



Meeting was called to order by President Steve Oleheiser on June 26, 2022, at 8:00 AM.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Rhonda Madsen.

Board Members Present:

President Steve Oleheiser	Treasurer Doug Kephart	Secretary Rhonda Madsen
VP Scott Gray	VP Tom Christianson	VP Scott Dornfeld
VP Jeremy Reed	Director Tom Mickus	Director Kevin Souja
Director Paul Steenerson	Director Mike Pigman	Director Steve Gapinski
Director Brad Hewitt	Director Rich Rakness	Director Mark Blaisdell
Director Colleen Donovan	Director Pete Hill	Director Dan Rabideaux
Director Mark Elliott	Adult Women Kendra Verbeten	Adults Rep Brandon Koontz
Diversified Hockey Toni Gillen		

Staff Present: Executive Director Glen Andresen and Marketing/Communications Manager Derek Ricke.

The voting quorum was announced. With 22 voting members present, simple majority was twelve (12) two-thirds majority was fifteen (15).

Minutes from the April 24, 2022, meeting was previously distributed electronically. With no changes or corrections, the minutes stand as distributed and posted.

Agenda Additions/Changes: Addition under new business for consideration of Director Emeriti, John Perry.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Kephart reported the Financial Statements through May 31, 2022. Revenues reported were \$3,433,162.47 and expenses reported were \$2,672,963.43 resulting in a net income of \$760,199.04. The financial statements will be referred to audit.

President's Report:

President Oleheiser was grateful for another productive weekend of meetings and information. Membership has come back after the covid years, and we are currently leading USA Hockey in memberships. There are challenges ahead of us that will be worked through and he is looking forward to the coming years. President Oleheiser expressed his gratitude to Mike Terwilliger for his dedication and accomplishments during his time with MN Hockey.

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director Andresen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes, highlighting the MNH Golf Benefit at Bunker Hills on July 12th. With Mike Terwilliger leaving in August, there will be a transition period with staff.

Committee Reports

Administrative Management:

Committee Chair Oleheiser reported that performance evaluations and merit increases have been completed. The committee is reviewing the current staffing levels and responsibilities.

Adults:

Adult Director Koontz submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Adult Women / Girls and Women's Recruitment Committee:

Adult Women Director Verbeten reported: Hockey 101 and 201 are ending on Tuesday, Try Hockey for Free will occur in August, they are working on adult activities to expand over the Bantam/15U age category; currently working on the 13U program, working on expanding the 19U program, and having "Pick Up" hockey throughout the summer assessing their skills/abilities to determine what level they would play at.

Diversified Hockey:

Director Gillen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

District Directors:

District Director Chair Souja brought forth two proposals from the committee for consideration:

Girls 13U and 16U 2-Year Pilot Program:

Using the current age classifications offer exceptions for those associations or coops not offering a 15U program. The exception would allow 13-year olds to play down at the 12U level with the following requirements:

- The team would follow the 2/3 – 1/3 age-appropriate rule. Not more than 1/3 of the team could be comprised of 13-year old players.
- All teams with 13-year old player must participate at the 12U-A level.
 - An exception can be made to this guideline which would require the approval of the District Director and the Maroon and Gold VP's (two of three votes).
- Suspend the rule prohibiting teams with age related play downs from participating in post season play.

Using the current age classifications offer exceptions for those association or coops not offering a 19U program. The exception would allow 16-year olds to play down at the 15U level with these requirements:

- The team would follow the 2/3 – 1/3 age-appropriate rule. Not more than 1/3 of the team could be comprise of 16-year old players.
 - An exception can be made to these guideline which would require the approval of the District Director and the Maroon and Gold VP's (two of three votes).
- All teams with 16-year old players must participate ah the 15UA level.
- Suspend the rule prohibiting teams with age related play downs from participating gin post season play.

A Motion was made to have a 2-year pilot program for 13U and 16U players with age specific dates, which this season would be 06/01/08 – 05/31/09, as presented above. Following discussion, a motion was made to amend the current motion stating if, district wide, there is a 19U team, a 16U player will play on the 19U team versus moving down to the 15U league, in which an exception can be made requiring the approval of the District Director and the Maroon and Gold VP's. Motion Carried.

Jr. Gold Pilot Program: For the 2022-23 JGHSL season, a statewide Jr Gold B league be formed allowing all MN Jr Gold B teams to play as one statewide program. All teams in all Districts would be required to play full season with all Jr Gold B teams registered no matter of location. Any and all new teams that form would play in the new format. JGHSL would schedule games as evenly as possible to achieve equal travel for all teams. At the end of regular league play, all Greater MN Jr Gold Northern teams would enter their own respective JR Gold playdown to qualify for State with one minimum entry. Qualifying teams from each division will be determined based on teams registered each year and determined by JGHSL/MNH Coordinators.

Motion was made for the 2022-23 season to have a statewide Jr. Gold B league as presented above. Following discussion in which the JGHSL does support a statewide league they do not support the Northern JGB teams not being included in the playdown with all teams to advance to State but having their own playdown, the motion carried.

District 1 – Director Mickus reported he has been re-elected for one year to allow time to find a replacement for his position.

District 2 – Director Suoja reported he has been elected for another three-year term. Their district meeting is scheduled for tonight, where they are hoping to sign an agreement with the referees.

District 3 - Director Steenerson reported they had a Presidents meeting last month, which they would like to have more goalie clinics, a google doc will be set up for the President's with all of their contact information, and the team calendar has been updated.

They are working with District 10 for a North Metro/Coon Rapids co-op.

There are Squirt and Tournament Director meetings scheduled for tomorrow night.

Job descriptions have been created for all roles in the District.

They are currently working on improving the District 3 website.

District 4 – Director Pigman had nothing to report.

District 5 – Director Gapinski reported this is his last meeting as District Director. His successor, the new District 5 Director, is Nate Wold.

District 6 – Director Hewitt had nothing to report.

District 8 – Director Rakness reported the school district boundaries have changed effecting Rosemont, Eastview and Apple Valley. Players are having to move and there are numerous school waivers being received.

Co-ops are forming within the Associations.

Districts 8 and 6 are working together for a fine proposal to make the fines transparent to the Associations.

District 9 – Director Blaisdell had nothing to report.

District 10 – Director Donovan reported that Anoka will be hosting a 19U team this season.

District 11 – Director Hill reported they continue to work with DAHA on the Squirt program.

District 12 – Director Rabideaux reported they have expanded their district leadership adding co-directors from Grand Rapids and Hibbing, which they will learn the role of the District Director in more depth and will share responsibilities to bring more continuity and consistency within the District with the Associations.

In the past, they have shared a Registrar with District 11, who has since stepped down. Dara Swanson has been named the new D12 Registrar.

District 16 – Director Elliott had nothing to report.

Diversity:

Director Mickus reports the distribution of two grants that were presented to New Direction and Dinomites.

Equity Advisor Jeff Baidoo reported they is working with Meredith's group for different activities across the state, the Wild provided jersey's for Black History month, and the Committee is not a disciplinary committee but an advisory committee.

Executive Committee:

President Oleheiser had nothing to report.

Finance and Budget:

Committee Chair Kephart commented in response to MNH income levels that when the financials' have been finalized, President Oleheiser, Executive Director Andresen, and Committee Chair Kephart will review and present a plan for excess funds for discussion at the fall meeting.

Implementation of the Gamesheet allocation from the Districts will be 25% this year/season, 50% the following year/season, and 100% the next year/season.

The Finance and Budget Committee brought forth two recommendations for approval:

Stipend Schedule, which those who receive, or have a family member who receives, a stipend must recuse themselves from voting.

Motion was made to approval the stipend schedule for the HP Programs, Miscellaneous, ADM, and Hockey Programs. Motion carried.

Budget: Motion was made to approve the proposed budget for the 2022-23 season with projected revenues of \$4,589,028 and projected expenses of \$4,659,794 resulting in a projected deficit of \$70,766. Following

discussion, which WHAM is opposing as they feel monies should be going towards programs versus the Gamesheet allocation to the Districts, the motion carried with two oppositions.

Girls Committee / Regional Coordinators:

Committee Co-Chair Christensen reported the committee has met twice working on the girls' pilot program making it better. He thanked the committee members Kevin Souja, Kendra Verbeten, Doug Foster and Steve Gapinski. They have more items they will be working on moving forward.

Vice President Maroon Coordinator Dornfeld stated this was his last meeting and extended his gratitude. He will remain active in the HP Program and as a committee member for the Rules and Grievance Committees. Vice President Gold Coordinator Christensen extended his gratitude to Scott Dornfeld and looks forward to working with Steve Gapinski moving forward.

Grievance Committee:

Committee Chair Gapinski reported they have received \$800 from grievances received that were pushed back as they were deemed not grievances.

Handbook:

Committee Chair Madsen reported that changes for the upcoming season handbook need to be submitted by June 30th, to ensure processing in July and distribution for the September meeting.

Hockey Operations:

Vice President Reed reported the HP programs are concluding and the Dave Peterson camp is coming up. The Hockey Director Conference will be held September 9, 2022.

Gratitude was extended to Mike Terwilliger for all the work he has accomplished and for all of the hockey contacts and interactions made throughout the state.

Marketing/Communication and Safesport/Screening:

Vice President Gray had nothing to report

Membership Development:

Marketing/Communications Manager Ricke has submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Saturday, November 5, 2022, is the fall National Try Hockey for Free day. Associations hosting a Try Hockey for Free day outside the National date still need to register their event with USA Hockey.

If you know of anyone interested in becoming the Membership/Development Committee Chair, please contact Derek or President Oleheiser.

MIAMA:

Director Rakness had nothing to report.

Recreational Hockey:

There was a leadership change with the President of Rec Hockey, who has stepped down after four years.

Referees:

Mike Mannin reporting for Referee Section Director Kuhl.

Mr. Mannin expressed gratitude to MN Hockey for allowing MHOA to conduct the training camp for young and new officials during the MN Hockey HP camps. There were 9 new officials the first camp and 12 new officials at the second camp.

Officials' registration opened on June 1, 2022. Seminars are posted on-line.

August 21, 2022 is the MHOA Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament at Maddens.

Rules:

Youth Rules and Regulation Changes

[R1] Interlevel Play. Clarify the rule regarding interlevel play. Beckman

IV. PARTICIPATION

D. **INTERLEVEL PLAY:** Except in special circumstances approved by the affected District Director(s), interlevel play (games/exhibition games) is not permitted between classifications (Peewee vs Bantam, 15U vs 12U) or between divisions (A vs B, B vs C or A vs C teams), except for Jr Gold 16 vs Jr Gold B, and 15U A vs B. ~~In special circumstances where interlevel play between division is appropriate, the affected District Director(s) must approve.~~ Interlevel play is not permitted in MH sanctioned invitational or playoff tournaments, with the exception that Jr Gold 16 teams may participate in Jr Gold B invitational tournaments and 15UB teams may participate in 15UA invitational tournaments. Teams violating this provision may be declared ineligible to compete in any invitational tournaments and in MH district, region and state tournaments for the current season, and, in case of flagrant violations, for such further period of time as the district director shall deem appropriate. House league and city recreational league teams must be registered as C teams if they intend to play other teams outside of their hockey community. District Directors may permit a B or C division team from small cities or newly developed programs to play in a higher division league if there is no comparable division league available.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R1 to be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

[R2] Conduct relating to Referees. At the spring meeting a roundtable discussion was held regarding conduct related to referees. The current rule is limited to restrictions on entering the Referee's room without invitation. Consideration is given to expanding the restriction to any interaction with a referee meant to harass or for other inappropriate conduct.

XV. CONDUCT

K. Coaches/players/managers/spectators may not enter the game official Referee's room without an invitation before, during or after a game. Coaches/players/managers/spectators may not approach or confront a game official inside a rink or in the parking lot of a rink for purposes of confronting, harassing, challenging or otherwise taking any aggressive or inappropriate attitude towards a game official with respect to any aspect of the game official's role as game official. This Rule shall not prohibit the head coach or acting head coach from respectfully questioning game officials during the course of the game. The following actions will take place for violation of this rule:

1. For a coach or player — assess a game misconduct penalty; report the incident for possible add'l league action or suspension. For coaches and players a first violation of this Rule will result in a game misconduct. A second violation of this Rule will result in a three game misconduct. A third violation of this Rule will result in a suspension for the remainder of the year which may be carried to the next year in the District Director's discretion, and/or a financial penalty to be determined by the District Director and the involved association.
2. For a manager or spectator (fan) - the game official Referee(s) will report the circumstances to the Supervisor of Officials who will notify the District Director. A mandatory hearing will be held with the team coach and a representative of their association's governing board to discuss possible disciplinary action. For managers or spectators, a violation of this Rule will result in a suspension and/or financial penalty of up to \$1,000.00 as determined by the District Director.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R2 to be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

[R3] Encourage associations to appoint a sportsmanship monitor. Officials Task Force.

XV. CONDUCT

M. Sportsmanship Monitor. Associations are encouraged to appoint a sportsmanship monitor to monitor the conduct of its coaches, players, managers, and fans for conduct inconsistent with these Rules.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R3 to be approved as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

[R4] Ebugs. District directors. There is concern about the current rules concerning emergency goalies. Teams are using the rule to attempt to roster a goalie for district and state playoffs when they do not have a rostered goalie who is unavailable. Additionally, uniforms are a concern when the emergency goalie plays for a team in the same association.

VI. TEAM COMPOSITION

C. It is recommended that each team in state and region tournaments dress two goalies. If the team doesn't have two goalies, an Emergency Backup Goalie (E-BUG) may be chosen from a team in its league or association, and such an E-BUG may be chosen from the same or a lower but not higher playing division. If a team has played its games with players from its own team, the E-Bug is not available.

1. Failing the above, an E-BUG may be chosen from within the team's district or finally from the vicinity in which the tournament is being played.
2. The E-BUG may play ONLY in case the regular goalie is unable to play, as determined by the tournament host District Director ~~or Tournament Director.~~
3. The E-BUG shall wear the light or dark jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered which is the opposite color from the team they are playing for if from the same association.

D. If a team carries only one goalie on its roster and that goalie is not available for region or state tournament play as a result of a physical injury determined by an appropriate medical personnel or as a result of a personal emergency as determined by the District Director, a REPLACEMENT goalie may be chosen from a team in its league or association. The replacement goalie may only be used when the team's rostered goalie is not available. A replacement goalie may not be used to add a goalie to a team that played its games with players from their own team. Such a "replacement" goalie may be chosen from the same or a lower but not higher playing division.

1. If a "replacement" goalie is not available from within a team's league or association, a "replacement" goalie may be chosen from among the teams in its district; or failing the above, from its region.
2. The "replacement" goalie shall wear the jersey of the in-season team on which they are rostered which is the opposite color from the team for which they are acting as a replacement if from the same association.
3. The "replacement" goalie retains eligibility with their parent team at their original classification for the balance of the playing season whether or not they actually play as a "replacement" goalie.
4. The "replacement" goalie must be properly registered on a MH team for the current season to be eligible to participate in a region or state tournament. Proof of registration, such as a copy of their parent team's registration roster will be required during tournament check-in. Note: the objective of the rule is to allow a team to obtain a back-up goalkeeper during region and state MH play. The rule is not intended to permit teams to improve their goaltending by drafting an additional player.
5. The releasing/receiving District Director(s) must approve, using the MH Replacement Goalie Form.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R4 to be approved as presented.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Director Donovan to keep the Tournament Director added in Section C, 2. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Kephart. Following further discussion, the amendment was approved.

A motion was made by Director Gapinski to split R4 (Section C and Section D) to be voted on separately. Motion was seconded by Director Mickus. Motion carried.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R4, Section C to be approved as amended. Motion carried.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R4, Section D to be approved as presented.

Following discussion, Director Rakness made a motion to split R4, Section D (R4 D1 and R4 D2) to be voted on separately. Director Gapinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R4, Section D, 1 to be approved as presented. Motion defeated.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as R4, Section D, 2 to be approved as presented. Motion carried.

[A1] Age eligibility. Blaine Youth Hockey Association. The BYHA has requested a change in the age classification date from June 1 to May 15. See attached supporting letter. This would be a change to the front cover of the Rule Book. This would not apply to Adult Men, Women, or 19 & Under classifications.

The Rules Committee recommended changes defined as A1 to be approved as presented. Motion defeated.

Safety:

Past President Margenau asked District Directors to remind their Associations of the concussion rules and requirements, page 27 of the MNH handbook.

Sport/Screening:

Committee Chair Gray had nothing to report.

Scholarship Committee:

Committee Chair Donovan had nothing to report.

Tournaments/Awards:

Committee Chair Elmer reminded the District Directors to submit their Region and State Host Agreements. The Committee will be meeting again in July.

USA Hockey Reports

Steve Oleheiser: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes. Youth Council is considering a 13U Only National Tournament.

Any modified playing rules in conjunction with USA Hockey, have to be approved by USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee.

Changes in USA Hockey composition and governance passed.

Safesport needs to be completed by those 17 years of age and older.

USAH Annual Elections: Dave Margenau was elected Director at Large, and Steve Oleheiser was elected to the Executive Committee.

Doug Kephart: Reported USA Hockey approved a budget of \$54.5 million, with a surplus of \$924,287.

Dave Margenau: With the governance changes, the 101 member Board of Directors will be changing to an 84 member Congress. There will be 17 athlete members, which will each have two votes. The Girls/Women's Section will become the Girls Council and Women's will be included in the Adults Council. MNH to review/look at title changes within MN Hockey.

Doug Foster: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Todd Elmer: Reported they are in the process of finalizing registration, which should be out next month. Meetings with Association Registrars will be scheduled for July and August.

Travis Johnson: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Antonia Gillen: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

She was also elected for another 3-year term.

Women's Sled Hockey Tournament will be held in August at Green Bay/

Brandon Koontz: Announced the top Junior Player of the year was from Elk River, and Adult Volunteer member of the year was Pete Carlson.

They are working on creating events versus tournaments for Adult Men and Adult Women. Membership numbers are coming back to what they were pre-covid.

Scott Gray: No report.

Steve Gapinski: No Report.

New Business

New Affiliate Agreement for Virginia and Eveleth/Gilbert: Director Rabideaux made a motion to approve the new affiliate agreement named as Rock Ridge Youth Hockey Association and terminate the old affiliate agreements Virginia and Eveleth/Gilbert. Motion was seconded by VP Reed. Motion Approved.

New Affiliate Agreement for Red Wing and Zumbrota Mazeppa: Due to the affiliate boundaries changing, Director Rakness made a motion to approve the new affiliate agreement for Red Wing Youth Hockey. Motion was seconded by VP Christianson. Motion Approved.

Suspend the Rules for an Exemption Request to the MN Age Classification for the 2022-23 Season:

Director Donovan made a motion to suspend the rules for players to play with classmates. Motion was seconded by Director Hewitt. Motion Failed.

Certification of 2023 Tier II and HS Nationals Eligibility: VP Reed made a motion to approve the 2023 USA Hockey National Tier II and HS declarations as presented. Motion was seconded by VP Christianson. Motion Approved.

Consideration for Director Emeritus: Director Rabideaux made a motion of Director Emeritus status for John Perry. Motion was seconded by Kendra. Motion Passed.

Fall Meeting: September 16-18, 2022, at the Hampton Inn, Bemidji

With no further business, VP Christianson made a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. VP Dornfeld seconded the motion. President Oleheiser adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda J Madsen, MNH Recording Secretary