

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT HOCKEY INC

MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2016

Orlando, FL

In Attendance:

Lewis, TC	District	Director
	District	Director
Pashkowski, Geoff	AZ	Director at Large
Day, Jill	District	Secretary/Treasurer
Reinhard, Ken	District	Referee-in-Chief
Reckell, Tim	AZ	President
Rogers, Jim	AZ	Vice President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
	District	Disabled Rep
Hoskins, Mike	OK	President
Hall, Reggie	TX	President
Servaes, Mark	TX	Vice President
Thompson, Darla	TX	Registrar
Ritter, Doug	TX	Travel Sec
Lippsett, Taylor	TX	Athlete Director
Smith, Kathleen	UT	President
Anderson, Cathy	UT	Registrar
Radke, Wendy	UT	Safe Sport
Urban, Bruce	USA Hockey	Director at Large
Bonnett, Joe	USA Hockey	ADM Coordinator
Briggie, Rae	USA Hockey	Member Services

Absent:

Kenney, Chris	District	Director/Chairman
Brandstetter, Dean	District	Director
Lehto, Mike	District	Coach-in-Chief High School Section
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
Emerizy, Neil	District	Webmaster
	District &	
Scoran, Kory	ID	ADM Coordinator
Thompson, Steve	NM	President

T C Lewis, in the absence of Chris Kelley, called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Introductions were made and, although many were absent, a quorum was present to conduct business.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 4 and 6, 2015 meetings were reviewed. Kathleen Smith made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as written. Reggie Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District Director Elections

Chris Kenney's District Director three year term is up this year at the end of Congress in June. Nominations and election will proceed as outlined in Bruce Karinen's hand out (item #3 in the handout is no longer part of the bylaws; nominees can be from any affiliate.) Even though Bruce's health is not good, he will handle the election as usual. If you need to contact him, please call and don't email.

2016 District Tournaments

The Rocky Mountain District Tournament was awarded to the Rough Riders to host the Tier 1 Boys tournament in Westminster, CO March 11-13, 2016. The tournament format (below) put in place in the last meeting will be the format used.

- 4 Team Format for Boys Tier I Tournament – State Champion for Arizona, Colorado and Texas, with play in by state Champion teams from Idaho, New Mexico and Utah
- Best 2 out of 3 games for Girls Tier I Tournament
- Girls Tier II format will be determined based on the number of team in each division

Girls Tier 1 and II will be at the same time and hosted by the Rough Riders in Westminster, CO. Team counts were confirmed for each division, game formats, and automatic teams to go to Nationals if only one team in the division.

Randy Kanai, CO President relayed a request from their Tier II 14U teams. They have 4 teams and are requesting that three be allowed to play in the tournament along with the Dallas Team. Randy talked about how the teams had been organized to help understand why they should be able to play in districts. It was noted that the benefit would be one more game for Texas. Texas said one more game wasn't worth the chance of missing the opportunity to go to Nationals. Shawn Hathaway from Aspen Jr Hockey presented their request again. He expressed the need to develop opportunities for everyone involved and not on a year to year basis. Reggie Hall expressed concern about changing things that were just put into place last June. It would also increase the cost of the tournament to add two more teams. Randy Kanai made a **MOTION** to allow two more teams in the 14U division. There was no second so the motion dies.

Boys Tier 2 team counts and game formats were confirmed for each division. High School team counts were also confirmed.

National Tournaments in RMD

The Boys Tier 2 U16 National Tournament is being held in Dallas, TX and the Boys Tier 1 U14 National Tournament is being held in Arizona.

Girls Showcase Tournament

Geoff Pashkowski reported on the Girls Pittsburgh Showcase team. It looks like it will be an 8 team tournament this year held April 14-18, 2016. They are trying to get the same coach as last year, but would really like a coach from the Rocky Mountain District if possible. Please let Geoff know of anyone from the district that might want to coach.

Coach-in-Chief

Mike Lehto reported that he had had seven requests for temp cards before 12/31 and 15 in the last 2 weeks. He has been sending the requests to the affiliate president to determine if the requests merit temp cards. Then the affiliate will make the request of Mike Lehto. Mike had a handout of clinic statistics for 2015.

Referee-in-Chief

Ken Reinhold reported that registration for RMD increased by 80 over last year. Completion rate is about 75% up from 63% last year. Affiliate RIC gets updates every couple of weeks of those not complete. There were 98 seminars held this fall. State Evaluation Coordinators will report to the State RIC. Access to the National Online Evaluation system was updated. There are currently 125 evaluators in the district. A current list of seminar instructors that had attended instructor's camp was created to help identify geographic regions where seminar instructors are needed. He is putting a

strong focus on development of upcoming officials, and providing opportunities to those who want to move up. Ken expressed his thanks for the district support on fighting gender slurs from last meeting.

ADM

Joe Bonnett said the USOC has recognized the happiness of the players and parents in the program. There are seven affiliates in USA Hockey that still have not accepted ADM, but the number gets smaller every year. There has been a lot of discussion about other nations coming and seeing how our programs work.

Registrars

Rae Briggie gave recognition to our affiliate registrars and how they are performing, especially in the absence of Bruce Karinen with his health issues.

Disabled

Mike Hoskins reported that USA Hockey and the Michigan District are proud to welcome and invite you to the 12th Annual USA Disabled Hockey Festival to be held April 7-10, 2016 in Fraser, Michigan. Interest in Disabled hockey in general is growing. Blind hockey is growing. They use an oversized puck that beeps. Mike really needs a point of contact for all disabled programs in the District. He would like to identify the programs on the website. Texas is almost ready to start a sled hockey league. There will be an exhibition tournament in Houston in the spring.

Treasurer

Jill Day reported that she had filed the first 501c3 tax return in November 2015 by postcard (for entities with gross receipts of less than \$50,000 annually). A new bank account has been opened in the name of Rocky Mountain District Hockey, Inc. with our Tax ID. TC Lewis and Kathleen Smith will be added as signers on the new account with Jill Day. She handed out a form to use to submit for the 2015-16 District grant.

Tournament Awards and Risk Management

Kelly Grover is working with the Rough Riders on pucks and banners for the tournaments. Secondary crime insurance is now available now through Travelers. Texas brings up the issue of additional D&O insurance to cover legal fees over and above what USA Hockey provides. There was discussion of having each association required to carry that coverage. Kelly is also writing articles for the USA Hockey Magazine.

Player Development Camp

This was Mark Servaes first year running the camp since Tom Lample retired. It was a great camp, as usual, especially because of the Salt Lake volunteers.

Bruce Urban reported that the third year of the 14 year old camp was successful. The next camp is June 18-23, 2016 in Colorado Springs. They are going to add coaches-in-training on ice this year to help increase interest in coaching.

The Girls Multi-District camp was also very successful. There were four age groups, and selections to national camp were from three of the age groups. The teams will be created to match the national camp format. This year's camp is June 11-16, 2016 in Colorado Springs.

USA Hockey Finance Committee has requested that the player development bank account, which is separate from the District account have better financial controls in put in place.

Policy and Procedure

This item was skipped due to the absence of Dean Brandstetter.

Web Site

Please send any and all info to Neil Emerizy for posting to the web site.

Hot Topic items

TC Lewis and Geoff Pashkowski would like to hear your feelings on several items being voted on this year including (from the Board of Directors Agenda):

Page 83 four categories of recreational hockey and new ways of expanding participation

Page 87 prohibit Tier 1 and 2 tryouts until after current season

Page 91 Tier 1 Open classification

Page 93 and 101 create a 15-year-old age category in Tier 1

Page 97 clarify age of eligible players in District and Nationals Championships and prohibit U12 players. Concern is that girls' teams usually don't have enough players without the U12. Don't really know if girls are covered under this.

Next RMD Meeting

There will be a morning meeting in conjunction with Annual Congress in Colorado Springs in June. If there is to be an August meeting, it is Texas' turn to host. The four district directors will put together 2 different agendas and will determine whether there will be need for an August meeting. Agendas will be presented in March conference call and a decision will be made. Jill Day noted she would not be able to attend the June meeting.

Everyone was encouraged to go to Youth Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day, Secretary/Treasurer
Rocky Mountain District