

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, January 16, 2014
Renaissance Sea World, Orlando, Florida

In attendance:

Kenney, Chris	District	Director/Chairman
Lewis, TC	District	Director
Brandstetter, Dean	District	Director
McKibbon, John	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary/Treasurer
	District	Coach-in-Chief Vice
Lehto, Mike	ID	President
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
Pariseau, Gary	District	Referee-in-Chief
Ballou, Patrick	District	Webmaster
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
Pashkowski, Geoff	AZ	Director at Large
Haley, Herb	AZ	Safe Sport
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
Thompson, Steve	NM	President
Hall, Reggie	TX	President
Servaes, Mark	TX	Vice President
Wilner, Fred	UT	President
Smith, Kathleen	UT	Vice President
Smith, Chris	UT	Referee Assoc President
Urban, Bruce	USA Hockey	Director at Large
	USA	
Hennes, TY	Hockey	ADM
	USA	Youth Hockey
Hron, Jason	Hockey	Communications
	USA	
Lukken, Mike	Hockey	Member Development
	USA	
McMillen, Mike	Hockey	Coach-in-Chief

Absent:

		High School Section
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Hoskins, Mike	OK	President

T.C. Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Chris Kenney, Chairman of the District Council will join the meeting later. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 17, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes. Dean Brandstetter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District and Affiliate Reports

Chris Kenney submitted a written District Director report. There are written reports from the Coaching, Officials, and Webmaster Representatives. All seven states, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah submitted written reports. Some highlights of their reports were shared as well as others.

Arizona Jon Brooks reported that some ice rinks are going through ownership changes. He believes that will increase USA Hockey registrations by about 2000 and allow multiple rink tournament hosting ability in Arizona. The NHL Coyotes new owners are very interested in helping youth hockey. Safe Sport is required in AZ. They only 3 ADM exemptions for this year

Colorado Randy Kanai reported that the midget age group is fragmenting with high school hockey growing. AAU teams want to participate in state playoffs, so that is a carrot to get them back in to USA Hockey. Disruptive rules, such as recruiting, and out of state trips are being done away with in the affiliate since too many exceptions are taking too much administrative time. The NHL Avalanche is now funding the affiliate web sites.

Idaho John Heinrich reported that Idaho does not have AAU issues. Their Squirt house league is also using ADM program.

New Mexico Steve Thompson reported that the economics in State of New Mexico are devastating on the tenure, history, and experience of board members. There is a high turnover. Consistent leadership is a huge goal. Their High School program needs to be fixed or find a way to make a midget program work in its place.

Texas Reggie Hall reported that TAHA won the two-year old lawsuit brought by an Ice Jet parent and received a financial settlement in exchange for not pursuing damages and legal. They have modified member agreements because of this lawsuit. A rule change is taking place for a team to be registered in the association where the "majority" of players reside instead. Dallas Stars growth initiative "Little Rookies" has seen starter gear provided to local rinks in Dallas as well as rinks in Houston and Austin. The U16 2015 National Tournament was awarded to Texas. Texas has house/rec issues in the affiliate. There are some teams playing AAA schedules but registered at the house level. He wanted to know what other affiliates do. Utah has the same issue. He would like all affiliates to share their rules to try to create one that can be used by every affiliate. The request will be handled by Chris Kenney.

Utah Fred Wilner reported that the AAU issues faced this year were not as bad as expected. Only mites, squirts, peewees and one bantam team registered with AAU. Adult and other bantams stayed with USA Hockey. The new Cedar City association received a \$100,000 grant for a rink and the affiliate. St George is now interested in becoming a new association. An adult rookie league started this year with 64 players and a waiting list for next season. The U14 2015 National Tournament was awarded to Utah.

National Coach in Chief Mike McMillen stopped in to say HI. He reported that they have talked about leaving education modules open for completion with a fee. There will be a Level 5 clinic held in Las Vegas Aug 21-24, 2014. Please send your coaches. Coaching news can be linked to affiliate web sites. He also suggested that affiliates consider reimbursing their local volunteer coaches for the cost of certification.

Coach-in-Chief Mike Lehto said requests for temp cards must come through the affiliate. The Level 4 clinic will be in Texas this year either before or after the Level 5 in Las Vegas. There were 12 more clinics held this year over last year. The district really needs more coaches.

Registrar – Bruce Karinen reported that unclaimed registrations must be claimed before insurance claims can be processed. Affiliate registrars can get a report of unclaimed. He suggested that registrars email unclaimed to find out where they play.

District Director Elections

Bruce Karinen reported that the 3-year terms of TC Lewis and Dean Brandstetter (replacing Tom Powers) are expiring. Bruce presented the procedure for the elections. Nominations are open now until March 15, 2014 and Bruce would like them in writing along with an acceptance by the nominated person. Ballots will be mailed to affiliate Presidents in April and are due back in mid-May, 2014. Votes are based on last year's player count. Both TC and Dean said they are interested in continuing to serve.

There was much discussion about district directors who are elected while residing in one affiliate and move to another affiliate during their term. Motions were made and withdrawn during the discussion. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** that a district director be considered from the affiliate he resided in at time of election until his term expires. John McKibbon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Other ideas will be discussed in more detail at other meetings. Dean Brandstetter mentioned that he feels the new bylaws will fix the problem.

Girls Showcase Tournament

Jon Brooks reported that Geoff Pashkowski attended the Girls/Women meeting with Bruce Karinen in Salt Lake City in October. Every affiliate was represented at the meeting and pledged support of the showcase team and allocations were determined. The registration fee has been paid for the 2014 tournament. Geoff will be the Team Manager and he needs names of participants from the states ASAP. Geoff and Bruce will get a conference call together. Arizona, Texas, and Utah are also sending boys teams to the Showcase.

RMD Grants

Fred Wilner brought up the discussion of the district grant that wasn't finished in August. Dean Brandstetter made a **MOTION** to allow up to a \$2,000.00 matching grant to each of the seven states this year. Requests must be submitted to Jill Day in writing including a report of the use of the grant and the success or failure of the use as well as the receipts for the expense. They will then be presented at the June meeting for review and approval. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Player Development Camp Fund

Kelly Grover was absent but he had given some financial information to TC Lewis to share. It was requested that the board receive a written report.

RMD Player Development Camp

T.C. Lewis reported on the 2013 camp and noted that the dates for this year's camp are May 7-11, 2014 in Salt Lake City, UT. Texas expressed some disenchantment reports from his affiliate regarding Utah. The question was asked again about moving the camp. We have a fiduciary responsibility to look at proposals from other venues.

Camp for 14-year-olds

T.C. Lewis reported that this year's camp is June 14-19, 2014 at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO. After 2 years the camp has a positive bottom line of \$2,000.00.

2014 District Tournaments

Tier I 6-9 March 2014 Scottsdale, Arizona

	AZ	CO	ID	NM	OK	TX	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
Midget Major 18U	1	2	1	0	0	2	1	1		8	
Midget Minor 16U	1	2	1	0	0	2	1	1		8	
Bantam 14U		1	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	6	

Girls Tier I 28 Feb - 2 March 2014 Denver, Colorado

	AZ	CO	ID	NM	OK	TX	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
19U		1				1					Best 2 out of 3
16U		1				1					Best 2 out of 3

Girls Tier II/Women 7-9 March 2014 Denver, Colorado

	AZ	CO	ID	NM	OK	TX	UT	HOST	Total	Team Format
19U	1	1					1	1	4	4 Team Bracket
14U										Best 2 out of 3

Review of District Policy & Procedure Manual

Dean Brandstetter sent the link to the District By-Law changes for everyone's review. Not everyone had had a chance yet, so a conference call was set up for Monday, February 3rd at 4:00 pm Mountain Time. Make sure you have reviewed the document and have any questions or comments ready for the meeting. The bylaws have to be in place to proceed with the 501c3 application.

Legislative Proposals

Chris Kenney talked about consistency with number of players on a roster.

Referee-in-Chief

Gary Pariseau reported that he has had all positive responses on the required half shield facemask for the officials. He also noted that only about 20% of the registered officials have completed the recommended Safe Sport module.

Web Site

Patrick Ballou really needs the affiliates to send him information to put on the district web site. Anything that is important enough to go on your affiliate web site is probably good information to also have on the district web site. Please send your info to him

Other Business

District Treasurer – TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to appoint Jill Day as the Treasurer of the Rocky Mountain District. John McKibbon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. She was appointed only on an interim basis last August. She included the 2012-13 actual vs budget report and the proposed 2013-14 budget in the written reports. She reported that invoices were emailed to the affiliate presidents, treasurers, and registrars last week. She is working on being able to make payments directly through QuickBooks, but that will have to wait until the 501c3 status is confirmed. Fred Wilner made a **MOTION** to approve the 2013-14 budget as presented. Dean Brandstetter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Next Meetings

The next meeting is the lunch meeting Thursday, June 5, 2014 in Colorado Springs. The Annual meeting will be June 7, 2014 also in Colorado Springs.

Reggie Hall made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. Fred Wilner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day
RMD Secretary