



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

Saturday – June 11, 2022
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm (PST)
Denver Marriott Tech Center
Meeting Room – Bluebell

Present

Rob Azevedo
Anna Culley
Flint DOUNGCHAK
Dan Ellison
Wendy Goldstein
Thomas Hancock
Kris Knauss
Lisa McPheters
Wayne Sawchuk
John Silberstein
Rick Trupp
Rosemary Voulelikas

Absent

John Beaulieu
Darrin Campbell
Darren Eliot
Josh Ellis
Ben Frank
Lester Sparks
Darryl Thompson
Matt Zucker

Guests

Teresa Attebery
Jeremy McCann

Minutes

- I. **Call to Order** – Kris Knauss called the meeting to order at 11:56 am.
- II. **Roll Call & Introductions** – Everyone introduced themselves. Wendy introduced the registrars, Teresa Attebery (California), Jeremy McCann (Washington), Anna Culley (Alaska). Kris also announced that Rosemary Voulelikas is the Section Representative for the High School Section.
- III. **Persons To Be Heard** – no persons to be heard.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** – Kris Knauss asked for approval of the agenda. Thomas Hancock motioned for the agenda to be approved as written. Rob Azevedo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. **Approval of February 5, 2022 Minutes** – Rob Azevedo motioned for the approval of the February 5, 2022 minutes. Wayne Sawchuk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- VI. **Reports**
 - A. **Chairman Report - Kris Knauss**

USA Hockey has been working a lot on governance. The biggest item of significance is moving from a 91 to 26 voting member board, with 33.33% being Athlete Directors. Beginning in January 2023, District Directors will become District Representatives. We, the Pacific District, will need to change our bylaws to reflect this change. For our Councils, will we continue to have section representatives, or do we have a board member take on those responsibilities? These changes are being implemented to keep the fabric of USA Hockey in place. Athlete directors will have 2.5 votes where a District Representative will have 1 vote. I was elected to USA Hockey's Executive Committee today. Eliminating marketing section; Adding Membership Section. Player Development committee will be a 6-member board. Move 17 national camp to a tournament format. Youth Council also moved for a 13 Only National tournament (2024). Another challenge at hand is how does hockey work between the 17-age level to the 21-age level. We also have a new chair of international. A lot of the new positions are only 6-month appointments.

Thomas Hancock asked how the new governance transitions to the Pacific District level. Kris said we will need to focus our October board meeting in determining how all the changes affect our District. We need to align with some other Districts. Ensure that the Pacific District is represented in the new board structure. Big question, but how engaged are the Athlete Directors going to be able to be. Believe we will have higher level of engagement from USA Hockey staff.

- B. Financial Report – Chris Hays – no report received. He has been in court. Both Player Development camps were in the black. Will get
- C. Registrar’s Report – Wendy Goldstein. Written Report Received. Happy to report that our player numbers are quickly getting back to pre-covid season numbers. For the 21.22 season, we are only down 5% from the 2019-2020 season and up 173% from the 2020-2021 season. As a comparison, the national numbers are up 120% from the previous season. Based on the paid participant registrations for the 22.23 season to date, we are well ahead of the 19.20 season numbers (135%). Credentialing for the USA Hockey 18U Tier II National Tournament in Irvine was extremely frustrating. Many basic rules were not followed and it feels like it is a complete waste of time to credential teams. It is **NOT** fair to the Pacific District teams that follow the rules to have other Affiliates/Districts ignore rules and then ask for a waiver.
- Currently there are 1,863 rosters in the Pacific District Registrar Portal, including 22 disabled rosters (16 Sled rosters, 4 Warrior rosters, 1 Special roster and 1 Blind roster). Award patches. Presidents, please reach out to your associations to see if they need any award patches. Wendy Goldstein made a motion to have electronic payment for the next season for tournament sanctions. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Discussion ensued that Wendy will work on methodology, working with Flint DOUNGCHAK on how to set up. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. District CIC Report – Flint DOUNGCHAK. Written Report Received. Will have Levels 1,2, 3 clinics this summer. Coaches will receive invites from national office for the clinics. Level 4 clinics are being put together by the National office only. Rick Trupp is on the Continuing Education subsection. Alaska CIC Report - Rick Trupp. Continuing Education. Changes being implemented to allow tightening up all the loopholes. Please see attached FAQ.
- E. Risk Management Report - John Silberstein. EMT at all invitational tournaments. Did the spec committee talk to the risk management group in advance? Risk Management not in favor of this requirement. No legal standard out there that requires medical personnel at our youth tournaments and camps. The minute we require that, we must enforce it. How do we verify there is adequate staffing? Liability if we cannot enforce our own rules. And if we need medical personnel at a tournament then why don’t we need medical personnel at all games. Less onerous requirements to potentially accomplish the same thing. Such as equipment changes, neck guards. Kris asked John if we’d learned anything from Covid. We had one claim, and it was dismissed with no payout. We must be smart about how we handle situations like Covid. Our insurance coverage has changed a lot in last 3 years. Caps and aggregates. Carrier changed. In 2021.22 independent tournament carries have to show proof of insurance at \$2/\$4 million. Moving forward changing requirement to \$1/\$2 Million. Our District has very few claims.
- F. Bobby Freeland Report - Lester Sparks and Thomas Hancock
Kris Knauss advised that Thomas Hancock was going to oversee the Bobby Freeland Reports.
- G. Affiliate Presidents’ Reports
- Alaska – Anna Culley.** Anna was appointed by Darryl Thompson for purposes of this board meeting. The Alaska Affiliate held its annual board meeting in April, where Darryl was re-elected for a two year term. Several other new officers were elected as well. Affiliate is working on challenges within the Tier 1 program but are looking to iron those out prior to our July 2022 board meeting.
- Washington – Rob Azevedo.** Affiliate camps went really well this year, feel we’ve had great development. PNAHA will be having a board meeting this next weekend. Filling the spot of 1st Vice President. Increasing numbers in female game. Working on the Tier 1 aspect.
- California - Thomas Hancock.** Things have rebounded quite well after Covid. On verge of having our very first girls high school team. Fine tuning our high school leagues. In two weeks we have our annual board meeting. We have a couple rules amendments up for vote and implementation. Revamped our tier 1 rules.
- Nevada – Darren Eliot.** Written report provided and attached.
- Oregon – Lester Sparks.** No report provided.
- a. Send Lisa your 2022/23 Affiliate Meeting Dates/Location to establish a list for Directors.
- H. District Championships – Wayne Sawchuk. Dan Ellison wanted to thank Anna for an outstanding job.
- a. 2022 Poll Results discussion.
 - b. 2023 Tournament Host Report – All-encompassing tournament in San Jose, February 23-26, 2023.

- I. USA Hockey Reports
 - a. Youth Council – Kris Knauss. A lot is going on within USA Hockey to restructure. Youth Council has great leadership and we are working diligently to better the game for the youth players.
 - b. Legal Council –Darryl Thompson. No report provided.
 - c. SafeSport Report – Darryl Thompson. No report provided.
 - d. High School Section – Rosemary Voulelikas. Want to see Registration numbers up. Discussion on having 7th and 8th graders participate. Discussed the omission of Pacific District teams last year and working to revamp the selection process. Not a lot of transparency.
 - e. District RIC - Dan Ellison. Youth 16 and 18 Tier 1 Nationals in Irvine and Tier 1 Girls in Anaheim. Last season 1600 officials in district. Good rebound from Covid. Shooting for 2000 in 2022/23. Pushing state RICs to get out and recruit. Very encouraged by what he is seeing. USAH Officiating task force to look at all aspects that tie into the effects on officiating. Don't believe we have an attrition problem, but definitely need to deal with abuse of officials and parent behaviors taking place. In January, anticipate that there's going to be some type of development where we all work together. Excited about the future. Held our women's district officiating camp in conjunction with the girl's camp. Want to establish a men's development camp in conjunction with the youth camp. Think we can set something up that will work well for both camps. Feel things are working well for officials. Thomas Hancock asked a question on a youth player who is registered with USA Hockey, do they also need to register as an official if they want to officiate. The answer is yes, they must also register as an official and pay the fee.
 - f. Disabled Section – Matt Zucker. Written Report Provided.
 - g. Boys Player Development – Kris Knauss
 - 1. District Goaltending Development Camp & Budget – Lester Sparks and Darin Campbell. Neither were present; Written report provided by Darin Campbell.
 - 2. Western Regional High Performance Camp & Budget – Wayne Sawchuk
Driving to Colorado Springs tonight to get ready for this camp. 200 kids attending. 4 CAHA kids injured in last week. 10 interns this year, 1 per team. Colorado College costs went up quite a bit, 25%. Denver University would like to take over the camp. Comes down to costs.
Wayne would like to see a \$50 affiliate player fee for the 14s much like Kris receives for the 15, 16 & 17s. If camp is doing well financially, we will not charge it. Did not receive \$10,000 USAH grant this year. Thomas Hancock motioned for approval of the \$50.00 fee; Rob Azevedo seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Geoff Pashkowski, USA Hockey Director, Arizona, talked to Wayne about doing a 14 Girls Multi District Camp, as a true development camp. Thomas Hancock motioned to create a 14 Girls Multi District Camp to include a \$50 fee. Rob Azevedo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 3. 2022 Boys Player Development Camp & Budget – Kris Knauss
Very successful camp. We had 17 D1 coaches there. 17 Camp moved to a 40-man camp. Like to continue it and move to a national tournament format. Off ice testing was done. Dates for May 11-14, 2023, in Las Vegas. Wayne Sawchuk motioned to approve these dates and location. Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Golden Knights will be building two more sheets of ice in Vegas close to the strip, which may be helpful with ice needs for the camp.
 - h. Girls Section & 2022 Player Development Camp – Kathy McGarrigle. Written reports provided.
- J. 2022 USA Hockey Pacific District Dates of Interest
 - a. August 5-7, 2022 USA Hockey PD Goaltender Development Camp – Kraken Community Iceplex, Northgate Station, Seattle, Washington.
 - b. October 15, 2022 USA Hockey Pacific District Board Meeting – San Diego, CA
 - c. January 13-16, 2023 USA Hockey Winter Meeting - Florida
 - d. February 4, 2023 USA Hockey Pacific District Board Meeting – Las Vegas, NV

- e. February 23-26, 2023 USA Hockey Pacific District Championships (Youth T1 & Girls T1 & T2
San Jose, California
- f. May 11-14, 2023 USA Hockey Pacific District Boys Player Dev Camp – Las Vegas, Nevada
- g. May 4-7, 2023 USA Hockey Pacific District Girls Player Dev Camp – Las Vegas, Nevada
- h. June 2023 Pacific District Board Meeting – Denver, CO
- i. October 2023 Pacific District Event/Meeting – Seattle, WA

Thomas Hancock motioned to approve set dates; Wayne Sawchuk seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

K. District Handbook Changes and/or Revisions

- a. Affiliate Presidents – send personnel/staff updates to Lisa as soon as they are known for handbook updates
- b. Handbook changes
 - i. Removal of physical addresses from handbook
 - ii. Updated Player Development Policy was emailed out in advance. Wayne Sawchuk motioned to approve. Rob Azevedo seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
 - iii. Board would like to have a printed handbook, once all revisions as determined from USA Hockey National changes are established.

VII. New Business

- A. February 4, 2023 District Meeting in Las Vegas
- B. MOU for Western Regional High-Performance Camp – Wayne signed this. One of the directors of RMR wants more oversight.

VIII. Final Comments & Adjournment

Rob Azevedo. Looking on bringing on Gamesheet. Does anyone have insight in using this? Teresa Attebery and Thomas Hancock to talk to Rob.

Dan Ellison – Will bring bag tags to future meeting.

Thomas Hancock – no comment.

Rosemary Voulelikas – no comment.

Jeremy McCann – no comment.

Teresa Attebery – no comment.

Wendy Goldstein. Glad registrars are here. Great to have congress in person.

Anna Culley. Thanks for letting me be Darryl.

Wayne Sawchuk. Better with district tournaments. Social media presence. Our camps.

Lisa McPheters – no comment.

Kris Knauss - Good season and rebound from Covid. Great that we can do what we do to help others in the district.

Thomas Hancock motioned to adjourn the meeting; Wayne Sawchuk seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.