

1 Minutes of Mid West Amateur Hockey Association
2 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
3 April 19th 2015

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6 **Call to Order.** Pursuant to notice distributed by electronic mail and posting on the
7 affiliate web site, the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by
8 President Les Teplicky at 10 am at the West Des Moines Marriott, West Des Moines IA.
9 President Les submitted the previously distributed agenda for approval which was
10 forthcoming by acclamation. (See Agenda, attached.)

11
12 **Opening Remarks.**

13 President Les asked all at the table to introduce themselves and identify their
14 association. President Les noted we had no USAH guests.

15
16 **Roll Call.**

17 The secretary was directed to call the roll. The secretary prefaced the calling of the
18 roll with his traditional invitation that all who bring business before this forum (or
19 otherwise might speak or wish they had spoken at the meeting) send their
20 comments or amplifications to him in writing.

21
22 The Secretary called the roll and reported that a quorum is present.

23
24 The Secretary noted that the weighting for votes, when called for, would be based
25 on the sum of “players” and “coaches” on the (untitled) report as provided by the
26 Registrar. (Formerly, we had used *USA Hockey Member Counts By Program* as
27 the definitive report.)

28 President Les advised for the record that all youth associations either compliant or
29 making substantial progress toward compliance and are thus eligible to vote. He
30 also attested that all youth association representatives present and answering the
31 call are certified in accordance with the MWAHA By Laws

32
33 President Les presented Kyle Larson with the New Leader Award of USA Hockey.
34 The award was formally presented at last summer’s USAH Annual Congress...

35
36 **Treasurer.**

37 Treasurer Joe Strako briefed on the finances of the organization. He noted the
38 overrun in the Showcase budget was cause for concern and that procedures would
39 be developed to avoid repeating that outcome.

40
41 **Minutes.**

42 Minutes of the August 18th Special Meeting, previously distributed electronically
43 and posted on the website, were approved by acclamation.

44 **Motion**

45 That the minutes be approved as presented..
46 (M:Shelton/2:Strako) Passed by acclamation.

47 The secretary noted the substantial contribution of Nick Vlassakis who had
48 stepped up to take and publish the minutes as *secretary ad hoc*.

49
50 The Secretary reminded all herein gathered that to ensure accurate recording in
51 the minutes they are invited to submit in writing subsequent to the meeting any
52 comments they may have made during the meeting.

53
54 .

55 **Elections.**

56 President Les noted, this meeting technically falling outside the dates for the
57 annual meeting prescribed by the Bylaws of MWAHA, elections for the offices of
58 Treasurer and, one Vice President will be conducted at the August Special
59 Meeting.

60

61 **Reports.**

62

63 **President's Report.** President Les briefed on the winter USAH meeting. The rule
64 book is now on a four year cycle and the next edition will be in 2017.

65 There is now a need to have all players participating outside their home association
66 to be on a roster and, in all games whether within an association or not, rosters
67 should be on the bench.

68 December 1st should be honored as a deadline for any drops from teams so that
69 players might have opportunity to find another.

70 Billested player create a need for all adult members of the host household to be
71 screened.

72 Leagues in which USAH members participate must be sanctioned. It thus becomes
73 incumbent on the affiliate to research all leagues for compliance with that policy.

74

75 **VP (Growth).** VP Brad Parker described participating in ADM and growth of the
76 game. Try Hockey for Free has seen good participation and is a recommended
77 tactic for outreach. Associations are referred to the ADM site at USAH for aids to
78 effective coaching.

79 President Les noted Scott Long and Jim Johnson had experienced successes in
80 their association TH4F efforts.

81

82 **USAH Adult Hockey & Star Program.** Mike Vlassakis described his efforts to spin
83 up these programs.

84

85 **ACHA.** USAH Director Al Murdoch refreshed us on ACHA progress and reminded
86 that there are 2226 rinks in the US... and urged associations to check for colleges
87 and universities in those areas and help make the connections that might lead to
88 ACHA programs.

89 Al noted that at the model for the residence youth hockey camp is that counselors
90 are now 'team leaders' and remain with their group throughout the event. Good
91 candidates for this role are those from 16 to 20 years of age. This is a great
92 opportunity to serve.

93

94 **Discipline, Rules, and Ethics (DRE).** DRE Chair Mike Jones noted he'd
95 assumed chair of this activity from Ted Ohmart. DRE committee acts as the
96 principle investigator when the need arises.

97
98 **Midwest High School Hockey League (MWHSL).** League President Todd
99 Scebold on the DRE subject that the league handles match penalties affecting only
100 players but those involving officials are managed at the affiliate level.
101 Four teams went to HS Nationals in Chesterfield. 2016 will be in Virginia.
102 Showcase team (of high school juniors and seniors) played in the A pool this year
103 with a 1-3 record. The affiliate team
104 Team cost is moving from \$1800 to \$3000 in order to abolish gate fees at games.
105 Some four official games were done this year and in the coming season he intends
106 to get to three to four home games for each team by expanding.
107 Social media is providing a channel for more SafeSport violations, unfortunately.
108 Attentive on site leadership is called for to mediate this phenomenon.

109
110 **National Bound Teams, Tournaments, Web.** Jena Cuozzo, national bound chair,
111 described participation and which levels participated. May 1st is the deadline to get
112 information to Jena for approval of a Tier 1 national bound teams for the coming
113 season. She refers associations to the website for information on national bound
114 teams and sanctioned tournaments being presented within the affiliate.
115 She also noted that tournaments sponsored within the affiliate by outside groups
116 are subject to at \$150 fee.

117
118 Jena encouraged associations to keep their page on the MWAHA site up to date.
119 She is happy to give 'a Montessori' to an association designee for web
120 maintenance.

121 President Les noted that information and data provided at USAH is the property of
122 USAH and can't be used for dissemination of information except in accordance
123 with USAH rules. Similarly, members who register within an association constitute
124 data that is under the control of that association. People who register on the affiliate
125 site can receive information from the affiliate. So when organizers want information
126 to be broadly dissemination there are constraints on which data may be used.
127 Within the affiliate, requests for communication assistance need to be uniformly
128 treated.

129 The question of how to disseminate information to facilitate girls hockey resulted
130 in the following statement:

131 To serve the needs of organizations having tryouts for a girls team, we will ask
132 USAH to send such notice to all girls within the affiliate. Further, we (MWAHA) will
133 send such notice to all who have registered on our site expressing interest in girls
134 hockey. We see this as no different than what we do on our Select camp.

135
136 **Player Development.** Reporting for Doug Dietz who is at a district meeting,
137 President Les invited attention to Doug's exhibit on the flow to the various player
138 development camps. Les noted that every year we conduct a camp for players in
139 the ages 14 through 17. For ages 15 through 17, the camp selects players to go

140 to the district camp. *For age 14, we host the district camp which is open to any*
141 *player of that age within the affiliate, without need for specific invitation.*
142

143 On the question of players who participate outside of their home affiliate, USAH
144 hockey takes the position that players should return to Bethlehem. Hardships
145 created by this policy will be dealt with informally.
146

147 **Risk Management & Ethics.** Risk Manager Monty Brown noted how he gets
148 involved with requests for supplemental insurance benefits and reports of ethics
149 violations.
150

151 **Referee in Chief.** RIC Kyle Larson discussed the growth of the number of officials
152 this year. Central District (ours) is the only district to show growth this year. He
153 described the advance training being captured by our officials, leading to nine
154 officials being sent to national championships. This is believed to be a record for
155 the affiliate.

156 Kyle noted that Central District Referee in Chief, a frequent visitor to our meetings
157 and tournaments, has stepped down.
158

159 President Les observed that officials within the affiliate are under our jurisdiction
160 and leadership. "Officials will be perfect when coaches and players are perfect."
161

162 **Registrar.** Eric Herr noted that the presence on a roster of a player who is not from
163 within the affiliate (or a border town contiguous to the affiliate states) makes that
164 team at 'Tier 1' team. There is no Tier 1 at 14U and below.

165 Dual rostering creates no problem other than for national bound teams.
166

167 **VP (Compliance).** VP Shawn Spencer presented his extensive report, which is
168 attached.
169

171 **Old Business.**

172 President Les noted that only USAH score sheets may be used within the affiliate,
173 at all levels. .
174

175 **New Business.**

177 **MidWest League.** Rick Murcek described activity within the league this season.
178 Jason White will be stepping in to Midwest League next year. Assistance is still
179 being sought for the travel section.

180 Next year's Select weekends are planned for December 11-13, January 8-10,
181 February 5-7 (finals).
182

184 **2015 Meetings & Workshop.** President Les reviewed plans in development for a
185 workshops to those in leadership positions as they step into unfamiliar roles. After

186 discussion, the option appearing to be most likely is a day of workshops appended
187 to the next meeting. (That would be the 'special meeting of the board' typically held
188 in August.)

189
190 **Next meeting.** In accordance with the By Laws, President Les announced that
191 there will be a Special Meeting of the board on August 23rd, 2015.

192
193 **Adjournment.** Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

194
195
196 Respectfully submitted,

197
198
199 John Shelton
200 Secretary
201 800.800.9165

202
203 *(20150818 draft)*

Draft