

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING  
MINUTES**

Thursday, June 8, 2006  
Sheraton Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO

In attendance:

Callaway, Charles	District	Director
Irey, Bryan	District	Director
Lehto, Wayne	District	Director
Kenney, Chris	District	Director
	USA Hockey	Coaches Director
Bloomer, Al	District	Coach-in-Chief
Day, Jill	District	Secretary
		High School Section
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
	District	Asst Coach-in Chief
Lewis, TC	TX	President
McMann, Bob	District	Referee-in-Chief
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
VanFleet, Rick	AZ	Vice President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Cole, John	CO	President
Paolilli, Phil	CO	Vice President
Cardasis, Susan	CO	Registrar
Power, Tom	ID	President
		Registrar
Lampl, Tom	ID	Coach-in-Chief
Bekkedahl, Bruce	MT	President
Porter, Todd	MT	Registrar
Pope, Bob	NM	President
Hetrick, Anne	OK	Registrar
Lundquist, Jim	WY	President
Colins, Debi	WY	Registrar
Briggle, Rae	USA Hockey	
Slizewski, Susan	USA Hockey	
DiGraw, Paulette	USA Hockey	

Absent: Bob Nolen, District Web Master and Darin Worden, UT President

Bryan Irey, Chairman of the Council of Presidents, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO. A quorum was present to conduct business.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the January 7-8, 2006 meeting were reviewed. Wayne Lehto made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes correcting the camp distribution of Montana's second listing to Utah. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Women's Section**

Karen Lundgren, USA Hockey Women's Section Chairman, noted that a vote is to be taken Saturday on changing the status from section to council. There are over 53,000 women/girls now playing. The major opposition seems to be the expense of an additional council. She addressed questions and concerns of the group. She noted that this was not a new issue. It has been discussed for 10 years. She noted that an advantage of becoming a council now is to prepare for the future. Working with current supportive people now, makes the future brighter.

### **Host Tournament Document**

Wayne Lehto presented the documents put together to use as a base packet for district tournaments. The packet was emailed to the affiliate presidents for review and comment. The objective is to create conformity with each affiliate when hosting district tournaments. The consensus of the group was to move forward with the documents. The packet will be presented at the August meeting for approval. Each affiliate president is expected to submit a written (email) confirmation up receipt of the documents.

### **RMD Girls Tournament**

Bruce Karinen presented the concept of the recreational level girls' district tournament. It is a shorter format meaning less time away from school. Comments concerning the proposed date of the tournament were expressed because recreational teams finish early in the year. Concerns about the age groups were also expressed. There is discussion between two California groups and a Colorado group about organizing a west coast girls league. This would be a higher competition level than what is being proposed and would not interfere with the concept. The following suggestions were made:

- Game format to be three 12 minute stop-time periods for 1.25 hours
- A single venue for 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Non-traditional associations to host the tournament
- Lower team game requirement to 4 games

Bruce was requested to post the information on the web site for review. A final proposal will be voted on in August.

Bruce also noted that if you commit to having a women's team to participate in district tournaments at the August meeting, YOU MUST FOLLOW THROUGH. We cannot cancel a spot after committing or we will loose face with USA Hockey.

### **RMD Skills Camp**

Al Bloomer reported on a conference call held to determine participation and affiliate allocations. Rosters will be finalized by July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The RMD advanced 94 players to national camps. A committee will be meeting to reorganize the camp leadership. Any recommendations for new staff will be welcomed. Al will give a detailed report on player development camp at the August meeting.

The Coaching program report will be emailed to affiliates. There were over 2500 attendees this year. Al is stepping down as District Coach-in-Chief. He is recommending Paul Davern as his replacement since all of the associate coaches-in-chief declined to be considered for the promotion.

Two advanced clinics will be held this year in Denver and Houston. There will be a coaches' clinic in Idaho Falls July 2<sup>nd</sup> and in Texas and Colorado before September.

### **August District Meeting**

A change in format has been recommended to combine the reception and dinner into one event on Saturday night. Utilizing Friday evening for meetings is a better use of time for the district personnel. Bruce Karinen still wants Friday nights for the registrars. It was also recommended to save time by providing written reports for review. The district secretary will compile and the written reports submitted and present them at the meeting. They can then be reviewed individually and have more time to discuss business in the meetings.

### **Hot Button Items**

Junior Cut off Date – A change is being presented to adjust the cut off date to allow players cut from junior teams to still be able to play in the youth division. This is in response to a problem in New England. The consensus of group is to keep it the way it is.

Redistricting – New Mexico, Idaho, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma and Utah are all against the redistricting of Montana and Wyoming. Bruce Bekkedahl noted that this is a national issue and not a district issue. The response from the group was that they feel it is a definite district issue.

Helmets – All members were in favor of requiring helmets for coaches. The coaches are going for an exclusion of ear pieces.

**Other Business**

Bob Nolen would like to step down as web master. George Cole was recommended and each affiliate was asked to recommend a replacement as soon as possible.

The date for the \$25 waiver was changed to Aug 1.

A special recognition award was presented to Al Bloomer for his dedicated service to the Rocky Mountain District. His presence will be greatly missed.

Charles Callaway made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 2:25 p.m. Wayne Lehto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day  
RMD Secretary

**Action Items**

Host Tournament Documents  
RMD Girls Recreational Tournament  
Web Master