



PNAHA Spring/Summer Meeting

June 23, 2007

Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel & Wenatchee Convention Center
201 North Wenatchee
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

The meeting was called to order by President, Dru Hammond at 9:17 a.m.

1. Sign-In

- Sign-in sheets distributed and on official record with these minutes. Voting delegate sign-in sheet completed with the following delegates present: PNAHA President – Dru Hammond; PNAHA Vice President – Dave Bittenbender; PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer – Brenda Fundak.
- Member Organizations; EYH – Jeff Theiler; IEAHA – David Nieuwenhuis; KVHA – Les Grauer; KCAH – Wes Travis; PSAHA – Rob Kaufman; SJR – Jack Chaney; SKAHA – Kevin Quinn; SAYHA – Mark Gustafson; TCAHA – Dustin Beck; WWAHA – Dawn Rodriguez; WHAT – Dave Koss; WAHA – Mike Lesky; WWFHA – Marjory Earle.
- Member Teams – WCHC – Rich Stephenson.
- Member Organizations not represented – MVIA and YAHA.

2. Introductions

- Personal introductions made by the PNAHA Board of Directors and guests.

3. Confirmation of Current Members – Dave Bittenbender

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) announced that she had received correspondence from the Maverick Hockey Association President, Kevin Lernihan, that the Mavericks were officially dissolving and closing their 501(c) 3 status. All funds remaining are being gifted to the Dennis Wolbert Hockey Scholarship Fund.
- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) provided a report of the member associations and teams that are currently in good standing.
- Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) brought to our attention that Winthrop is our smallest member and is in the process of building a rink.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) noted that PNAHA was the focused “Affiliate” in the June/July 2007 issue of USA Hockey Magazine. This article can be found on page 60.
- An application for new membership was received at the January General Meeting by the West Coast Hockey Club 96’ team. Moses Lake had also communicated their desire to apply for membership but had not submitted the mandatory fee and application at that time. Dru (PNAHA President) indicated she had recently received an email from the President, Lyle Stoltman of the Moses Lake Youth Hockey Association, but has not formally spoken with him about their desires and path forward.
- Betty Jo Weitz (WCHC) was present to represent the 96’ West Coast Hockey Club team. She spoke briefly about the projection of the team and asked for support and a vote from the PNAHA Board of Directors in allowing them team membership. Rich Stephenson (WCHC PNAHA Rep) explained that financially they would operate the same as the other two West Coast Hockey Club teams and will work together with those teams. The 96’ West Coast Hockey Club team provided a booklet that included budgeting information and season plan that included projected practices and tournament participation plans when they applied. David Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) gave verbal recognition to West Coast Hockey Club teams for being our ‘model teams’ this year.
- Rich Stephenson (WCHC) made a motion to, [*accept West Coast 96’ team application*], seconded by Mike Lesky (WEN). The PNAHA Board of Directors was given the opportunity to ask questions prior to a decision being made. Steve Cole (SKAHA) asked when the application had been submitted. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) answered that in complying with PNAHA By-Laws the application and application fee were both received at the January 6, 2007 meeting. Steve Cole (SKAHA) questioned where players were going to come from. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) replied that the majority would come from the Seattle area, with roughly one-third from Sno-King and Seattle areas and the remainder from the East side of the state. Others asked questions about their development program. The response was that the WCHC has applied for non-profit status and it is pending. It is their intent to formalize their status as a club in the near future and then start a formal development program. Rob

Kaufman (PSAHA) inquired about how many “independent” teams was PNAHA going to allow within the state. How are we building hockey within the state, and do we continue the precedence of accepting independent teams that were grandfathered in. Jack Chaney (SJR) is concerned about association philosophy being affected working from the ground up, developing players who will leave to go to independent teams. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) explained that WCHC has experienced a slow, gradual growth and he thinks they are there and ready to start an official club next year. Steve Cole (SKAHA) had concerns about the investment in player development and also the fact that WCHC does not have a home rink facility. Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) would like to see re-distribution of players. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) stated that a lot of WCHC players are players that were cut from existing association teams – he emphasized that these are mostly the type of players who they pick up. Wes Travis (KCAH) asked about the make up of the players on this team. Rich (WCHC) said the 95’s have been with WCHC and that the 96’s participated in spring and summer programs. Steve Cole (SKAHA) inquired how the WCHC advertises for players. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) said that WCHC has a website (www.westcoasthockey.org) and they have guidebooks available at rinks for people who want to join. Development concerns were discussed further. David Bittenbender (1st Vice President) notes that WCHC does have two other member teams. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) stated that WCHC defines itself as a “club.” This is a gray area – PNAHA doesn’t recognize clubs, but does recognize member teams. PNAHA has a structure/guidelines established to deal with member teams and/or member associations. Rob Kaufman (PSAHA) commented on the gray area of how WCHC operates and how they acquire players. Rob (PSAHA) suggested that perhaps PNAHA needs to establish a State “All Star” team to accommodate those players that fail to be chosen to participate on the Tier II teams and choose to leave their local associations to play for member teams instead of playing on a house team. If this was an option the player could remain on their local house team and participate on the “All Star” team as well satisfying the player’s desire for growth while maintaining the associations player numbers. Dru (PNAHA President) stated this is a separate subject matter and would entertain a committee to research the feasibility of this suggestion. Corey Condron (SAYHA) had concern about what happens to the players that don’t make the state team. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) stated WCHC tryouts are scheduled for August. Dru (PNAHA President) stated that there was a policy adopted by PNAHA years ago for players trying out for Tier I and Tier II teams that are not fielded by their local association programs. The agreement is that associations that did not field that level of play (players trying out for a higher level) were to encourage the player if not selected to play on the higher tier to return to their existing association if that local association supported that level of play. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) explained the WCHC tryout process.

- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st Vice President) stated that the PNAHA Officers requested that this issue be handled by a paper ballot vote. Paper ballots have been used in the past for controversial issues. The Roberts Rule of Order was referenced by Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st VP) prior to the meeting. Brenda Fundak (PNAHA Secretary) distributed ballots to the voting delegates. Jason Michelbook (Supervisor of Officials – East side) was asked to take the ballot count.
- While ballots were being distributed and collected, Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) took a moment to bring us up to date on 2nd Vice President, Mark Preston’s son Kyle and his condition after being involved in a serious car accident this past week. She also expressed Mark’s desire to continue his position with PNAHA.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) read the ballot results to approve the West Coast Hockey Club 96’ member team application. Motion Failed.

4. **Nominations for Elections (President and 2nd Vice President [East Side])**

- Dru Hammond nominated for President by Kevin Quinn (SKAHA), seconded by Jeff Theiler (EYH). Motion passed. Motion *[to close nominations]*, Rob Kaufman (PSAHA), seconded by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA). Motion passed. Motion *[to accept by acclamation]* by Dave Bittenbender (1st Vice President), seconded by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA). Motion passed.
- Mark Preston nominated for 2nd Vice President by Rob Kaufman (PSAHA), seconded by Wes Travis (KCAH). Motion *[to close nominations]* by Jack Chaney (SJR), seconded by Rich Stephenson (WCHC). Motion passed. Motion *[to accept by acclamation]* by Dave Bittenbender (1st Vice President), seconded by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA). Motion passed.

5. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

- Reading of the January 6, 2007 minutes. Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) motion *[to approve the minutes]*, seconded by David Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA). No Discussion. Motion passed.

6. Treasurer Report – Brenda Fundak

A. June Treasurer Report

- Balance as of May 31, 2007 is \$49,310.65. Motion *[to approve the Treasurer’s Report]* by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA), seconded by Jeff Theiler (EYH). Discussion. Mike Lesky (WEN) clarification was requested for the expenses listed under “Unseen/Miscellaneous Expenses.” Clarification provided for the types of items listed under this line item that included the PNAHA Guidebooks, eFax line, web line, phone calls, and score sheets were examples. Rob Kaufman (PSAHA) inquired about the difference in the income and expense sections for Pacific District Select Camp fees. It was explained that expenses include the Pacific District \$1000.00 contribution required to be paid by all affiliates to support the camp. Additionally, the Pacific District Select Camp expenses include the purchase of NCAA Guides, printing of Pacific District Opportunity Guides, bank charges for online registration and PNAHA scholarships. Motion passed.

B. Association Officers & Contact Lists

- Brenda (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) commented that this list is separate from the information associations submit in their Current Member Checklists. The Checklist only lists the association officers names. The Association Officers & Contact Lists provides their name and contact information. This is required to be submitted at the June meeting per the PNAHA By Laws (see page 91 in the “PNAHA Guidebook, Membership in Good Standing, A”). To date the only associations that have provided the required list of current officers are: IEAHA, SKAHA and WWFHA.

C. Players/Members Not In Good Standing

- The following Associations have not paid their player fees as invoiced on May 26, 2007; EYH, MVIA, WEN, and WWFHA. Unable to bill Yakima due to a corrupted registration disk, efforts to reach a representative have been unsuccessful to date. If these fees are not paid by June 26, 2007 these associations will be considered “not in good standing.” Justin Schaffer is considered “not in good standing.”

7. Special Guests

Donna Kaufman – Pacific District Director; Steve Stevens – Pacific District Referee-in-Chief

8. Coaching Director Report – Rob Kaufman

A. State Development Camp Update (Tri-Cities)/2008 Camp Date

- Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) gave a recap of the camp and explained the new camp process. We will follow the same process for next year. Coaches and associations will continue to provide the ranking of players and provide a list of those players to Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) to extend invitations to the camp. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) questions whether we should go to a completely open camp as other district affiliates currently do. He feels the process used last year works well and hesitates transitioning into the full open camp if we wish to move on our best players. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) stressed that recreational players may attend with an association recommendation. He commented that it is the coaches’ responsibility to follow up to make sure the best players are signing up early. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) felt this new process brought credibility to the program; this process dispels the notion that players are pre-selected. Continued discussion on the camp including the focus of the affiliate to send on the top players to the Pacific District Select Camp. Discussion. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) stated that he may adjust the timeline on his end, but expressed the importance of communication with regards to the timeline. Associations rank the kids, they are invited to sign up – there is a cut off date, then the camp is opened up. One question posed was, how are the Junior B players evaluated? Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) commented that if you want to go to the District level, you have to come to the State level camp first. There was concern about the camp financially; Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) and Dru (PNAHA President) both stated it is self-supporting. The current location of the camp in Tri-Cities is great and they have been very generous in the past in offering the ice at cost for the camp. This cooperation has allowed PNAHA to invest any profits back into the camp program. An example of that reinvestment is the capability of adding the online registration that was utilized this year. Dru (PNAHA President) commented that the camp fee has not been raised in ten years.

- 2008 Camp date: January 26-27, 2008. This is the official PNAHA State Development Camp date. The California, Oregon and Nevada affiliates are also going to host their Development Camps on this weekend. The location is tentatively set for the Tri-Cities. Additional ice sheets are needed for the Girls Development Camp which will run simultaneously that weekend with the Youth Development Camp. The question came up about the girls participating in the youth camp and Donna (Pacific District Director) explained that this has been successful in other areas due to the low number of female participants. This is one of the options that PNAHA is looking at although the preference is not to do this. Instead, Dru (PNAHA President) has had conversations with the Oregon Affiliate President, Natalie McEwen to discuss the feasibility of combining the girls from both affiliates to support the numbers necessary to run a girls camp successfully.
- Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) recognized the evaluators and camp volunteers and thanked them for their assistance with the camp.

B. Pacific District Select Camp Results (Kent)

- A list of players advancing to the District level was provided and those moving on to Nationals. The list of players are listed on the Pacific District website. At the District level no Select 14's from PNAHA were named to progress to the National camp. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) provided a break down of District numbers that advanced to the National camp. The following players advanced to the National levels: 15's – Tyler Cratsenberg (F), 16's – Connor Audycki (F), Lane Mahoney (D), Timothy Kinkopf (D-Alt), James Korte (G-Alt), 17's – Trevor Gerling (F), Austin Coldwell (D).
- It was mentioned that three Pacific District Select Camp players were sent home due to disciplinary action (Oregon, PNAHA and Alaska). All three were strong players and would have advanced to the National camp level. It is truly unfortunate.
- We need to teach the top players how to 'step up' to that higher level. They need to learn what to do to stand out and be seen. They need to be in the top ten. Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) commented on players per capita, California has 16,000 registered players, Alaska is #3 behind Minnesota and Michigan. Numbers are deceiving; we (PNAHA) are dealing with limited resources (number of facilities) and competing against California and Alaska.
- Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) stated we need to get the numbers up in the state through cross-ice programs.

C. Coaching Clinics

- The Advanced clinic is scheduled for August 16-19, 2007 in Reno, Nevada. Larry Bruyere, Pacific District Coach-in-Chief sent a reminder that this clinic begins on Thursday, so be sure to plan your travel accordingly. The cost is \$350.00 for those individuals who are pre-registered and \$385.00 after July 15, 2007.
- Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) reminded everyone that Advanced certification is required at the Midget level. Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) has started to see more and more PeeWee level coaches getting certified at this level. Once you receive this certification its good for life.
- This information is usually posted on the PNAHA and Pacific District websites, but Dru (PNAHA President) noted that both websites are under construction due to migration to the new USA Hockey platform.
- Dru (PNAHA President) stated that the Tri-Cities was currently in negotiations with a company called 'Positive Coaching Alliance' which parallels USA Hockey's philosophy. This company is a national non-profit and is based at Stanford University and is working to create a movement to transform the culture of youth sports so that every youth athlete can have a positive, character-building experience. Dustin Beck (TCAHA) indicated that their website can be found at www.positivecoach.org. Tri-Cities is looking at this as possibly another tool to use in developing their coaches. Another resource for the Tri-Cities is the Sports Council that serves the local community.
- A suggestion was made that an 'Alumni' area might be added to the PNAHA website to see where our programs are advancing our players. Dru (PNAHA President) challenges the associations to go back and research this information and have it ready to post on the website once it is operational.
- Rob (PNAHA Coaching Director) will be conducting Level 1, 2 and 3 clinics in Everett the last weekend of September and Tri-Cities around the middle of the month. Seattle Junior and Spokane

will hold their clinics sometime in October or November. All clinics will be listed on the USA Hockey website as soon as details are confirmed.

9. Supervisor of Officials – Jason Michelbook

- There was a new rule change emphasis this year and from a referee standpoint PNAHA did an excellent job. Jason (Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) announced that eight PNAHA officials attended District events; three went on to National events.
- Jason (Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) reiterated that with regard to Match Penalties, the score sheet needs to be faxed to the PNAHA fax number (509-272-4004) along with a completed Officials Incident Report Form immediately. This is a requirement for Adult league games as well.
- Everyone was reminded that all officials 18 years and over must be screened in order to be assigned to officiate games. Dru (PNAHA President) recognized Steve Stevens (Pacific District Referee in Chief), Jason Michelbook (PNAHA Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) and Tony Milles (PNAHA Supervisor of Officials, Westside) for doing a great job getting officials through the screening process.
- Officials camps are by invitation only and two PNAHA officials went to the District camp; Boone Bruggman and Justin Nicole. Boone Bruggman has officiated within PNAHA and NORPAC and advanced to the National camp. During this meeting District Referee-in-Chief, Steve Stevens received a call notifying him that Boone Bruggman has been offered a full-time position with the USA Hockey Junior Officiating Development Program for the 2007-2008 season. Boone accepted the position and will be leaving the Pacific Northwest for either Chicago or Minnesota.
- This is a rule change year and Jason (Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) and Tony (Supervisor of Officials, Westside) will do their best to communicate interpretation of these rule changes. Please feel free to contact them earlier rather than later to assure these changes are understood.
- Tony Milles (Supervisor of Officials, Westside), reported on a meeting he organized in Kent for west side officials. Jason Michelbook attended as the PNAHA representative. The meeting was successful and provided an opportunity for good input and feedback. There is a concern for proper security and the need for dressing rooms for referees. A mentoring program was discussed. Help is needed from Associations to control players and parents with regard to abuse of officials, so we don't lose these kids coming up in the officiating program. Tony (Supervisor of Officials, Westside) and Jason (Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) both agreed they would like to continue doing these meetings a couple of times a year.
- Dru (PNAHA President) further commented on the importance of security and a secure place for officials to dress due to escalating problems with theft at both the Tier II tournament in Tri-Cities and the Midget B tournament in Bremerton.
- It was shared that there is a type of Development Camp for officials that is similar to the PNAHA player development process.
- It was stated that to promote visibility that the officials would like see officials training advertised and promoted on the PNAHA website.
- Steve Stevens (Pacific District, Referee in Chief) added that there are 600 officials District wide. He reported briefly on the clinics and stated that Jason Michelbook (PNAHA Supervisor of Officials, Eastside) attended the National Midget Tournament as an official.

10. USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager – Ed Imes

- Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) reported on the number of registered players in the state, up this year at 7300 from last year at 7026.
- Registration packets will go out from USA Hockey in July, these are electronic packets. USA Hockey is shooting for next week to get it out. Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) stressed that association registrars pay special attention to the "tech bulletins" in the packets, make sure that the registrars read them. There are two types of registration, electronic and online. Electronic means the registrar enters the information and collects the funds. Online means the individual player registers and pays with a credit card online. The player then has a local association "claim them" as a player.
- SAYHA and PSAHA were the only PNAHA associations to register all their players completely online.
- Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) requests that ALL associations be sure to send their registrar to the PNAHA Annual Fall meeting. Committee meetings are held at this meeting in the morning and there is a separate committee meeting for registrars. Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) goes over all new requirements with the association registrars. Very important information is provided at this

meeting and the opportunity is provided to learn and direct questions to the Pacific District Associate Registrar. It is critical that this opportunity be communicated by the board of directors to their local registrars to ensure that their registrations proceed smoothly for the 2007-08 season.

- Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) explained that ALL youth non-citizens must ensure that their association submit the USA Hockey Written Transfers Letter of Approval form to USA Hockey. Complete and fax the form to 719-538-1160 or email it to kimf@usahockey.org. Do this early. USA Hockey will fax back a signed form to you. This form is required as part of the credential packet for youth Tier I and Tier II players. It is also required for Girls/Women. It is important to stress that any girls' team with a player on its roster who is a non-U.S. citizen should make immediate contact with Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) to review her credentials and determine her eligibility.
- For those players with non-U.S. birth certificates or passports it is important to get their paperwork in immediately for youth Tier I or Tier II teams. Note that Girls/Women also require proof of legal residency. This documentation must be present prior to any games counting towards district/national bound teams.
- It was noted that the number of non-US players at the youth level on a team is unlimited; you are allowed two at the Junior level as well as two at the Girls/Women's level.

11. League Commissioner – Brenda Fundak

A. 2006-2007 League Results

- Final league results were provided and league champions in each division recognized as follows: Tier II AA – Midget=Seattle Junior; Bantam=Tri-Cities AA; PeeWee=Tri-Cities AA. Tier II A – Midget=Sno-King A; Bantam=Wenatchee; PeeWee=Kent. Squirt Division=Sno-King 1.
- The tiering events were successful in placing teams in the proper divisions for league play and it is recommended that we continue with this event pre-season for the 2007-08 season.
- Brenda (PNAHA League Commissioner) sent out email communication prior to this meeting to the PNAHA Representatives requesting host associations for tiering events. It was suggested that a fee be determined for teams participating in the tiering round to cover for the ice fees and officials. The PNAHA League Restructuring Committee requests that the ice for this event be reserved at cost to minimize the expense for this event.
- Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director/PSAHA) offered to host the tiering tournaments at no cost any of the last three weekends of September.

B. League Banner Distribution

- League banners were distributed during the break by the League Commissioner.

C. Preliminary Count of Teams for the 2007-2008 Season

- A preliminary count was taken of teams committing to participation in the PNAHA League. The final declaration of teams will be at the fall meeting.

D. Visiting Teams in League

- The league is still in a restructuring process and will not entertain outside teams this coming season. Association growth means more teams coming into the league in PNAHA. Our priority and focus is on the development of PNAHA's players and programs. We have received inquiries from Portland, Oregon as well as Boise, Moscow, and Coeur d'alene, Idaho. While we are not able to include them in the League schedule, we welcome the exhibition play. Distribution of contact information to these other associations will occur after the PNAHA teams have completed their schedules.
- Dru (PNAHA President) stressed that League commitments need to come first in order for the League to be successful. Association teams are asked to not set exhibition schedules until after they receive their League schedule. If these teams decide to schedule exhibition games prior to the release of the League schedule it is important that they communicate to these exhibition teams that these games may need to be rescheduled if they conflict with the PNAHA League schedule. We have a limited number of weekends to work with in setting these schedules and it is a small window with little flexibility as the League continues to grow.

B. League Format

- It is recommended that we reconsider and go back to Tier II A and B teams. This is based on feedback Brenda (PNAHA League Commissioner) received from committee members and input from the Pacific District Associate Registrar, Ed Imes. Ed (Assoc. Registrar/Risk Manager) stated his concerns with regard to registering Tier II AA, Tier II A and B teams and the fact that USA

Hockey only recognizes Tier II, B and Recreational/House levels. There are not two levels within Tier II. He stated that you are either one or the other. Brenda noted that the tiering process was successful as well as the seeding for the state tournament events. However, adding a Tier II A level depleted the B league. Teams that were classified B played in the A division for league play because there were not enough teams to support a league schedule. Discussion on going back to Tier II A and B divisions. Discussion on if it is feasible to allow B teams until December 31 to re-classify if they felt they were competitive enough to compete at the Tier II level. It was noted that this would conflict with the District December 1 declaration date for Tier I/II teams. Concerns also were expressed on ensuring that these teams have the proper credentials on record to support the 20/10 requirements. More discussion ensued.

- All agreed to maintain the league proposal in place and that only the classification is an issue. This is something the committee needs to address immediately. It was suggested that the restructuring committee meet soon to work out these issues.
- Brenda (PNAHA League Commissioner) inquired about the requirements for non-league teams to be eligible for state tournament participation. Feedback to Brenda (PNAHA League Commissioner) from non-league teams was that they would like permission to be allowed to participate in the pre-season tiering events and count those games towards their eligibility game requirements.
- Corey Condron (SAYHA) inquired about implementing a mandate to require league participation in order to be eligible for state tournaments. Discussion. Motion [*to allow non-league teams to participate in pre-season tiering events*] by Mark Gustafson (SAYHA), seconded by Dave Koss (WHAT). Motion passed.
- More discussion regarding the creation of PNAHA All Star teams comprised of those players that did not make the cut to participate on association Tier II teams. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to research the feasibility of creating such a team. The following individuals will serve on this committee; Chair – Steve Cole (SKAHA), Mike Lesky (WEN), Rob Kaufman (PSAHA), and Dustin Beck (TCAHA).

12. Women's Hockey – Shirley Williams

- Shirley (WWFHA) was not able to be here so Marjory Earle (WWFHA) was present to represent Girls/Women hockey.
- Prior to the PNAHA meeting, Shirley (WWFHA) provided PNAHA with a written report and requested that Dru (PNAHA President) present it at the meeting for her. This season WWFHA plans to hold a girls pre-selection camp to ensure that only the best PNAHA players advance to the Pacific District Girls camp. PNAHA has been notified by the District that holding a camp will be a requirement for girls to advance this year. Discussions are taking place to finalize plans and to look at an alternate date/location as well. The girls' camp will be separate from the youth camp. Shirley (WWFHA) notes the girls will be assessed in five age groups (1990 – 1994). Girls will be expected to register and pay online as the youth camp and it will need to be self-supporting.

13. 1st Vice President – Dave Bittenbender

- A discipline hearing was held for a player accused of abuse of officials in a High School game. Investigation and detailed discussion with the referee for this game determined that while the player demonstrated less than appreciative behavior, an abuse call was probably not appropriate. It was jointly agreed to assess a three game suspension and a stern talking to.
- At the January General Winter meeting there was discussion regarding cell phones on the bench and clarification as to policies governing their use. Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) took the responsibility to research this and reported that USA Hockey Official Playing Rule 308a prohibits electronic devices on the benches. Cell phones are electronic devices. Recent National and District tournaments tested this rule and it has been upheld.
- Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) also consulted Rick Ellison (SJHA) about PCAHA policies. Pacific Coast has no rules or policies governing use of cell phones or other communication devices on the bench or on the ice, and the only related document they could locate is a BC Hockey bulletin a few years ago that prohibited camera phones in dressing rooms. Under BC Hockey's suspension policy, a suspended team official is prohibited from participating with the team from one hour prior to any game until one hour after the conclusion of any game. If a suspended coach uses a cell phone to communicate strategy to other team officials on the bench, he/she would be in violation of the terms of the

suspension and would be subject to further disciplinary action. They remind us that people seem to be looking for new ways to cheat. PCAHA now has policies on strobe lights and supplementary oxygen because of incidents.

- It has come to our attention that high school teams are not adhering to established PNAHA Policies and more oversight is necessary. There are some problems with teams using players who are not registered with USA Hockey. Coaches, referees and associations who do this must understand that they would not be covered for insurance nor would officers and directors insurance be available to provide legal representation if they are sued. Additionally, it has also come to our attention that some of the coaches do not hold the appropriate coaching level cards and are failing to complete their background screening. Further research is underway and the administering associations will be contacted who failed to hold these teams in compliance. Dru indicated that she will be assigning a High School Director in the upcoming season.
- Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) submitted an electronic draft proposal for implementation during the 2007-08 season that provides a level of oversight and accountability appropriate for our adult leagues. One minor revision was added to the draft and electronically distributed to the Board of Directors prior to the PNAHA meeting. Motion [*to accept the proposal to be implemented 01/01/08*] by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA), seconded by Kevin Quinn (SKAHA). Motion passed.
- Dave (PNAHA 1st VP) stressed that spring players and coaches need to be registered with USA Hockey and that coaches must be screened. Associations need to be held accountable to be sure this is done.

14. 2nd Vice President – Mark Preston

- In Mark Preston's (PNAHA 2nd VP) absence, Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) reported on the Suspension Guidelines for Coaches. On page 138 of the PNAHA Guidebook – Suspension Guidelines under “Canadian Exceptions for Game Misconducts” it states that “Any player, coach or team official suspended shall not have contact with the team one (1) hour before the game until one (1) hour after the game.” Mark (PNAHA 2nd VP) recommends that this verbiage be added to the League Rules under Discipline and also to the PNAHA Constitution under Article 11, Policies.
- Motion [*to recommend adding this suspension verbiage as indicated*] by Dave Koss (WHAT), seconded by Dustin Beck (TCAHA). Motion passed.

15. President's Report – Dru Hammond

- Dru (PNAHA President) reported that during the Annual Congress that a number of the Affiliate Presidents felt that there was some pressure to grow their program numbers and commit to a percentage of growth by the affiliate. Some of the president's felt that their performance would be gaged on whether or not they meet this percentage of growth. She gestured to Pacific District Director Donna Kaufman to confirm this feeling. For PNAHA it is a ‘catch 22.’ Washington State has some issues that are unique to it such as its dependence on military programs that affect its population. Member discussion on how you grow hockey without more facilities. One idea USA Hockey is endorsing is “Hockey Weekend Across America.” The purpose of this activity is to provide opportunities for those who haven't played hockey to try it with hopes that more people will begin to play our game at all levels. This event will be held February 15-17, 2008. A copy of the handout from Annual Congress will be distributed with these minutes (Attachment 1) and information regarding this event will be placed on the PNAHA website. More information to come in the future as more plans are developed to promote this weekend event.
- Dru (PNAHA President) asked for a show of hands of how many associations have cross-ice programs in place. TCAHA, KCAH, EYH, SJR, SKAHA, PSAHA, SAYHA. The benefits of cross-ice programs have been demonstrated and some questioned why doesn't USA Hockey mandate it. If its that important to player development, it makes sense to. Dru (PNAHA President) stated that mandating it could be possible down the road. At the Affiliate President's meeting it was clear that the affiliate presidents would like to see some issues mandated in order to force compliance. Without this hammer it is sometimes difficult to enforce compliance. Rob Kaufman (PSAHA) used this opportunity to review the cross-ice program sent to the Board of Directors via email prior the PNAHA meeting. Rob (PSAHA) stated that you don't have to wait for USA Hockey to mandate this program, you can implement it voluntarily. Everyone was encouraged to take this information back to your associations and review the on-ice presentation with their membership. Rob (PSAHA) would like

feedback and would like to possibly entertain a vote to require these cross-ice programs universally within PNAHA in the fall.

- A policy statement was issued at the Annual Congress regarding an activity known as “locker boxing, or AKA helmet and gloves, or cage rage.” USA Hockey is concerned because this activity produces head trauma in children and young adults. USA Hockey is opposed to this activity and recommends that local associations take action to prevent this activity through awareness, education, and supervision. It is recommended that associations develop policies under ‘hazing.’”
- Jeff Theiler (EYH) was recognized as the PNAHA Affiliate Rink Liaison. Jeff (EYH) provided copies of the new rink diagrams as provided by the STAR program. See the attachment (Attachment 2) included with these minutes.
- Casey Jorgensen, PNAHA Legal Counsel, drafted a guidance document for members within USA Hockey that have the occasion to impose suspensions or other discipline. This document was created as a straw man/guideline to clarify and reiterate provisions as set forth in By-Law 10 for suspensions. A copy of this document is attached (Attachment 3) with these minutes. An electronic copy will also be forwarded to all member associations and placed on the PNAHA website for future use.
- Affiliate websites supported through USA Hockey are down right now due to the migration to the new platform. We ask for your patience with the migration to the new platform as website administrators learn how it functions. PNAHA is quickly making this transition and anticipates being back online within a couple of weeks.
- Pacific District has recently adopted new Financial Control Policies and Guidelines. It is recommended that associations establish and follow prudent guidelines in managing their assets. It is recommended that the drafted policies, guidelines and recommendations adopted by the district be included in each organization’s policies. A copy of the Financial Control Policies and Guidelines (Attachment 4) is attached to these minutes.
- Members were reminded that as a 501 (c) 3 organization that if a member wishes to review their books (Form 990 Copy-on-Demand) that as a non-profit you have an obligation to provide them with a copy. This rule for 501 (c) organizations was put in place June 8, 1999. The copy must include all schedules and attachments except names and addresses of contributors. If you charge for copies of your return you have 30 days to provide a copy to the requestor after receipt of payment. The process for obtaining these copies and/or financial records should be posted on your website.
- Reinstatement of the Tag-Up rule for all age classifications failed. However Tag-Up off-sides for High School classification did pass. This was a very contentious subject and was debated throughout the duration of the Annual Congress. As the PNAHA President the desire to reinstate the tag-up rule was communicated to the Pacific District Directors. However, the District Directors did not vote in favor of reinstatement for all classifications. There are many studies that were performed that support that immediate off-sides help to develop skills by the players. Many of these Directors sit on these committees and are intimate with the results of the studies. It is felt that the coaching section could have done a better job in their efforts to communicate the results of these studies to the grassroots. The results of these studies and testimonies of upper level coaches determined how they decided to vote.
- The Pacific District has been considering a Bobby Freeland memorial to recognize him for his contributions to youth hockey. During the Annual Congress the Pacific District Board listened to a presentation by another affiliate on a grant program that might be fitting to honor Bobby. Pacific District is gathering more information on this program to consider implementing. Should this Grant Program be adopted it would be administered by the District. It is anticipated that in order to implement a Grant Program of this nature that a \$1.00 player fee contribution would be required. It will be discussed further at the October Pacific District meeting in Seattle.

16. Tournaments

- District Tournament dates and locations are: Tier II 16U/18U at Simi Valley, March 13-16, 2008; Tier I 16U/18U at Anchorage, March 6-9, 2008; Tier I 12U/14U at Anaheim, March 6-9, 2008; Tier II 12U/14U at LA Jr. Kings, March 13-16, 2008; Girls/Women at San Jose, Feb 28-Mar 2, 2008.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) reminded those present that the PNAHA Tournament Application is due by September 1, 2007 per the PNAHA Rules and Regulations if you are interested in hosting one of the state tournaments. Please send your application to her.

- Based on the dates of the District Tournaments it is recommended that the Tier II tournament for district bound teams be scheduled for February 14-18, 2008; Tier II/B tournament for state bound teams be scheduled for February 21-24, 2008; and the Squirt Festival scheduled for March 6-9, 2008.

17. Old Business

A. Generic Certificate of Insurance

- There was a bit of confusion over the discussions regarding the Certificate of Insurance referenced in the September 9, 2006 minutes. Associations are automatically covered by USA Hockey as described on the USA Hockey website. The only time a Certificate of Insurance is necessary is if it is requested by a third party where evidence of insurance is required. A copy of the Generic Policy is attached (Attachment 5) that demonstrates that we have that coverage. However, some parties insist on being additionally insured on our policy. That is not easy to do and it means that our risk manager, John Bjeldanes must receive a formal request form and a copy of the contract for the event that states these demands. You need to be prepared to wait 30-60 days for this type of paperwork to be processed.

B. Discussion with Dave Tyler Regarding Releases of Youth Players to Junior Teams

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) shared that she had discussed PNAHA issues with Dave Tyler (USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson), regarding the practice of Junior Teams (NORPAC) taking players who left huge financial debts with their youth organizations within PNAHA and the failure of NORPAC to enforce their suspension until such time as those obligations are taken care of. Dave (USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson) stated that the Juniors currently have an agreement with Hockey Canada and the Canadian Hockey League that applies to U.S. players as well that states "No player shall be transferred by any team or Federation to the other who has not made satisfactory arrangements/payment for any and all delinquent obligations owed by that player to their former outgoing team/league before they leave that team/league and federation." This verbiage is found under #3, Players with Delinquent Economic Responsibilities. Dave (USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson) went on to encourage PNAHA in the future to notify him if there are any delinquent financial obligations to PNAHA youth organizations by players graduating or moving on to participate in the Junior Program. Dave (USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson) indicated that although he was retiring in June 2007 that his successor, Dan Esdale (newly elected USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson), would be happy to follow the policy and enforce these obligations on a summary basis. Dru (PNAHA President) indicated that she would forward her past communication with Dave (USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson) on to Dan (newly elected USA Hockey Junior Council Chairperson) to acquire this commitment in writing based on the previous difficulties in collecting these outstanding fees.

C. Gerald (Jerry) Sherman – Evergreen Founder

- Dru (PNAHA President) read a court document that addressed the final sentencing of Evergreen Hockey Founder Gerald (Jerry) Sherman of Mercer Island. At the January meeting Dru (PNAHA President) had announced that Mr. Sherman had been convicted of fifteen counts of Wire Fraud, four counts of Securities Fraud and two counts of Mail Fraud in U.S. District Court in Seattle on December 7, 2006. On May 18, 2007 Mr. Sherman was sentenced to seven years in prison, three years of supervised release and \$1,374,417 in restitution. Acting Postal Inspector in Charge Wanda J. Krueger said, "We hope this seven year sentence provides some comfort to Mr. Sherman's victims and deters others from engaging in similar fraud schemes."

D. Squirt Rep Team Selection Guidelines (Balanced Teams)

- Rick Ellison (SJHA) submitted proposed modifications to the existing PNAHA Squirt League Policy that was adopted by PNAHA June 15, 2002. Due to personal family issues Rick (SJHA) was unable to travel to the meeting to present his proposal and requested that Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) give a brief report on the thoughts behind the proposal. Kevin (SKAHA) apologized that he had failed to meet with Rick (SJHA) with such short notice and would do his best to make a report and requested that PNAHA President, Dru Hammond assist where necessary to communicate the intent of the proposal. The proposal was distributed via email 30 days prior to the meeting for consideration and a copy was provided to all voting members at the meeting for review as well. Kevin (SKAHA) asked those in attendance if there was a continuing desire to place balanced teams in the league if an association had the numbers to support more than one team. A positive response was received. Seattle Junior submitted the original proposal with the intent that if an association fields more than 75 squirt age players that they would place two

balanced teams in the league. However, with the trend of associations to field major/minor teams that perhaps the time has come to implement additional guidelines to accommodate those organizations that field major/minor teams. Recommended changes to the existing policy in respect to balanced teams would be:

Proposal Changes to Existing Policy	
1) Enforce participation by requiring associations that field more than 75 squirt age players to field two balanced teams in the league.	
2) It is understood that an association may enter unbalanced teams into the league under the following conditions:	
A. Minor Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where one of two teams is a minor team. • A minor team is understood to be developmental and must consist of 1st year players. • A minor team must be predominantly 1st year year players. No greater than two players can be on the roster who are 2nd year players.
B. Major Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An association may register unbalanced teams only when one of the teams is a major team (2nd year birth date) and when a Minor team is also registered for league play. • A Major team may have up to but no more than 3 first year birth date players.

- Brief discussion on the submitted proposal change. Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) asked permission to table this subject to the September 8, 2007 PNAHA Annual Fall meeting when Rick Ellison (SJR) can be available to support his proposal. Motion [*to table discussion to September PNAHA Annual meeting when Rick Ellison (SJHA) can be present to discuss*] by Dave Nieuwenhuis (IEAHA), seconded by Dustin Beck (TCAHA). Motion passed.

E. Major/Minor Teams

- Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) explained the make-up of the Sno-King and Seattle Junior Squirt teams. This was in an effort to set aside the concern that they were building power teams. Kevin (SKAHA) is not advocating that everyone needs to adopt this process but he wanted to explain why they set them up the way that they did. Discussion. Sno-King and Seattle Junior will be allowed to place major and minor teams in the Squirt league.

18. New Business

- It has been brought to PNAHA’s attention that many of the host hotels are changing their rates from those posted on the PNAHA website. PNAHA has received a number of complaints that hotels are not offering the host hotel rate of \$79.00 per night that was set by PNAHA during the September 9, 2006 PNAHA Annual Fall meeting. If you are unable to secure at least one host hotel at the \$79.00 rate than those teams coming to your facility are not required to stay at the host hotels. Be sure to remind your marketing director that they should communicate to the hotels in your community that this is an excellent opportunity to partner. They are guaranteed room nights and if you arrange for a room rebate amount this can be an excellent fundraiser for your association. Reminder that it is your associations’ responsibility to go and secure those rates. If hotels on your list that committed to the \$79.00 host hotel rate fail to honor that rate, then you should contact them and let them know that you will remove them from the list because this is considered fraudulent advertising.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) received a report on the performance of the 2006-07 Chicago Showcase team from Jon Danks. Team Washington is made up of Junior and Senior High School age players represented by players from Washington, Oregon and Alaska. The showcase team was in the B pool, which had two divisions. The move to this pool demonstrated that the competition was tougher than in previous years as Team Washington showed at 1-3 win/loss record. They had lots of players talked to by scouts. Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) commented that she didn’t see as many scouts there this year as in the past. Donna went at the last minute as a team manager. Jon Danks has announced that this will be his last year as the manager of the showcase team. Jim MacTaggart will be

stepping in to fill the void. Dru (PNAHA President) will send a note to Jim MacTaggart and ask that the showcase not hold their tryouts the same weekend as the PNAHA State Development Camp. She would like to see the tryouts scheduled for the weekend of February 2, 2008. A location for the tryouts needs to be selected. PNAHA expressed their appreciation for Jon Dank's support over the years and wishes him the best in the future.

- Rick Ellison (SJHA) submitted a proposal to modify Rule 14 that was amended September 6, 2003. This proposal was distributed to the membership thirty days in advance of the PNAHA General Spring/Summer meeting. Motion [*to eliminate Rule 14*] by Les Grauer (KVHA), seconded by Rich Stephenson (WCHC). Discussion. Mike Lesky (WEN) felt the rule should remain as is, Les Grauer (KVHA) feels strongly that PNAHA should get rid of it. Kevin Quinn (SKAHA) expressed that it is important to keep Rule 14 because it was put in place to protect us and Rob Kaufman (PSAHA) agreed. Rich Stephenson (WCHC) expressed his view that PNAHA should move to a true tiering tournament and get rid of the rule. Move to Call for the question and [*to close debate*], Rob Kaufman (PSAHA). Motion passed. Debate closed. Motion [*to eliminate Rule 14*] failed. Motion [*to adopt Rule 14 proposal modifications as submitted*] by Kevin Quinn (SKAHA), seconded by Jack Chaney (SJR) Discussion. Motion passed.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) announced her nomination for the USA Hockey New Leader Award, Wes Travis (KCAH). Dave Ogreaan, USA Hockey Executive Director confirmed the nomination. The nomination letter was read and the membership congratulated Wes.

19. Annual Fall Meeting

- The PNAHA Annual Fall meeting will be held on September 8, 2007 at the Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel & Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee, located at 201 N. Wenatchee Avenue. Room reservations can be made by calling (509) 662-4411. Committee meetings for League, Registrars and Coaches will begin at 9:00 a.m. The General meeting will follow at 12:00 p.m. Associations are asked to please send representatives to attend the committee meetings. All members are reminded to make their room reservation prior to leaving the facility.

20. Adjournment

- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st Vice President) [*motioned to adjourn*], seconded by Brenda Fundak (PNAHA Secretary). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.