



PNAHA Annual Winter Meeting

January 4, 2014

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

The meeting was called to order by President, Gordon Brown, at 9:08 a.m.

1. Sign-In

- ◆ Sign-in sheets distributed and are an official record with these minutes. Voting delegate sign-in sheet completed with the following delegates present: PNAHA President – Gordon Brown; 1st PNAHA Vice President – Adam Speer; 2nd PNAHA Vice President – Rob Azevedo; Secretary/Treasurer – Janet MacFarlane.
- ◆ Member Organizations: EYH – Jerry Weir; KCAH – Jay Miller; KVHA – Les Grauer; TAHA – Jared Bucci; SJR – Derek Donald; SKAHA – Doug Kirton; SAYHA – Brian Moon; TCAHA – Debbie Didzerekis; VAH – Jason Hirt; WAHA – Tami Gurnard.
- ◆ Member Teams: YAHA – Paul Kelley.
- ◆ Member Organizations not represented – MLYHA – Celeste Estrada; Winthrop – Nigel Mott; IEAHA – Dave Nieuwenhuis; WCAHA – Mark Smith; WWFHA – Cindy Dayley.

2. Introductions

- ◆ Personal introductions made by the PNAHA Board of Directors and special guests Donna Kaufman, Pacific District Director; and Dru Hammond, Pacific District Director.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- ◆ Reading of the September 14, 2013, PNAHA Annual Fall meeting minutes. Initially, at the start of the meeting, there was not a quorum present. Once a quorum was established at 9:30 a.m., a Motion [*to approve minutes*] by Adam Speer (PNAHA 1st Vice President), seconded by Derek Donald (SJHA). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer Report

- ◆ Gordon Brown (PNAHA President) once again reminded each Member Association that a motion was passed at the June 2013 meeting to provide \$500 to each Member Association from block grants to grow the game.
- ◆ Janet MacFarlane (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) presented copies and reviewed the September-December 2013 Treasurer's Report. Derek Donald (SJHA) motion [*to approve Treasurer's Report*], seconded by Jay Miller (WCAHA). Motion passed.

5. Special Guests – Donna Kaufman, Dru Hammond

- ◆ Donna Kaufman reported that the 80-20 rule is going to be a hot topic at the next USA Hockey Meeting. Donna reported that 80% of all players on teams in an entire association need to be registered with their local association.
- ◆ Donna also mentioned that registrations will probably be higher due to this being a Winter Olympics year.
- ◆ Donna also mentioned that USA Hockey is getting to all half-ice practices/games at the U-8 level.
- ◆ It was brought up that the current issue of *Stripes* magazine had an article written by Steve Stevens, the Pacific District Referee-in-Chief. Derek Donald (SJHA) talked about how well respected Mr. Stevens is and how much he does for the Pacific District.

6. Officer's Reports

◆ Coaching Director Report – Rob Kaufman

- **Coaching Clinics:** Rob informed the members that the coaching clinics have been completed for the year. He is working on training Mark Dawkins from SAYHA for the clinics to be held in Spokane. Rob mentioned there was only one coach who has missed the local clinics who had to go outside the State of Washington to attend a clinic. The Level 5 clinic will start run from August 21-24 in Las Vegas. He reiterated the PNAHA needs to send as many Level 4 coaches as possible to this clinic. There is a \$500 registration fee for this clinic, with registration now open.
- **Coaching Modules:** Rob stated that all coaching modules needed to have been completed by December 31. USA Hockey is allowing late completions for a \$10 late fee, as long as the module

was started before December 31. If the module was started after December 31, there would be a \$50 late fee. Rob reminded all member associations to double-check their coaches that the proper modules have been completed.

- **Development Camp:** Rob stated that he was having a hard time getting nominations for the PNAHA Boys' Development Camp. He has gotten nominations from Everett, Spokane, Sno-King, and Tacoma, but needs the other associations to send their nominations in ASAP since the camp is less than a month away. Players registered with Rocky Mountain Registry before receiving an invitation would be put on a waiting list. Any Washington resident playing in the District must attend camp in the District they play in. Out-of-state players playing in PNAHA must register with their District select camp. At-large players must still register for camp and pay even if they cannot attend the camp (same is true for injured players).

Evaluators should not be allowed to recruit during the camp. There was a short discussion on possibly providing a Code of Conduct for evaluators to sign.

Each member association needs to provide names of 1-2 people to act as team leaders and one person to serve as an evaluator. Rob has received only three names for evaluators, with his needing at least 12 total evaluators. Bantam and Midget coaches are ideal for evaluators and team leaders. Team leaders MUST be screened in order to participate. There is a need for other volunteers as well to help with registration, etc. Check-in/registration is on Friday night, with games starting at 6:15 and 6:30 a.m. on Saturday. Rob Azevedo volunteered to be Rob Kaufman's assistant for the camp.

- ◆ **Registrar/Risk Manager - Ed Imes**
 - Ed is recuperating from back surgery and was not in attendance.
- ◆ **Supervisor-of-Officials – Ben Staehr**
 - Ben Staehr is the new Eastside Supervisor-of-Officials. Ben stated that he is getting things on course again and working with Tony Milles. Ben wants to have all officials prepare game reports for all games for all major penalties, misconducts, match, and gross misconducts. There are no more written incident report forms – all are now done online. Ben will get feedback to Matt Leaf at USA Hockey if there are any glitches or problems with the online forms. Ben asked each member association to make sure their local officials are aware that game reports are now done online. Ben also mentioned that these incident reports are a good teaching forum to help evaluate officials. It was also mentioned that if an official had not gone through the screening process prior to December 31, he/she would not be allowed to work any state, regional, or national tournament.
- ◆ **ADM – Doug Kirton**
 - Doug talked to the member associations to find out how the ADM is going with each association. HE asked how some of the program basics are being used at the Squirt and Peewee levels. Doug also mentioned that the ADM program has been well received so far. ADM commercials utilizing NHL players have been very prevalent during the World Junior Tournament, so the ADM is not going away! There seems to be a lot of good ADM practices happening in a lot of our associations.
 - There was a short discussion on the difference between a “routine” helper and a “guest” helper and who needs to be screened and who doesn't. WHL or NAHL players who help a few times a year do not need to be screened.
- ◆ **SafeSport – Doug Ross**
 - Doug Ross reported that the new registration process has begun, and that the old system would be down as of January 31. Over 15,000 participants have completed the registration process. If anyone has any comments, please get them to Doug Ross as soon as possible.
- ◆ **Girls/Women's Hockey – Cindy Dayley**
 - Cindy stated that she is working on the Girls' Development Camp, which will be in Everett this year. The Camp will be held the same weekend as the Boys' Development Camp on January 25-26, 2014. She has reached out to eastside teams that are co-ed to get girls on female teams. Seattle Women's Hockey is helping to recruit players and grow girls' youth hockey.

- ◆ **League Commissioner – Tami Gurnard**
 - Tami Gurnard reminded all member associations to fax/email all scoresheets to her. She will be auditing all teams scoresheets and, if a scoresheet is not sent to Tami within 30 days after the date of the game, that team's game will be forfeited.
 - Tami reminded all member associations to audit their rosters relating to Rule 14, coaches' credentials, birth dates, etc.
 - There was one incident this year with an over-age girl playing down a level. Once this error was discovered, this player was removed from the lower-level team. There was a lengthy discussion on how to handle this issue, since it was an administrative error and not an error on the coach's or the player's part. Discussion centered around whether or not to allow the lower-level team to compete in the Squirt Festival. Motion [*that points for team with ineligible player stand and team remains in Gold Division*] made by Tami Gurnard (PNAHA League Commissioner), second by Debbie Didzerekis (TCAHA). After more discussions, the motion passed with 8 in favor/2 opposed/2 abstentions.
 - A second motion was made on this same issue. Motion [*points this lower-level team accumulated through the year do not count for League Championship*] made by Tami Gurnard, seconded by Brian Moon (SAYHA). After a lengthy discussion, the motion passed with 7 in favor/3 opposed/2 abstentions.
- ◆ **1st Vice President – Adam Speer**
 - Adam Speer noted that it has been pretty quiet on the westside. There was one issue with a coach who refused to play and with how the referee handled the situation. The coach was suspended for a period of time but not for an entire year. Adam did ask the member associations to remind their coaches of the refusal to play sanction, even if a coach is concerned about the safety of his team. A short discussion ensued regarding how officials handle this type of situation and how they are trained for it.
- ◆ **2nd Vice President – Rob Azevedo**
 - Rob stated there were a few disciplinary issues on the Eastside. Rob did mention that coaches need to work more on their communications with officials.
- ◆ **PNAHA President – Gordon Brown**
 - **October Pacific District Meeting**
 - Gordon Brown attended the Pacific District Meeting in Seattle October 26, 2013.
 - Friday evening there was also a meeting regarding Affiliate player allocations to the District Players camps. The number of PNAHA players going to the district camp are being adjusted based upon the number of rep players at an age division in the affiliate.
 - **Level V Symposium**
 - Registration opened November 1. August 21–24, 2014, Las Vegas.
 - Request from affiliates to help fund the level 5. Alaska and California have committed \$5,000 and Alaska has committed \$3,000. Gordon Brown recommend that PNAHA match Alaska's contribution.
 - In each January meeting, we should discuss how PNAHA can contribute via a sponsorship and help for coaches that are interested in attending.
 - Level 4 to be in Seattle in May 2014 at a location near the airport.
 - **Bobby Freeland Grant**
 - Grants for next season to open up July 1.
 - Eight grants of \$2,500 available for new programs to grow the game.
 - **Girls Showcase**
 - Need to determine if we have a team before the mid-January USA Hockey meeting.
 - Email should be coming out to eligible girls with information.
 - **Referee Program**
 - Discussion about the helmet rule clarification.
 - District level officials are doing well at higher levels.
 - **Registrar's Report**
 - Washington is up by over 4% (adult and youth combined)
 - Two district positions are up for election this year.

- **Future Pacific District Meetings - Las Vegas**
 - February 7, 2014, District Directors and Affiliate President Dinner
 - February 8, 2014, Board Meeting
- **USA Hockey Winter Meeting**
 - Thursday, January 16 – Sunday, January 19, Florida
- **Mitchel Spino Appeal**
 - The Spino family appeal an Administrative Ruling made by SJHA. All PNAHA associations were offered to be on the hearing committee and almost every association was represented for the hearing.
 - The hearing committee found that SJHA made the ruling within their rights.
- **PNAHA ADM/Grow the Game Association Grant**
 - The mite nets were distributed to all the associations except Vancouver who hopefully will be picking them up this weekend.
 - The \$500 grant is still available for all associations. Get your receipts to Janet for reimbursement.
- **Match Penalties**
 - Gordon Brown has asked 1st Vice President Adam Speer to make recommendations for how PNAHA should be dealing with match penalties. The goal is to have discussions culminating with a proposal for vote at the June meeting.
 - We have also had a rash of Abuse of Officials penalties. Gordon is working to get clarity for which should be classified as assault and carry an automatic one-year suspension and which qualify for less.
- **High School Showcase**
 - Gordon sent out email to all the midget players in the Affiliation advertising this team and was told that they have received a strong response.
 - Jim McTaggart will be coaching and Pam Preisser is managing the team once again. They are polling the interested players looking for a good time to hold tryouts.
- **Elections**
 - At the June meeting, there will be elections for the Secretary/Treasurer and the 1st Vice President/West Side positions.
 - Janet MacFarlane has indicated that she will not be running for Secretary/Treasurer.
 - Please let Gordon Brown know if you are interested in running for either of these positions.
- **2013-2014 Budget**
 - Motion [to approve budget] by Rob Azevedo (PNAHA 2nd Vice President), seconded by Tami Gurnard (PNAHA League Commissioner), motion passed.

7. New Business

- ◆ **Tacoma Tier I Proposal**
 - A committee will be convened to meet and discussion this proposal in June. The committee will be comprised of Gordon Brown, Rob Azevedo, Jay Miller, and Dale Hollandsworth.
- ◆ **Bliss Littler.** Bliss Littler, the head coach for the Wenatchee Wild NAHL team, attended the meeting to discuss the Wild's future and how it will impact local players. Coach Littler was well received and was thanked for his attendance and support for PNAHA.
- ◆ **8U.** A lengthy discussion was held regarding the 8U exceptions for the 2014-2015 season, focusing on the number of full-ice games and not so much on the number of move-up players. Doug Kirton mentioned that lower B.C. teams are looking at having practices/games at half-ice. Currently, there is an eight-game maximum exception for the 2013-2014 season. More discussion followed. Motion *[to ask USA Hockey to keep exception at eight full-ice games for the 2014-2015 season and glide down to six the following season]* made by Rob Azevedo, seconded by Jared Bucci (TAHA). There was a friendly amendment to this motion by Derek Donald (SJHA) to keep the move-ups to three per association; accepted by Rob Azevedo. Motion approved. There was discussion on how to handle issues with USA Hockey regarding 8U. It was determined that Gordon Brown (PNAHA President) would coordinate a committee on this issue. Motion *[to allow Gordon Brown to negotiate with USA Hockey for an 8-game exception for the 2014-2015 season]* made by Doug Kirton (SKAHA), seconded by Jay Miller (WCAHA). There was a friendly amendment to this motion by Doug Ross that

the exception for full-ice games be limited to one tournament; accepted by Doug Kirton. Motion passed, with 10 in favor/3 opposed.

- ◆ **Peewee Tiering:** It was decided that a committee would be formed by Tami Gurnard, Brian Moon (SAYHA), Les Grauer (KVHA), and a member from SKAHA to review tiering at the Peewee level and whether to handle this division like the Squirt division.
- ◆ **Misconduct/Match Penalties.** Discussion surrounded having reminders emails sent out to each member association at the beginning and middle of each season regarding guidelines for match penalties and the discipline for such to involve coaches and coaching director. Gordon Brown will follow-up with Steve Stevens on clarification on USA hockey state/national tournaments vs. USA-hockey sanctioned invitational tournaments.
- ◆ **State Tier II Tournament.** Rob Azevedo reminded each member association that teams participating in the State Tier II tournament in Spokane need to make their hotel reservations ASAP if not done so already and that the registration fee for each team needs to be made to SAYHA.

8. **Score Sheets**

- ◆ Score sheets are available; Janet will invoice the associations for them. Make sure you sign out how many you take on the checkout sheet.

9. **Spring/Summer Meeting**

- ◆ The PNAHA Spring/Summer meeting will be held on **SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014**, at the **RED LION HOTEL** in Wenatchee. All members are reminded to make their room reservations prior to leaving the facility as availability is always limited at the hotel due to high occupancy during the hockey season.

10. **Adjournment**

- ◆ Jason Hirt (VAH) [*motioned to adjourn*], seconded by Jay Miller (WCAHA). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.