

MINNESOTA HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
2009 SPRING MEETING – Brooklyn Center, Mn.
4/25/2009

Meeting Called To Order: 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call –

<i>President</i>	<i>Eric Olson</i>
<i>North Vice President</i>	<i>Buzz Olson</i>
<i>South Vice President</i>	<i>Dennis Alm</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Roger Stephens</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Dave Nyquist</i>
<i>District 1</i>	<i>Dennis Alm</i>
<i>District 2</i>	<i>Terry Thorsheim</i>
<i>District 3</i>	<i>Jim Gates</i>
<i>District 4</i>	<i>Ryan Swafford (Ryan Nolander, & Mark Zallek (representing))</i>
<i>District 5</i>	<i>Mike Mooney</i>
<i>District 6</i>	<i>Dave Kemp</i>
<i>District 8</i>	<i>Paul Moen (Bill Monahan (representing))</i>
<i>District 10</i>	<i>Bruce Carlson</i>
<i>District 11</i>	<i>Scott Patten (Nick Biondich-Incoming Supv.)</i>
<i>District 12</i>	<i>Tod Plackner (Chris Kavanaugh-Incoming Supv.)</i>
<i>District 15</i>	<i>Howard Breitrueetz</i>
<i>District 16</i>	<i>Dan Dow</i>
<i>Past President</i>	<i>Skip Trumble</i>
<i>Minnkota RIC</i>	<i>Steve Tatro</i>
<i>Minnkota Evaluation Coordinator</i>	<i>Bruce Carlson</i>

Guests - None

REPORTS

Secretary Report - Roger Stephens

The secretary's report was available by web site, and there were no copies handed out. Eric asked to have them emailed as well. A motion to accept the Secretary's Report from the 2008 Fall Meeting by Steve Tatro & 2nd by Dan Dow, Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Nyquist

Dave went over the break down of the Treasurer's Report. A motion to accept the treasurer's report by Buzz Olson, & 2nd by Dennis Alm. Motion carried.

Evaluations – Bruce Carlson

A break down of the evaluations & mentoring to date are as follows:

Evaluations

D1=20, D2=0, D3=86, D4=27, D5=144, D6=211, D8=80, D10=120, D11=0, D12=0, D15=0, D16=0, & CAMPS=100 FOR A TOTAL OF 935.

Mentoring

D1=0, D2=0, D3=21, D4=0, D5=126, D6=0, D8=0, D10=72, D11=0, D12=0, D15=0, D16=0 FOR A TOTAL OF 93.

Evaluations: Evaluations totals are not yet compiled. Of the districts reporting, indications are that about 35% of our officials will have had a formal evaluation completed this season. This percentage is down from previous seasons by about 5%. This is probably due to more mentoring and/or informal evaluations taking place.

Mentoring: The Mentoring program remains a great teaching tool in districts One, Two, Three, Five, Eight, and Ten. This program puts a seasoned official on the ice to guide new officials, not to call the game for them but game the mentor spends time with the officials on how to improve. District Eleven now assigns every new official a seasoned official at the start of the season. This mentor meets with the new official 3 times throughout the season to assist them in completing registration, getting games, and developing the tools they will need to be successful.

Bruce also handed out evaluation forms, and guideline booklets to those interested. Bruce asked for those who needed more forms, booklets, etc. to get a hold of him so he could order more for this fall. A motion to accept the evaluation report was made by Jim gates, and 2nd by Dennis Alm. Motion carried.

Seminars – Greg Cosgrove

Greg could not make it, and Steve went over the numbers.

Registration: 2765 people registered with USA Hockey to become officials, 2476 completed the registration process. The completion rate increased to about 90%. This is an increase of about 3.5% and now makes Minnesota first in fully registered officials. Possible reasons for the increase are more user friendly exams and an effort to mentor new and second year officials. Overall registrants are up 4% from last season.

Seminars: Local seminars numbered 74 with 2725 attendees and 117 Instructors. This attendance is up by 2.4% from last year.

A motion to accept the seminar report was made by Dave Kemp, and 2nd by Tod Plackner. Motion carried.

State Tournament Reports

Jr. Gold A – Dennis said the tourney was held in Richfield with no real issues, other than one team only bringing one set of jerseys. He said the District 5 crew did the final game, and did a very nice job.

Jr. Gold B – Eric reported for Paul, and said they had good crews, and good communication through-out the tourney.

16 & U – Dave said everything went smooth, and thanked Skip for all of his work during the tourney. It made things much easier for him.

Bantam A – Dan said it was a great tourney, and he had really good crews, especially the crew from District 15. Thanks to Buzz for his help also.

Bantam B/ Peewee B – District 10 hosted the tourney, and Bruce could not be there. Scott Patten reported that all went well, and had good crews.

Peewee A – Jim said other than some troubles with the scoreboard, all went well.

Women's – No report.

Girls 19UB – Terry said the tourney went well, and they used all district 3 crews.

Girls 14UA – Mike said Buffalo did a really nice job hosting the tourney, and the tourney went without incident. All games went to overtime on Sunday.

Girls 12UA – Tod said he had really good crews working the tourney, and it makes it hard to send one crew home on Sunday.

Girls 12 UB – Howard said Brainerd hosted the tourney. Everything went good, and there was one official who had to leave early because of a family issue.

Girls 14UB – The tourney was held in Marshall & because of some last minute changes, there were some teams who could not find a hotel in town, and went to surrounding communities.

MHOA/Minnkota Camps – Steve Tatro

MHOA Camp is being held from June 13th to June 18th at St. Cloud, and Dave Weisjahn will be running the camp. Minnkota Camp is being held from June 27th to July 2nd, and this is also held in St. Cloud. Steve is also looking for some higher level games for the Minnkota Camp, and asked the supervisors to let him know of any if they could.

*MHOA Camp Instructors – J.B. Olson, Rick Looker, Jeff Beckers, & Steve Tatro. Minnkota Camp Instructors are pending.

*Candidates – Reviewed some of the candidates to see if some could be moved to the Minnkota Camp, as there were a couple of openings.

Women's Camp – We are having a hard time filling this camp. A suggestion was to shorten the camp and then possibly there would be more interested in attending. Dave will contact Evonne, and work on a budget, and some other ideas to get this camp utilized.

Supervisors – Steve wanted to know if anyone had any ideas for rule changes he could bring to USA Hockey's annual congress for submittal. Issues might be for abuse of officials, etc.

Supervisor Reports

District 1 – Dennis Alm – They had a good year. The 3 penalty rule reduced the number of game misconducts almost by half. They only had 49 this season. Fighting & Checking from Behind were the top two penalties. They had approximately 2350 games, and had approximately 110 officials.

District 2 – Terry Thorsheim – They did 3000 games using 165 officials. They are thinking of increasing the minimum age because they have more than enough officials to use. Jr. Gold fighting penalties were down this season. Overall the season went well.

District 3 – Jim Gates – Game misconducts were down by half. They had 3 match penalties that were all for kicking. They worked about 2700 games this season, and have plenty of officials, and will be looking to be more selective.

District 4 – Ryan Swafford – Ryan said they have about 300 officials working in 19 different communities. The problem they have is having enough qualified officials doing some of their games in some of those communities. They had 3 match penalties this season.

District 5 – Mike Mooney – They did approximately 1800 games, performed 144 evaluations, & 126 mentoring reports. They added 36 new officials this season, and have a total of 200 officials now. They use an on-ice clinic for new officials and the district help pay for the ice time. They had 27 game misconducts this season, and that was down from 42 the year before. They had one physical assault on an official in the Jr. Gold B program. Overall it was a pretty good year for him as a new supervisor.

District 6 – Dave Kemp – He had a year in paradise! They used 175 officials doing approximately 5000 games. Their season caught him off guard a little when they started about 2 weeks earlier this season. Their district is looking at using a new scheduling program. They had about the same amount of game misconducts as the year before. They now have a new district president, and 2 new board members.

District 8 – Paul Moen – Has concerns about the fees for some of these special tournaments every year. They seem to have fewer games, and more officials, and it is getting to be a problem getting enough games for everyone.

District 10 – Bruce Carlson – He had a stellar year. No Match penalties. They used 135 officials for approximately 3500 games. His district is shrinking. He has too many officials in one area, and not enough in another. Tom Nergaard is their new scheduler. They have new president for this next season. They will not be holding any seminars in St. Cloud this year due to possible construction. All of their seminars will be in Blaine at the Schwan's Center.

District 11 – Scott Patten – They had 107 officials that did 2088 games this season. Their game reports were about the same as last year. They did have an all out fight in a Squirt B game! Nick Biondich will be the new supervisor in district 11 next season. Welcome Nick.

District 12 – Tod Plackner – They had 15 game misconducts, and possibly some that were not reported. There are having problems with a squirt program in one of their towns. Their U19 women's program had 3 fighting penalties. All around it was a pretty good year. They used 110 officials, and half of the new ones will probably not return the following season, but out of the new officials, they are starting to get some pretty good officials.

District 15 – Howard Breitkrueztz – They had 14 game misconducts for fighting, and 9 of those were in the Bantam A level. They had 1 match penalty.

District 16 – Dan Dow – One problem they have is they have separate schedulers in each town, and they do not have enough officials in some of these areas. They had 19 game reports, and 1 match for kicking in the Pee wee A level. It was a pretty good season.

Supervisors Open Forum

******One question about whether we can add spell check to our game reports? When game reports are forwarded on, they come out in a different format. Can this be changed?

****** Do we need to address the ramifications for the kicking penalty, and the abuse of officials calls?

******Add a seminar topic for the difference in the kicking penalty regarding a match or a game misconduct call.

South Vice Presidents Report – Dennis Alm

They had the Mid-Winter meeting to go over any issues or concerns that happened in the first half of the season. There were not many issues at all. WHAM is wondering if there should be a supervisor for their league. Otherwise everything went well.

North Vice Presidents Report – Buzz Olson

Thanked everyone for their thoughts, and support during his health issue. Thanked all the supervisors for their continued hard work each season, and a special thanks to Tod & Scott for their years of service. Buzz got to go to the Under 18 World Championships, and said it was a great experience. He had a good time helping out. There were 10 days of games & 22 on-ice officials who worked the tourney. Only 4 of them were from the USA, and the others were from Canada, and Europe. There were absolutely no problems with coaches or players questioning calls or otherwise. He thought the tourney was called rather tight.

Minnkota RIC Report – Steve Tatro

Steve wanted to know if everyone had received the report he had emailed out to everyone for review? Steve went over the areas not already discussed.

Seminar Expenses: When submitting, make sure you submit what the expense is for if other than the date of the seminar. Some items not covered include equipment, lunches for all the attendees, books of stamps, & alcohol, if there are questions regarding expenses, please call Steve for clarification.

Steve wondered if we would be interested in a pilot program to implement the 4-man system at possibly the Jr. Gold level. USA Hockey does not recognize the 4-man system, but would like some feedback from someone trying a pilot program. Steve would like to see MHOA try it if possible. Eric had talked to Dennis Green, and Dennis indicated they may entertain the idea of going back to the 2-man system at some levels to cut back on expenses. Dave Kemp said he would approach his district to see if there is any interest for the Bantam A league.

*****There was a motion to allocate \$1500.00 toward the system development program for next season as a line item on the budget made by Steve Tatro, and 2nd by Mike Mooney. After some discussion, motion was approved.

Seminar Registration Program: USA Hockey is developing a registration program to coincide w/the seminar registration program to help eliminate duplicate seminar registrations.

Seminar Topics: Steve will be getting together with Greg Cosgrove to go over topics for next falls seminars, and wanted to know if anyone had anything in particular they would like covered for next season.

USA Hockey's Annual Congress: Eric Olson will be going this year, and Mike Mooney, Mark Verplaeste, and Jeff Walters have expressed interest in going as well.

*There was a motion on the floor for MHOA to pay \$300.00 for a guest to attend the Annual Congress with Eric made by Skip Trumble, and 2nd by Dan Dow. Motion carried.

Physical Assaults: There were three "Attempt to do Physical Harm to Officials" this year. Of the three, two incidents were heard and the players were reinstated after a minimal suspension, the other is pending. Last season we had no incidents, and the preceding season we had five.

Injured Officials: We had eight incidents of injury that required medical claims to be filed. None of the injuries were serious or career ending. This is down from a total of thirteen last season.

National Tournaments: This year we were represented at Tier 1 & 2 (U18) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Having only two available slots, the selection process for officials was difficult. There were seven officials that applied to officiate at that level. We also had three female officials representing us in the Girl's and Women's national tournaments. I was assigned to supervise the tournament in Pittsburgh. Excellent hockey was played by all teams.

International Tournaments: Once again, Minnesota will be well represented in International competition. Tom Sterns, Rick Looker, Jonathan Morrison, Kristine Langley, Kelli Rolstad, and Leah Wrazidlo will work or have worked in IIHF tournaments this season.

Development Camps: Seven officials attended the Western Instructors Camp in Colorado. The appointments for other camps have not been made at this time. We have ten applicants for the Regional Camp and will receive five or six appointments. There are three applicants for the Men's National Camp. Continuing this year will be the Minnkota Camp. Twelve slots for Minnesota, four slots for North Dakota, and two slots for South Dakota. It will be held in conjunction with the National select 16's & 17's Girls Camp at St. Cloud in June. As always, we will hold the MHOA Men's camp. The MHOA Women's camp has been put on hold again for this summer. However, female officials are encouraged to apply for the MHOA or Minnkota camps. There exists an opportunity for 30 officials to develop and deepen the officiating talent pool.

Jr. Development Program: Minnesota has 24 officials working in this program. This program continues to develop officials above and beyond the scope of our camps. Our relationship has never been stronger and keeps the development door open for our officials.

Financial Audit: USA Hockey conducted a financial audit of all RIC's this winter. No issues or irregularities were found. It was suggested that MHOA as an organization take steps to make sure they are compliant with all IRS regulations. This endeavor is currently in progress.

Summary: Minnesota officiating has never been stronger. Our numbers and the completion rates continue to grow. I believe our officials are second to none and take pride in the fact that we are now number one in the nation.

Presidents Report – Eric Olson

Eric handed out appreciation Wall Clocks to Tod Plackner and Scott Patten for their years of service. Thank you Tod & Scott for all your work.

MHOA Review: Eric thought the year went pretty good. Registrations & Seminars went over better than ever this year. Minnesota Hockey is looking implementing a conflict of interest policy regarding profiting while serving on the board. Regional Tournaments maybe eliminated, and than just having a State Tournament with just the league winners from each district getting represented, making it a 12 team tournament. Eric wanted know if the were anybody with any items to be discussed with Minnesota Hockey on Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS

Leslie Fund: The funds for this are in a money market, and actually going backwards because of maintenance fees. We will be looking at what are different options are to keep this account from those charges.

MHOA Camp: Discussed raising the fees for this camp. Motion to raise the fee from \$40.00 to \$50.00 was made by Bruce Carlson, and 2nd by Dave Nyquist. Motion carried.

MHOA mileage reimbursement: A motion to raise the fees to coincide with Minnesota Hockey's rate was made by Dennis Alm, and 2nd by Bill Monahan. After some discussion a friendly amendment was made by

Dennis to raise the mileage rate to \$0.40/mile, and 2nd by Buzz Olson. Motion carried with one no vote. This mileage rate will begin with our new season beginning September 1, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

2009 Fall Meeting: This will again coincide with the golf tournament in Shakopee. The executive board discussed having a Bar-b-que on Saturday evening after the meeting for all members attending the meeting. The concern would be as to where we could hold this. We could possibly have it at a park near by Canterbury. Dennis said he would check with a friend of his who lives in Shakopee to see if he has any ideas. Dennis Alm & Skip Trumble will work on this together to work out the details.

Instructors Refresher Course: This will be held at the same time as the fall meeting.

State Tournament Fees: It has been 4 years since the fees were changed for the State Tourney's. It was decided to go to 3 crews at the State Tourney's instead of 4 crews to help save on housing expense, and hold the tournament fees to the same rate for this next season.

Great * Tournament: Talked about helping for cost for 2 crews to come work this tourney from the northern area. It was decided to table this issue until the fall meeting.

Uniform Rules for the Metro Area: Eric asked Dennis to work on this, and talk about this further at the fall meeting.

Instructors Jackets: Dave will be ordering more jackets for this fall.

*Skip asked for a list of female officials to be used for the Minnesota White Caps games. Please email Skip or Bruce with any information. This will be a 3 man system.

Motion to Adjourn the MHOA Board Meeting made by Terry Thorsheim., and second made by Skip Trumble Motion carried. 2:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by;
Roger Stephens
MHOA Secretary

Minnesota Hockey Officials Association
Annual Meeting, Brooklyn Center
2009

Annual Meeting for the election of officers was conducted by Past President Skip Trumble at 3:00pm.

Election of Officers

Positions up for election are as follows:

1.) North Vice President

2.) President

Skip asked if there were any nominations from the floor for North Vice President.

- 1.) Nomination for **North Vice President** made for Buzz Olson by Dennis Alm, and seconded by Dave Kemp. With no other nominations for **North Vice President**, there was a call for a white ballot by Bruce Carlson & seconded by Dennis Alm. Motion carried.

Skip asked if there were any nominations from the floor for President.

- 2.) Nomination for **President** made for Eric Olson by Scott Patten, and seconded by Buzz Olson. With no other nominations for **President**, there was call for a white ballot by Dennis Alm, and seconded by Buzz Olson. Motion carried.

With no more business to be conducted, there was a motion made by Skip Trumble & seconded by Dennis Alm to adjourn the Annual Meeting. Motion carried. 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by;

Roger Stephens
MHOA Secretary