be selecting a new disabled representative later today.

Bobby Freeland Grants

Lester Sparks reported that the 2018.19 Grants are complete, and we had a total of 7 applications. He has received one application for the upcoming season, from Alaska. Affiliates, it is time to start thinking about the upcoming season and getting applications in for Bobby Freeland Grants.

Player Safety/Concussion (written report attached.)

- Jaime Campbell asked Steve Laing to address Player Safety Role as he has been part of those meeting. This is a new national position required for each District. What are the points of emphasis? We will continue work on concussions, but priorities are AED training and equipment within all rinks and emergency exit plans in all the rinks.
- This is an administrative position – all about training and education. Ensuring that the proper forms are being used. It is not a policing position.
- Budget for this position USA Hockey put forth a total of \$25,000 for 12 Player Safety Coordinators into the Spec budget. Not sufficient funding. Each District coordinator will need to make a budget that works for their District and then submit this budget to the national office. They are requiring that all twelve coordinators attend Annual Congress and Mid-winter meeting, so they need to include that expense in the national budget, not the player safety budget.
- Jamie said that if we are going to have to collect data within our affiliates that we are going to have to have a system in place to collect this. We will be using the USA Hockey forms for Concussions. A bit of a step backwards, but we are going to give it a shot. We cannot amend their form.
- AED's in every rink – we've been providing this information for the past two years. Rinks are not as invested in this as the associations are.
- Emergency exit plans are good, a requirement for insurance, so every rink will have these available.
- Would like to get CPR classes available throughout the District.

- Going to continue to move forward with Player Safety.
- Tomorrow I will be debuting Player Concussion Training for Girls at our Girls District Camp. We are the only District to address Concussions in female athletes.

Affiliate Presidents' Reports

Darryl Thompson (ASHA)

- Alaska is 100% non-checking at the A (Tier III) & B (Tier IV) levels of youth hockey. Believe this has been a very positive change.
- Really want to thank Rick Trupp and Eric Simmons for working together closely. Rare to have your CIC and RIC to work so closely together. Believes this helps to change the culture towards what is being promoted in the Fair Play document. Feel very fortunate to have Rick and Eric in these positions.
- In March the Alaska Competition Representatives got together and formed Team Alaska Tier 1 Program. This program will be the sole program to field Tier 1 teams beginning in the 2019.20 season. Trying to pool the players and organizations together. Lisa McPheters is the Tier 1 Administrator and I know the program is in good hands with her. Tryouts took place in May for 14U, 15U and 18U Tier 1 teams.
- This is the second year of the Alaska Hall of Fame. Jack Tragus' wife was the first inductee. Really proud of this endeavor.

Lester Sparks (OSHA)

- Oregon had one of the best years ever in the 2018.19 season. It was the first year since 2004 that we had a handbook with rules and regulations.
- Our entire state is doing 10U half-ice hockey, and one of the best events of the year was our 10U jamboree. Using the mid-size nets, and by the end of the weekend, everyone was happy.
- Working to develop leagues throughout the state.
- The Portland Winterhawks are taking over the Youth Association, and we look forward to the positive aspects that will come from their involvement.
- The local program in Medford may not survive due to rink issues.
- Going into our summer planning meeting and hope to have everyone at the table.

Dru Hammond/Washington (PNAHA)

- Would like to introduce a couple of our people that are here today - Nicole Adams is our new SafeSport Director. Nick Fouts is our Youth Director.
- As we all know the NHL is coming to Seattle and they want to work with all associations and all affiliates.
- This year we saw both plusses and minuses with half ice hockey. We hosted our second half ice state festival at Seattle Jr. Hockey. It was very well run, seamless. We received very good reviews.
- Our Girls Development Camp was outstanding, also held at Seattle Jr. Hockey's rink. Kristen Wright was there and did an awesome job. Evaluators were consistent with their decisions. Will be creating a division for the younger girls at the camp next year.

Thomas Hancock/California (CAHA)

- Teresa Attebery is a good addition as registrar as well as involved in other areas within our state.
- We have several SafeSport issues we are grappling with; fortunate to have Jaime Campbell.
- For the coming season, mainly cultural problems we see with behavior, both with participants and parents. Really enforcing fan ejections.
- Have seen an influx this past season by coaches, chirping officials to the point of ridiculousness. Will be working on this.
- Want to get a formal mentoring program in place within CAHA for officials.

USA Hockey Reports

Youth Council – Kris Knauss

- Youth Council has held many conversations over tournaments. Some districts would like to maintain some type of a gate fee for District Tournaments. Official word at this time is that Gate Fees will no longer be allowed at District Tournaments. Question is how best to handle gaining that revenue back for the host association?
- Beginning in 2020.21, for games, team warm up will be on dirty ice, prior to the cut. 15 minutes earlier for refs, 5 minute warm up, then ice cleaning, then game starts. This is for National bound divisions only.

- Declaration of Player Safety, Fair Play and Respect. How best can we support our officials and coaches and teach body contact to our players.
- A lot of discussion over national tournament coverage. Tournament directors must be USA Hockey directors.

Legal Council – Steve Laing & Darryl Thompson

A lot of work ahead within legal council on the changes with SafeSport. We will be working to provide clarity and direction for the district.

SafeSport Report – Steve Laing

As Casey stated, we all have a much greater responsibility for compliance with SafeSport. From Directors to Affiliates to Associations to individuals. As changes are put in place, I will forward this information out to all. At this point it is a lot of information and somewhat overwhelming.

Player Development Committee – Kris Knauss

We are going to see a reduction in monies on player development from the national office. Likely see a fee increase at national player development camps. The national camps have been very inexpensive for many years.

High School Section – Steve Laing

- Santa Margarita are once again National Champions.
- The Alaska Girls team placed 2nd at High School Nationals.
- 2020 High School Nationals will be in Dallas, March 26-30, 2020. The entry fee will not change from last season.

Girls Player Development/Girls Section – Kathy McGarrigle – written report attached.

Kathy is at the Girls Player Development Camp and unable to attend.

District Goaltending Development Camp – Lester Sparks & Steve Thompson

- Budget submitted for Goaltending Camp. Lester motioned to approve the budget; Steve Laing seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- Camp Planning Update - Washington and California provide a stipend and expense reimbursement to their GDC's. Alaska and Oregon do expense reimbursement only.
- Steve Thompson asked the board to consider sending Jackie Audet as a coaches' intern to the Girls camp in St. Cloud. The expense for her airplane ticket would come out of Steve's Goaltending Budget. Darryl Thompson motioned for the board to approve this; Kris Knauss seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Boys Player Development – Kris Knauss

- Western Regional High Performance Camp MOU; Board agreed to give the other districts 48 hours to sign the MOU or we are not sending our players to the camp.
- 2020 Boys Player Development Camp (May 2020) – need to revise the Select 17 portion of the camp, reducing it to a 40-man camp. Thomas Hancock motioned to approve this change, giving the Affiliates half the player allocations while the District Player Development committee keeps the other half of the allocations. Flint Doughtchak seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- 2020 Camp to be held again in Las Vegas. Darryl Thompson motioned to approve; Dru Hammond seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Finance Committee – Flint Doughtchak

2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget – Chris Hays and I are going over the budget. We will have a draft budget to present at the next meeting.

Tournaments Report – Steve Laing

- 2019 District Tournaments Recap – Tournaments went very well. Hotels are an issue. Need to have a choice of hotels. Host needs to be able to offer two different levels of hotels, i.e. Holiday Inn (or similar) and high-end luxury. People need to have options.

- Tournament Packets. Somehow, they get out to teams in advance. Need to prevent this from happening. Utilize District Registrar and Affiliate Registrars to send the packet out.
- Going to require that Hosts provide two names for tournament responsibilities. Need to have a main person and a backup person.
- We now have District Championship Banners to give to the winners. Also, District medals.
- Officiating was fantastic. No complaints.
- A few changes to be made in our handbook.
- 2020 District Tournament Hosts & Selection – Host bids were presented. They include:
 1. PNAHA Tacoma Jr. Hockey – All of Youth Tier 1 (14, 15, 16 & 18). All games to be played at one two-sheet facility. Steve Laing motioned to accept this bid; Dru Hammond seconded. Motion passes.
 2. PNAHA Seattle Jr. Hockey – All of Girls Tier I and Tier II. At two single sheet facilities, within a 7-minute drive of each other. Hotels and Malls between the two rinks. Steve Laing motioned to accept this bid for this tournament on February 27 through March 1, 2020; Darryl Thompson seconded. RIC's have no issues. Chairman Knauss calls for a vote. Motion passes with no abstentions.
 3. CAHA San Jose Jr. Sharks – All Tier 1 and All Girls Tier 1 & Tier II – a SuperSite. Or willing to take a portion of the tournaments. Thomas motioned to accept San Jose to be a SuperSite for 2020 District Tournaments; Flint seconded. Discussion ensued. Thomas stated that it eases the District's responsibility, to have the tournament over one weekend. Lester state that there is a good tournament atmosphere at the rink when everyone is in one location. Darryl said that as a District, tournaments should be moved around so all affiliates get to host. By consolidating into a SuperSite, it precludes the rest of the district. Dru stated that a SuperSite completely takes Washington out of consideration. Motion was called for a vote; motion for San Jose as a SuperSite failed. However, San Jose can still host a non-SuperSite District tournament.
 4. ASHA Team Alaska – All Youth Tier 1. Steve Laing advised that the proposal was submitted late. Dru Hammond moved to allow the bid for consideration; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
 5. Steve Laing motioned to split the Youth Tier 1 to 14s & 18s together in one location; 15s & 16s together in another location, over one weekend. Recommend that 15s & 16s go to San Jose and 14s and 18s go to Tacoma Jr. Hockey. After ensuing discussion Steve Laing withdraws the motion to split the Youth tournaments and restates the motion to keep all Youth Tier 1 District Tournament together to be held March 5-8, 2020; Dru Hammond seconds this motion. Motion passes with 5 approving votes.
 6. Thomas Hancock motions for the Youth Tier 1 tournaments to be hosted by Tacoma Jr. Hockey, March 5-8, 2020. Lester seconds the motion. Discussion ensued with the concern that the Tacoma facility be completed and ready with two sheets by the tournament. Flint DOUNGCHAK stated he had a high degree of confidence that the facility will be completed on time. Motion was called for a vote with the caveat that come October 2019, if the Tacoma facility doesn't have their CCO, the tournament would be moved to San Jose. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- Steve Laing recommended that the District Tournament Fee be set at \$2850 per team; \$1650 plus \$1200 gate subsidy. From the \$2850, \$2200 goes to the host and \$650 to the District for tournament administrative expenses. Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the tournament fee and structure of allocation; Dru Hammond seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

New Business

2019-2020 District & National Meetings

- Kris Knauss motioned for the October 2019 board meeting to be in San Diego on October 5, 2019 and the February 2020 board meeting to include a Girls Summit on February 7th and the board meeting on February 8th in Las Vegas, Nevada; Steve Laing seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- USA Hockey Winter Meeting – Orlando, Florida – January 16-19, 2020
- Annual Congress - June 10-13, 2020 – Colorado Spring, Colorado – District Board Meeting Date TBD

Disabled Section Nominations & Election

Kellie Hays has retired as the Pacific District Disabled Administrator. Kellie, Nancy, and JJ O'Connor are very complimentary of the candidates. Nominations included Sarah Bettencourt from San Diego and Matt Zucker out of Southern California. Matt has served as the Disabled Referee in Chief for the District and is very interested in the

position. Sarah is very busy, likely too much so for the position. Kris Knauss nominates Matt Zucker for a 3-year term as the Pacific District Disabled Section Representative; Darryl Thompson seconds the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Pacific District GDC

Congratulations to Steve Thompson on his promotion to USA Hockey's ADM Manager of Goaltending. The selection process falls under the CIC for selection. Flint said we have a few candidates to vet; three people have applied. Give us some time to determine the best candidate. Our goal is to have a new District GDC in place by August.

Player Safety Coordinator Position

- Kris Knauss motioned to add discussion on the Player Safety Coordinator to the agenda; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- After minimal discussion, Darryl Thompson motioned to nominate Jaime Campbell to the USA Hockey position of Player Safety Coordinator for our District; Steve Laing seconded the motion. Kris Knauss reminded the board that he has to submit the board's nomination to USA Hockey's Executive Director, Pat Kelleher, for approval. Motion called for a vote. Motion passed with no abstentions.

USA Hockey Director Coverage at Affiliate Meetings

Kris Knauss asked all directors to submit their requests/dates for attending affiliate meetings so the board can determine proper coverage of affiliate board meetings

Pacific District Website Status

Flint Doughtchak advised that he has applied to Microsoft for a grant for Office 365 accounts for everyone. This will allow for unlimited conferencing and email. The Pacific District Website will reside there. Easy to use. Thomas Hancock asked what the timeline is for this to be completed. Flint stated that he would like Lisa to be the primary person for contact updating. Flint responded it should be a matter of a couple weeks until launch.

Adjournment & Comments

Lisa McPheters – Please submit suggested changes to handbook to me in the next two weeks.

Charlie Feurtsch – Thank you for inviting me.

Dru Hammond – Target date for receiving handbooks. Kris Knauss responded with August 1, Lisa to mail out to everyone.

Thomas Hancock – Stated that Shattuck St. Mary's is expanding to California in the Simi Valley. Full campus, multiple sports, 2020-21. Is already making California youth hockey interesting.

Lester Sparks – Extended a thank you to the Directors for all their support.

Wendy Goldstein – Nice seeing Charlie. Welcome Teresa and Dan. Thanks, Nicole, for getting through the meeting.

Nancy Hodges – Thank you for being my family and support system through this difficult time.

Teresa Attebery - Good

Anna Culley - Good

Eric Simmons - Good

Jaime Campbell - Good

Darryl Thompson – Does it work to have this board meeting during Annual Congress? He likes to talk to our board prior to Annual Congress. Perhaps next year we can shoot for this board meeting to be on Thursday at 12:00 noon.

Steve Thompson – Kris Knauss told Steve he changed the face of the District, and we couldn't be prouder of you. Will always be a Pacific District guy! Steve thanked everyone for all your support.

Dan Ellison – Thank everyone for the opportunity to be the District RIC. Very proud of the District. Very excited about what lies ahead.

Steve Laing – Thanks for all the support with the District Tournaments. Affiliate Presidents – keep the faith with all the changes with SafeSport. The Directors will support you. Congratulations to Steve Thompson, Dan Ellison, Jaime Campbell and Teresa Attebery.

Flint Doughtchak – Diversification meeting was frustration. I feel the complete opposite of the message they were conveying at the meeting. The meeting intoned that people who look like you have kept people who look like me

out of the game, and that is a complete falsehood. You have always been inclusive, and I felt the message conveyed was offensive.

Kris Knauss – Appreciate everyone and all their input. A lot of good discussion, a lot of changes are coming up.. We have the brag factor over Southeast District. Going to be more new faces in the room. We are headed in the right direction. I get frustrated with National office; organization could be better as far as transparency, openness and what directors should actually be doing. Hopefully they received that message today at the annual board meeting and the votes that transpired. Looking forward to the upcoming season, to Washington for District Tournaments and Las Vegas for Player Development. Good luck to Flint and Lester for their respective upcoming development camps. I see a lot of passion throughout this group of people for the betterment of the Pacific District.