

Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council

Meeting Minutes, Fall 2015

October 17, 2015

Wawonowin Golf Course, Ishpeming, Michigan

Submitted by Walt Milligan, MAHA District 8 Secretary, October 20, 2015.

Attendance:

MAHA	Perry Wooden, D8 Chair/Director
	Cathy Starrett, D8 Treasurer/Director, MAHA STAR Chair
	Scott Carter, D8 Director
	Al Wakeham, D8 Director
	Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary
	Bob Yohe, MAHA Registrar
	Jeff Cornock, D8 Coaching Director
	Eric Froberg, D8 Referee Supervisor
	Tim McIntosh, D8 Registrar
	Michele LaCourt, D8 Registrar
	Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officiating
	Bob Yohe, MAHA Registrar

Calumet	Dan Zubiena
Copper Country	Steve LaCourt
Dickinson	Ken Wood
Escanaba	Kim Milligan, Tabitha Marchese
Iron Range	Mark Menhennick
Iron River	Amy Donati
Ironwood	Michelle Trier
Keweenaw Bay	Rich Wickstrom
Manistique	Eric Oas, Phil Berger
Marquette	Jeff Cornock
Munising	Tina Hakkola
Ontonagon	Jason Clinesmith
Tahquamenon	Ben Rahilly

Chair Perry Wooden called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Introductions were made.

Motion (Oas/Rahilly): Approve minutes from the Spring 2015 meeting. Approved unanimously.

Wooden presented the Chairperson's Report:

- Everyone involved in hockey must complete a background check and SafeSport training. This includes all volunteers, board members, district council members, and any parents who are in the locker room or involved in game activities. November 15 is the deadline.

- Wooden noted that District teams did extremely well at State tournaments this spring, including the following State Champions:
 - Marquette 19U Tier 2 Girls
 - Iron River Bantam B
 - Iron River Midget B
 - Copper Country Squirt B
 - Calumet Midget BB
- ADM training kits should have been delivered to all associations.
- Half-ice boards and score clocks are available for reduced costs from MAHA.
- Paperwork is due:
 - August 1, affiliate agreements
 - November 1, Intent to enter state tournaments
 - November 15, requests for exemptions
- No parents are allowed on the ice at any time, including for team pictures after games.
- Associations must enforce USA Hockey locker room policies. No one is allowed in any locker room until at least two screened adults are present. Coaches and associations can be suspended for violations.

Starrett presented the Treasurer's Report. Three documents were circulated: P&L statement for the last fiscal year; P&L statement to date; balance sheet.

Motion (Cornock/Zubiena): Approve the Profit and Loss statement from May 2014 through April 2015 (attached to end of document). Approved unanimously.

MAHA grant money (\$2,500 per year) was spent on shooter tutors, shot trainers, plastic pylons, and stick-handling training balls.

We need to request grant money for this year in November.

Bob Yohe suggested spending the grant money on marketing initiatives to grow the game. Numbers are dropping consistently. We have enough shooter tutors and stick handling aids.

There was broad agreement. Rich Wickstrom suggested that we need a better social media strategy to get the attention of the kids.

Motion (Wickstrom/Oas): Propose to MAHA in November that we spend the grant money this year on marketing to grow the game. If MAHA approves, form a committee to implement the strategy. Approved unanimously.

Secretary Milligan had no report. A sign-up sheet was circulated for attendance.

Yohe presented the Registrar's Report.

- 5 associations have not yet registered with USA Hockey and are not eligible to play games.

- State tournaments are earlier this year due to the Easter holiday.
- The registrar software is awesome and continues to improve. The only issue is that background check completion is not always automatically being passed to the rosters, but this will hopefully be fixed soon. Completion of the SafeSport training has apparently been passed to the rosters quite well. Teams should bring their background check receipts with them until the issues are solved.
- Mite cross-ice jamborees will no longer have any charge, but will still need to be sanctioned. Apply at the MAHA website on the invitational tournament link.
- Special events off the ice (pancake breakfast, for example) can be sanctioned by MAHA and that is encouraged. On-ice activities (for example, “skate with the Huskies”) also should have a special events sanction so all are covered by USA Hockey insurance.
- Teams need a MAHA travel permit to play exhibition or league games in Canada, available at the MAHA website. Teams also need a permit to play in Canadian tournaments.
- There may be an 8U state tournament.

Cornock presented the Coaching Program Report:

- Coaching clinics are scheduled as usual.
- 9 associations were represented at the ACE meeting, which is much better than usual.

Froberg presented the Officiating Report:

- Seminars are going well and there may be around 12 new officials. Referees must complete their exams by November 1.

There was no Director at Large Report.

District Directors presented their reports:

- Wooden stated that all Mites are cross-ice now in Michigan. Mites can't play full ice games until the season is completely over.
- Carter attended the New Director's training meeting last month and learned a lot.
- Al Wakeham replaced Frank Sliva recently and had no report.
- Starrett attended the SafeSport meeting, the STAR meeting, and the Rules Committee meeting at the MAHA Summer Meeting. Her findings are reported later in this document.

District Representatives gave their reports. Recruitment and retention are common issues.

McIntosh reported that the Bantam/Midget festival will be held on April 8-10 at the Berry Events Center in Marquette.

Carter presented the Women's Report. The main focus is to grow the game among girls and women.

Milligan presented the CUP League report. Craig Savage is the new Commissioner. There are two by-laws modifications that are being discussed on Sunday October 18. One is related to games being played in Wisconsin, and the other is related to clarifying rules and regulations related to forfeits, game changes, and fines.

Starrett presented the report on rules. The following rules changes have been approved by MAHA that have an impact on our District:

- Associations no longer need to request an exemption for having less than 3 teams in a division.
- Teams must play at least 20 games within a division and also a classification to be state-eligible. (14 games for girls.) For example, a Squirt AA team must have 20 games against other Squirt AA teams (not squirt AAA teams) to be eligible for the Squirt AA tournament.
- The last day to add a player to a roster has been moved to December 23 from December 31.
- MAHA rules can only be changed every other year unless the circumstances are exceptional. Rule change proposals need to be submitted by December 15 in odd-number years.

Starrett presented the STAR/SafeSport Report. STAR Committee and SafeSport Committee are moving towards merging but it may take several years. Cathy needs to know the association's STAR reps and SafeSport Reps. STAR and SafeSport posters explaining the goals were made available for every rink.

Tentative declarations for entering the State tournament were entered. Final declarations are due November 1. Based on tentative declarations, DAHA squirts will compete in the West Division regional tournament in Ironwood to balance the teams. There will be no Pee Wee "swing team" unless Ontonagon does not have a Pee Wee team, and there will be no bantam regional tournament needed.

District Tournament sites and dates were reviewed. DAHA, who had agreed to host the Midget District Tournament, withdrew their bid. After going through the bidding priority list, Iron River was awarded the Midget tournament.

It was discovered that all District Tournaments must be completed by February 7 due to the earlier schedules from MAHA and Nationals. District Tournaments were adjusted accordingly, and are attached at the end of this document.

Trophy bids were discussed.

Motion (Oas/Hakkola): Accept the bid from American Nameplate. Approved unanimously.

In other Old Business, Starrett reminded Directors that any financial reports that are distributed to association members must be copied to the D8 Treasurer. She also needs to have the names of all association treasurers.

"Credentials Weekend" is January 10 in Houghton (Dee Stadium) and Marquette (Citizen's Forum.) Teams who have not have their team books approved must attend.

The Spring District 8 Meeting time and location was agreed upon:

- Saturday, April 16, 2016, 10:00 am
- Wawonowin Country Club, Ishpeming, MI

Motion (Oas/Carter): Adjourn. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

MAHA 2016 District 8 tournament sites and dates.

East Region Playdowns (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam B)	Manistique	January 15-17, 2016
West Region Playdowns (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam B)	Ironwood	January 15-17, 2016
Squirt B Districts	Iron Range	February 5-7, 2016
Squirt AA Districts	Calumet	February 5-7, 2016 tentative. May have to move earlier due to Winter carnival
Pee Wee B Districts	Munising	February 5-7, 2016
Pee Wee AA Districts	Marquette	February 5-7, 2016
Bantam B Districts	Manistique (hosted by TAYHA)	February 5-7, 2016
Bantam AA Districts	Marquette	February 5-7, 2016
Midget B and BB Districts	Iron River	February 5-7, 2016

Bidding for B District Tournaments, April 18, 2015

Amended at District Council Meeting, October 17, 2017

Association	Decision
Copper Country	Pass
Tahquamenon	Bantam B
Munising	Pee Wee B
Ontonagon	Pass
Keweenaw Bay	Pass
Iron Range	Squirt B
Ironwood	Pass
DAHA	Pass – withdraw bid
Manistique	Pass
Marquette	Pass
Escanaba	Pass
Iron River	Midgets
Calumet	

Priority List for 2016-2017 District Tournaments

Association	Decision
Copper Country	
Ontonagon	
Keweenaw Bay	
Ironwood	
DAHA	
Manistique	
Marquette	
Escanaba	
Calumet	
Iron River	
Iron Range	
Munising	
Tahquamenon	

Blind Draw for 2015-2016 Regional and District Seeding

Held at MAHA District 8 Spring Meeting, April 18, 2015

Manistique

DAHA

Munising

Iron River

Iron Range

Calumet

Ontonagon

Marquette

Copper Country

Ironwood

Escanaba

Tahquamenon

Keweenaw Bay