



**2023 USA Hockey
Pacific District Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday – June 10, 2023
11:00 am – 2:00 pm (MST)
Denver Marriott Tech Center
Meeting Room – Bluebell

Present

Rob Azevedo
Flint DOUNGCHAK
Darren Eliot
Dan Ellison
Wendy Goldstein
Thomas Hancock
Kris Knauss
Lisa McPheters
Alex Morrison
Wayne Sawchuk
John Silberstein
Lester Sparks
Darryl Thompson
Rick Trupp
Rosemary Voulelikas
Matthew Zucker

Absent

John Beaulieu
Josh Ellis
Ben Frank
Chris Hays
Darin Campbell

Minutes

- I. **Call to Order** – Kris Knauss called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Roll call was taken.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – Darryl Thompson motioned to approve the agenda reflecting the correct dates for the Youth T1 18U & 16U District Tournament in 2024. Lester Sparks seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- III. **Approval of February 4, 2023 Minutes** – Lester Sparks motioned to approve the February 4, 2023 minutes; Darryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- IV. **Reports**
 - A. Chairman Report - Kris Knauss – Good movement in restructuring of USA Hockey board. Big gaps between the legislative proposal and actual flow. Government committee will ramp back up. Youth council had good presentations and positive feedback. Player Development heard large push to put 8U back to full ice. Player Development Committee has a waiver process in place and we provided guidance to those folks to submit waivers. Waivers come from affiliate presidents. Going to push back hard within this district on 8U staying at half-ice. Went with Casey and Pat on trip to DC. They really want to start conversations and introductions with congressional members regarding SafeSport. Made sure they target key staff members. Hockey Caucus. Interesting group. USA Hockey needs to be more visible and known within the federal government.
 - B. Financial Report – Chris Hays – written report
 - C. Registrar’s Report – Wendy Goldstein – written report
 - D. Bobby Freeland Report - Lester Sparks and Thomas Hancock. Applications are open for the following season. Thomas Hancock stated that we need to push out to our associations.
 - E. RIC Reports – Dan Ellison / Josh Ellis. Written reports. Darryl Thompson addressed having the best officials on the ice, male or female.
 - F. CIC Reports – Flint DOUNGCHAK / Rick Trupp – written reports.

- G. Risk Management – John Silberstein. If you witness an injury, please report it to me. Sooner we can get on top of it, better all the way around. Some of our insurances changed. Get better coverage. Looking at going to London for coverage. Knauss asked about pooling with NGBs to lower costs. Feels it would be a greater risk. GL, Crime policy, E&O, Player Accident, Catastrophic. If playing in a tournament, tournament needs to be a USAH sanctioned tournament for there to be coverage.
- H. Affiliate President Reports
- Thomas Hancock – CAHA. District did well at Nationals. 150 won Tier 1 nationals. Mandatory training for anti-bullying, diversity, and tolerance. All participants and one custodial parent. Players will not be able to roster without the training being completed by all individuals. Are working with all 3 NHL programs in CAHA as well as USA Hockey on putting this together. Kris Knauss recommends to other affiliates to have a meeting with your CAHA Player Development People on the process taking place in California. Would like to welcome Rick Hutchinson as our District Membership Council Representative.
- Rob Azevedo – PNAHA. 8U, 10U & 12U numbers have been consistent over the last several years. Split our development camps this year. 14U was separated added in the 13U's. Each skater received an exit interview. Sno-Kings 16U Tier II Girls won National Championship. Two teams applied to CCSHL for play. Two teams from Wenatchee. Kent team will not be a national bound team. Election coming up this Saturday.
- Darryl Thompson – ASHA. Labatt's Adult tournament came back to Alaska this year. Katie Holmgren stepped up to the plate. 47 teams. Boys' teams competitive at Districts. Girls' teams did well. 16U Tier II Boys won nationals. 14U Tier II Alaska vs Las Vegas. Hosting Districts this year for 16U and 18U Tier I Youth. ASHA hosts our Tier 1 program in Alaska. Will not be hosting 13O. But will be hosting Girls Tier 1 teams. Governance failed to gain any traction in Alaska. Seems there is worry that a smaller board will not represent everyone's interest.
- Darren Eliot – NAHA. Written report provided. Appreciate everyone's support. Go Knight's GO! Struggling at older age groups to be competitive. Collaborating with the Kraken for the Winter Classic. Doing some Youth activities at it. Annual meeting is June 21st.
- Lester Sparks – OSHA. Have had some changes with our board. State championships this year. Did send 3 teams to Nationals. Numbers are finally back to where they were pre-covid. A lot of growth from southern part of our state. Have a rink that is currently in foreclosure. Moving into our summer meetings, starting in July.
- I. District Championships – Wayne Sawchuk
- a. 2023 Results & Poll
 Congratulations to the LA Jr. Kings 14U & 15O Tier 1 teams, as well as the Anaheim Ducks 16U and 18U Tier 1 teams for winning Tier 1 Districts.
 Rob Azevedo said thanks to Wayne for directing the District Championships. Alex Morrison said it was a job well done from the participant viewpoint.
- J. USA Hockey Reports
- a. Youth Council – Kris Knauss. Joe Baudo (NY) is now national tournament director. A number of proposals 3 on 3 overtime, 3-man shootouts, clean up on the guidebook. To be released in September. Lots of discussion on Hosts and not having the volunteer base. Pretty big revenue loss. Looking at what makes sense moving forward. International, NTDP, hockey operations staff collaboration. Joe Bonnet will be the head coach and Wayne Sawchuk will serve as team leader for Jr. team in Korea competition.
 - b. Legal Council – Darryl Thompson. Having quarterly meetings. Legislative proposals came up for review. Complexion of the legal council is to have 3 members of congress on it. Amended to "at least". Have had subcommittees over the years looking at what legal council does. FAQ on discipline, providing layman terms for the discipline process. Tampering task force.
 - c. SafeSport – Darryl Thompson. Nothing to report.
 - d. High School Section – Rosemary Voulelikas. 3 boys team participate Prep Div 1 and Div 2. Two girls team participate. Clarifying the 5th year and postgraduates not being eligible to participate. 2nd proposal is to change the names from Prep and Divisions to 3A, 2A, & 1A. Also proposed to allow for growth of girls teams but not boys teams.
 - e. Girls Section – Alex Morrison. Girls Council, with balloons and cookies. Don Gould is chair and doing a great job. Would prefer more females involved with female hockey. Now sit on

the leadership committee for Girls Council. Women's World Championship in Utica, New York, April 12-14, 2024. National Camp is moving to end of July. Would like all district camps done at the beginning of May. As part of the leadership summit, bringing in professionals that are outside of sports. Not sure what they would like that to look like.

- f. Disabled Section – Matt Zucker. Section is trying to become more professional. Not a lot of doers and a lot of new people. Teaching and working with the national team. On the waiver committee and redo our tournament rules. Will send me an email summary and dates.
- g. Player Development – Kris Knauss. Team pacific. Erik Largen UAF / Matt Shasby UAA / Matt Thompson will be the team leader. Joe Jones player development to put together best practices for player development camps. Committee will put this together. Steve Thompson green light to put goal tending developers into Player Development Camps to facilitate at camps. Seems to be a disconnect with GDCs. Kevin Reiter moving on as Asst. Coach at University of Michigan.
 - 1. District Goaltending Development Camp & Budget – Lester Sparks / Darin Campbell 41 goalies registered. \$550 is the fee.
 - 2. Western Regional High Performance Camp & Budget – Wayne Sawchuk. Camp was very successful. Will have a budget at next board meeting
 - 3. 2023 Boys Player Development Camp – Kris Knauss. Good camp, excited to see how our 17U team fares at the National Development Camp. Great collegiate coach turnout and good representation from junior hockey programs.
 - 4. 2023 Girls Player Development Camp – Alex Morrison. Presentation made and outstanding camp. Raised the bar in 2023. Looking to host a 14U Girls Multi District for 2024. June 21-14, 2024 in Las Vegas.

2023 USA Hockey Pacific District Dates of Interest

August 4-6, 2023	USA Hockey PD Goaltender Development Camp – Seattle, WA
October 21, 2023	USA Hockey Affiliate Player Development Meeting – Las Vegas, NV
October 22, 2023	USA Hockey Pacific District Board Meeting – Las Vegas, NV
January 25-28, 2024	USA Hockey Winter Meeting – Orlando, Florida
February 3, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Board Meeting – Seattle, WA
Feb 29-Mar 3, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Championships WS, DT Youth T1 18U & 16U – Anchorage, AK (Facility TBD)
February 22-25, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Championships Youth T1 15O, 14U, 13O – Seattle, WA (Kraken Community Iceplex)
February 22-25, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Championships Girls T1 & Tier II 14U, 16U & 19U – San Jose, CA (Sharks Ice)
May 9-12, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Boys Player Dev Camp – Las Vegas, Nevada
May 2-5, 2024	USA Hockey Pacific District Girls Player Dev Camp – Las Vegas, Nevada
June 2024	Pacific District Board Meeting – Denver, CO
October 2024	Pacific District Event/Meeting – Location TBD

Rob Azevedo motioned to accept the above dates; Thomas Hancock seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

V. New Business

- A. Girls Section Representative Election. Wayne Sawchuk nominates Alex Morrison as the Girls Section Representative; Thomas Hancock seconds the motion. Nominations closed. Motion passes unanimously.
- B. Request for Increase in District Championship Officiating Fees as proposed by Dan Ellison for a 5 year period. Wayne Sawchuk motions to approve suggested increase; Lester Sparks seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
- C. District Handbook Adoption & Compliance in the works.
- D. 2024 NHL Winter Classic Reception – District should consider doing something. Discuss in further at October board meeting.