



**2022 USA Hockey  
Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday ~ February 5, 2022  
7:45 am P.S.T.  
Park MGM  
3770 S. Las Vegas Boulevard  
Las Vegas, NV 89109  
Madison Meeting Center, Room 8

**Present**

Rob Azevedo  
Dan Ellison  
Wendy Goldstein  
Thomas Hancock  
Chris Hays  
Kris Knauss  
Kathy McGarrigle (Zoom)  
Lisa McPheters  
Andy Potter (Zoom)  
Wayne Sawchuk  
Darryl Thompson

**Absent**

John Beaulieu  
Darin Campbell  
Flint Doughtchak  
Darren Elliott  
Josh Ellis  
John Silberstein  
Rick Trupp  
Matt Zucker

**Guests**

Mike Trimboli  
Bob Mancini

**Minutes**

- I. **Call to Order.** Kris Knauss called the meeting to order at 7:45 am. Roll Call was taken. Andy Potter is attending on behalf of OSHA and Lester Sparks.
  - Kris Knauss requested approval of the agenda. Tom Hancock requested and motioned to have discussion to High School Section be added prior to nominations. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion was approved with no abstentions.
  - Rob Azevedo motion to approve the revised agenda; Ben Frank seconded. Motion approved with no abstentions.
- II. **Approval of October 16, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.** Kris Knauss called for the approval of the October 16, 2021, Board Meeting minutes. Darryl Thompson motioned for approval; Thomas Hancock seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- III. **District Reports**
  - A. Chairman Report - Kris Knauss. USA Hockey meeting weekly on governance. Still a lot of discussion taking place. USOC last week. We thought the NCAA would require a USA Hockey board seat, but they only require a member of congress seat. USA Hockey no longer has girls ADM's so why is there a strong push for a Girls council? Should Junior Council fall under hockey operations. Trying to determine where every department falls. We are heading towards 33% Athlete Directors, this language passed at Winter Meeting. Will be up for a vote in June 2022.  
Fee increase passed at Winter Meeting. Beginning next season, fees are as follows:  
Ages 6 & Under \$15; Ages 7&8 \$50; Ages 9-12 \$61; Ages 13-18 \$70; Ages 19 & Over \$46 (includes coaches and no change from prior year).
- IV. **Special Guests**

**USA Hockey President Mike Trimboli.** Thank you for the invite. I'd like to extend condolences to our PNAHA family on the loss of Robby Kauffman. Difficult loss for many in USA Hockey. Engaging in my new role as President of USA Hockey has brought numerous challenges. Across USA Hockey, we are very diverse, far and wide, but overall, things are good, and I am embracing the responsibilities and tasks at hand. Our numbers are not quite back to what they were pre-pandemic. We continue to work on the Officials issues. Skill development is key to growth. We are not overstaffed. The fee increases allow us to operate from 6U through the Olympic level. We want to have an extra amount of open conversation surrounding governance

to answer any and all questions. We must address mandates by the USOC. We will now have an Affiliate President representative on the USA Hockey board which is a huge benefit to affiliate presidents throughout USA Hockey.

**USA Hockey Assistant Executive Director Bob Mancini.** Thank you for having me today. We need to create better interdepartmental communication within USA Hockey. Yes, one of our missions is about developing more and better players, but we really need to connect to the membership, so they continue from 6U all the way through. We need to create more synergy and get rid of the silos and isolationism. As volunteers, I really want to thank you for everything you do.

**Questions and conversation to Mike and Bob.** Darryl Thompson said he was very grateful to have Kristen Wright as the new ADM manager for Alaska. Kris Knauss asked what the future is for model clubs. Bob Mancini said USA Hockey will be changing how we look at and service model clubs. Looking to roll the model clubs and club excellence into a single program.

**District Reports** (*continued*)

- B. Financial Report - Chris Hays. Written report provided.
- C. Disabled Section – Matt Zucker. Written report provided.
- D. Risk Manager Report – John Silberstein – not present/no report provided.
- E. CIC Report – Flint Doungchak (District) and Rick Trupp (Alaska). Written reports provided.
- F. RIC Report – Dan Ellison. Registration for officials closed on January 31, 2022. I have provided numbers by state in my written report. The Jamie Huntley-Park Womens Official Pacific District Development Camp will be held in conjunction with Girls District Development Camp in Las Vegas in May 2023. USA Hockey added some money back to us for officiating. Have talked with all the state RICs with ideas on developing and/or bringing in new officials for next year. Kris Knauss asked the officials to keep a list of officials for District Tournaments so we can keep track of who is at tournaments, who are returning, etc.
- G. Registrar’s Report – Wendy Goldstein. Written report provided.  
We are in alignment with the National Office. Down 5%. Nevada is up 160% and Washington is up as well. Credentialing is taking place for playoffs. Believe there needs to be an administrative section as part of the coaching education and official education curriculum so they better understand how important credentialing is.
- H. Bobby Freeland Grants – Andy Potter – all funds have been distributed.
- I. Boys Player Development – Kris Knauss  
Presently dealing with At-Large requests for the Boys Player Development Camp. We have received player advancement lists from all Affiliates except for PNAHA. I am reaching out to college coaches. Putting an “RK” Patch on all camp jerseys as a tribute to Robby Kaufman. Each affiliate was to have evaluator recommendations to me by February 1. If you have not done this, please get them to me now. Overall, everything is coming together. On a side note, both Brian Cooper (Alaska) and Brendan Brisson (California) are members of the USA Olympic team.  
Western Region High Performance Camp – Wayne Sawchuk  
We are headed back to Colorado College June 13-18, 2022. Working closely with Colorado College. Will send out some information later this week. Going to reinstate the coaching intern program. Reaching out to coaches and team leaders. Worked PNAHA’s camp a couple weeks ago. Had some good conversations with Rob Kaufman.  
District Goaltending Camp – Darin Campbell. Written Report Provided.  
Girls Player Development – Kathy McGarrigle  
Playing catchup to get the camp set up, but have had great response from D3 coaches and evaluators from last year that have participated. I will be sending out invites tonight and tomorrow.
- J. Girls Section – Kathy McGarrigle. Written Report Provided.  
All District Affiliates have positive reports regarding their girls’ programs district wide. Everyone is up in their growth. Seeing good numbers at the younger ages. District Championships will be hosted in Fairbanks, Alaska March 3-6, 2022. Women’s is going to be moving to Adult Section, no game counts required for National participation. About to transition into being our own council. Great participation across the board and buy in by current affiliates, former athletes, US National Team. The 2023 Girls National Tournament has been awarded to Anaheim Jr. Ducks.
- K. Affiliate Presidents’ Reports  
**CAHA – Thomas Hancock.** Affiliate presidents met via Zoom. For the Affiliate stipend, 10% goes to the district, 50% to goalie development and 50% to general funds. Lester Sparks recommended and the Presidents voted to give 100% of 10% to girls development and the girls player development camp. Awards were given as follows:

Andy Anderson Award – Robby Kaufman

Dempsey Anderson Award – Chris Carney

Chris Anderson Award – Jamie Huntley, posthumously.

Specific to CAHA, we have created a new DIU position, Lameca Bell, who has done an outstanding job working with at risk girls in Southern California. As to Officials we have done everything we can to ensure no issues with a shortage of officials. We set up an emergency fund of \$50K to fly in officials from Texas and NV to work games. Our numbers are rebounding, but we are still slightly under pre covid numbers.

**OSHA - Andy Potter.** President and Treasurer positions are up for election this spring. Player Development Camp had an all-time record for girls and goalies attending. Evaluation for potential Tier 1 teams in the future. Also expanding the girls Tier II program statewide. Shout out to officials in OR, who have to date been able to cover all events in OR, great job to them.

**PNAHA – Rob Azevedo.** PNAHA is working to move forward following the recent Celebration of Life for Robby Kaufman, where there was standing room only. The Kaufman family is very appreciative of everyone's support. Robby gave a tremendous amount to not only Washington but within the Pacific District as well. Regarding Tier 1 hockey, we are working to tackle the problem that we are not a multiple Tier 1 team state. I do think our development will get better. This year we joined the Girls and Youth Player Development Camps. Overall, a good success. Both Wayne Sawchuk and Kristen Wright came and assisted at camp. Believe it grew by 30%. Our younger group coming up is very strong. We do recognize that we need to make some changes for the future. Across the state we have huge problems with scoresheets and are looking to go with an electronic system statewide. Appreciate any input from any of you with experience with electronic scoring. We need better education through all associations.

**ASHA – Darryl Thompson.** Adult Labatt's tournament in Alaska this year is not being assisted by the National office, who have chosen to be in Seattle with the Kraken. Working on developing our own version in Alaska. Kris Knauss suggested that Thomas Hancock carry this message back to the Adult Council to get support. Alaska's VP Player Development will run both the Girls and Boys Player Development camps. Some in Alaska don't like it, but we have 140 girls signed up, which is up by 50 players. We can do a better job. ASHA is not going to raise Affiliate fees. Have a governance group together to redesign our bylaws and governance. Looking at a 20-member board. We have been transparent about it. Will be interesting how this transitions forward. New junior program in Anchorage, NAHL Wolverines. Doing well, attendance is great. They want to take over the Tier 1 program. Would be a huge disservice to the other two NAHL programs in our state. Match penalty program has been awesome. Challenge Alaska jamboree is the first weekend of August. Sign up as a player, not a team. Could be an amazing summer adventure for people.

### III. **USA Hockey Reports**

- A. Youth Council & Player Development – Kris Knauss. Looking at the High School Council. Is their year-end tournament a National Tournament or a Festival? Player Development Committee will be a 6-person committee with about a 20 member staff for support. Continuing discussing Tryout rules. People across the country are happy to get back to normal, move past Covid.
- B. Adult Council – Tom Hancock. Nothing to report.
- C. Legal Council –Darryl Thompson. Focus has been governance items, which we have already covered.
- D. SafeSport Report – Darryl Thompson – A lot going on with SafeSport. Enormous task for our volunteers to manage.
- E. 2022 Pacific District Tournaments – Wayne Sawchuk. Schedules were reviewed for the upcoming District Tournaments. Discussion ensued about three team schedule and off day. Wayne reminded everyone that when you do a tournament with an odd number of teams, the schedule becomes very difficult to manager. Something to keep in mind for the tournament.
  - Schedule – Youth Tier I Tournament – Thomas Hancock motioned for approval. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
  - Schedule – Girls Tier I & Tier II Tournament – Darryl Thompson motioned for approval. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

### IV. **New Business**

- A. Election of Chairperson. Darryl Thompson motioned for Kris Knauss to continue as Chairperson. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.
- B. High School Section Discussion. Kris Knauss opened discussion, stating out current High School representative has made things a challenge for this board over the last 6 months. Annual Guide allows each District to pick their section person for a term of 3 years. The Pacific District has not been well represented by our High School Section person. Thomas Hancock motioned for a vote of no confidence of

Steve Laing as our High School Section per, stating that Alaska, California, and Nevada have received no guidance or information regarding High School. Requesting that USA Hockey be notified via letter to Trimboli and the executive committee. Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with Ben Frank abstaining due to lack of prior involvement and knowledge.

Kris Knauss then called for nominations for a new High School Section Representative. Thomas Hancock nominated Rosemary Voulelikas; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. With no further discussion, motion passed with no abstentions.

C. **2023 Pacific District Championships Dates & Locations**

Per District discussions held throughout the year, we are looking to do an all-encompassing - Youth Tier 1 and Girls Tier 1 & Tier 2 – district tournament in San Jose, California. The District will need a minimum of 5 ice sheets to accomplish this. Wayne Sawchuk reached out to Jon Gustafson who said that can happen, no problem. Date to be February 23-26, 2023. Thomas Hancock motioned to approve as stated; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with no abstentions.

D. **Next meeting – June 2022 - Denver Marriott Tech Center – during Annual Congress. Will likely be on Saturday, June 10 following the USA Hockey Board meeting.**

E. **October Board Meeting to be October 15, 2022 in San Diego, CA. Andy Potter motioned to approve; Ben Frank seconded. Motion passed with no abstentions.**

V. **Final Comments & Adjournment**

Andy Potter – Thanks for letting me participate.

Dan Ellison – Thank you guys for all the support. Been fun to work with Wayne and Anna on the Fairbanks tournament.

Wendy Goldstein – looking forward to my first trip to Fairbanks, Alaska.

Rob Azevedo – Thank everyone for all the input everyone is giving PNAHA. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Ben Frank – Thanks for having me. Going to Fairbanks too. Looking forward to it.

Darryl Thompson - wants to flip things so we are spending 90% of our time on the fun stuff in hockey and only 10% on the not fun stuff.

Chris Hays – All good.

Thomas Hancock. All good.

Kris Knauss – thank Lisa for all the work to set up.

Lisa McPheters – All good.

Wayne Sawchuk – All good.