



**Minnesota Hockey District 3  
Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes  
Zoom Video Conference  
Wednesday, September 9 2020**

x	Nicole Brodersen	District Director		<b>Association Reps</b>
x	Mark Brandt	President/Scheduling	x	Mike Melsha ACYHA
x	Shelly Johnson	Administrator	x	Kristi Duis Delano Area
	vacant	Treasurer		Reid Paul Hopkins
	Cheryl Myers	Social Media/Comm.	x	Bill Robeck Mpls & Hockey Operations
x	Machele Whitmore	Registrar	x	Brad Butler Mound Westonka
x	Neil Olson	BHRA President		Kity Marinac North Metro
x	Matt Olsonoski	BHRA Supervisor	x	Kelly Greene Orono
x	Mike Anderson	BHRA Scheduler		Steve Fischer OMG
	Chad Nicholls	Tourney Coord.	x	Paul Steenerson OMG
	Kendra Verbeten	HP/Tier 1	x	Michelle Jirik St Louis Park
	Josh Hicks	Coach-in-Chief	x	Nicholas Cook Wayzata
	Ron Warren	Griev. Comm. Chair		
	Rob Roy	Girls Coordinator		<b>Guests/Alternates Present:</b>
x	Diane Margenau	Membership Devel.		
	Greg Gibson	Metro League	x	Bob Larson, Hopkins alternate
	Todd Larson	Metro League		

- **Call to order TIME:** 7:05pm
- August Minutes: Motion to approve: Kelly Seconded: Bob L  
Minutes approved

1. **District 3 Director Report-** Everyone is working hard on Covid plans. Please review MN Hockey return to play documents. The reason for all of this is to keep playing hockey. In Tier 1, when D3 had one positive case, with our protocols we did not have to quarantine the whole team. Other Tier 1 teams have been totally under quarantine.  
Coaches- team will not be allowed to play if coaches are not wearing masks. Positive Covid results need to be reported to Minnesota Department of Health. MDH makes the decisions on what happens next. We will be coming up with a D3 reporting form.  
The Mite and 8U jamborees will be different. Nicole will reach out to mite/8U directors to-please inform of who that person is in your associations. It is a position that can change over frequently. Events will likely have less kids on the ice and have shorter events.

Team numbers- Between now and the next meeting, things are really going to need to be nailed down. If associations are making changes, please keep director in the loop. Email Nicole directly.  
Reminder to have teams viable in size. Kids will likely be missing more this year when having any symptoms.

2. **District 3 Administrator Report-** nothing to report
3. **District 3 President Report-** Thank you to everybody that shared the information with everybody about the Covid procedures that were being put in place at their arenas and associations. Also thank you for the updates to everybody on how your registrations are going. Due to the Covid pandemic we are going to reduce the number of District games that we will be playing for the upcoming 20-21 season. We are looking at 12-14 league games at any given level. The reason for this is games will probably be canceled due to illness on teams and we need to have some flexibility in rescheduling those games. There will be no rescheduling fees for games canceled due to illness or High School games being rescheduled. With the Bantam AA and Pee Wee AA games that we play in a league with District 6 there will only be 12-14 games scheduled this year. We are not going to be doing a crossover league with District 6 this year at any of the 12U Girls levels. Our 12U numbers are looking pretty good so feel we have a good plan. Most of the other Districts are cutting back on the league games that will be played this year also. We would also suggest that teams look at cutting back at how many games that they play outside of the league games this year to reduce the chance of being exposed to Covid.
4. **District 3 Treasurer Report-** Preliminary budget at next meeting.
5. **D3 Associates Reports –**
  - Supervisor of Officials: BHRA would like to have a discussion about the possibility of starting District games with only 1 official if an official calls in sick. Nicole said this has been done before and supports this idea. Confident in our officials and this will not be abused. The Supervisor of Officials would like the ability to grant an official to begin a league game if only 1 official is present due to another official calling in sick. If the Supervisor is not available, then the Scheduler will be authorized to make the decision. We will make every effort to get another official to the site as soon as possible. Will official locker rooms be available to the officials in all rinks? Who will sanitize them? -In an effort to keep officials safely distanced from players and coaches it is our suggestion that there be no conversations between players and officials, and only conversations that are deemed absolutely critical to the game to be had between coaches and officials. This determination will be left up to the on-ice officials. Any other concerns need to be sent by email to the Supervisor of Officials 24 hours after the game. Per MN

Hockey rules only 2 coaches are allowed on the player bench and they are required to wear face masks at all times. Who enforces that policy? Nicole said game just doesn't start or continue if no mask on coach. If the officials are asking the coaches to wear their mask who do we report it to when they don't? Does the District want the officials to sign the score sheet? Speaking to minor officials? Nicole said will bring concerns to district directors for discussion on next call.

Neil asked about refs being able to bring in bags, Can be in rinks for hours. Nicole will bring up on call.

- Registrar: The D3 flex roster needs to be done by end of this month. Will be notifying people of what they need done. Working with Cheryl on being able to upload birth certificates.
- Coach in Chief: no report
- Membership and Development: Reminder: Try Hockey for Free - November 7, 2020. USA Hockey will be providing gift bags for those associations registered with them. However, due to production problems caused by Covid, jerseys will not be included this year. I would encourage associations who are participating, and if they are able, to try and provide some type of take home clothing. This could be in the form of extra mite jerseys from past years, association T shirts or some kind of cap or hat. It must also be stressed that associations will go to extreme lengths in assuring participants of a safe environment. February 20, 2021 will also be a Try Hockey for Free USA Hockey event.

The Minnesota Hockey Membership Development Committee recently held their last meeting via Zoom for this year and awarded 11 "Grow the Game" awards, 3 that went to District 3 associations, Wayzata, Armstrong Cooper and St. Louis Park. Well done! New funds will be available for the upcoming year and associations are encouraged to apply.

Some associations around the state are participating in some form of mentoring programs for new family's coming into their programs. This could be in many forms from a simple family "Meet and Greet" night to a more hands-on program where each new family is assigned an established family that could provide even more socialization and orientation. It's sometime hard being the "New Kid on the Block" but having one contact will keep family's involved and coming back.

Do arenas or associations need to be responsible for enforcing protocols? Don't want programs with less restrictions coming in. Michigan is now having players wear masks at puck drop and on the

bench. Nicole said Wisconsin is as well. Will bring up on Directors' call and get back to all on Monday.

- Jr Gold: JGHSL Season: expecting announcement from MN High School League from Oct 1st-15th on their season plans. JGHSL Board will then finalize their season accordingly. At this time season is planned as normal. Dates are listed below.

JGHSL Coach Certification update. This can also be found <https://www.jghsl.org/> Due to the recommended State of MN COVID-19 safety recommendations and the nature of how the instructional material is presented in our clinic, it has been decided that we will unfortunately not be able to hold the clinic this year and nor would our clinic work through an online Zoom presentation. In its place we ask that all coaches who need to acquire either their initial Level 1 certification, higher level certifications or re-certifications, to do so through the USAH Coaches Clinics site at this link:

<https://www.usahockey.com/coachingclinics>

On this link you will find all the information needed to take a virtual clinic online and there should be more than enough available for you to do so. Note that there is a new temporary card being introduced as a flexible option for coaches to maintain their certification if they are unable to attend a virtual coaching clinic, which I feel is acceptable for coaches that need to re-certify for their Level 2 or 3 if you cannot attend a clinic, but I do not feel that is an acceptable option to re-certify as Level 1 or to acquire their initial Level 1. So if you are a Level 1 from last season or are a new first time coach I am going to require that you take a virtual clinic to either get your initial Level 1 or to go up to Level 2 from a 1.

If there are any questions about this, you may contact me directly via my contact information listed in the JGHSL Handbook provided on this site. Thank you for your understanding on this issue and hopefully we can have a successful season that will get us to our play downs and finally a State Tournament.

Terry "Harley" Greene Minnesota Jr. Gold Coach-In-Chief

JGHSL season dates are as follows subject to change. JGHSL  
2020/2021 \*Boys High School Tryouts: Nov 9th-13th \*JGHSL Tryouts: Nov  
15th-18th \*D3 Association Team declarations due to GGG:  
Wednesday Nov 18th, 9:00pm \*JGHSL Coaches Clinic: Saturday Nov  
21st, 8:00am-4:00pm at TBD (Cancelled) \*JGHSL Coaches Clinic:  
Sunday Nov 22nd, 10:00am-2:00pm at TBD (Cancelled) \*JGHSL

League Scheduling Mtg: Monday Nov 23rd, 7:00pm at Schwan's Convention Ctr. \*D3 JGHSL Mandatory Coach/Mgr Mtg: Sunday Nov 29th, 6:00pm at PIC Center Ice Room \*JGHSL starts league games: Monday Nov 30th \*JGHSL ends league games: Friday Feb 19th \*JGHSL Playdowns: Tues Feb 23rd-Sunday Feb 28th \*State Tournament: Friday March 12th-Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup>

- Girls League Coordinator: no report
- Grievance Committee: no report
- Scheduling Coordinator: see Mark's report and D3 calendar. Remind associations to look at the numbers.
- Tournament Coordinator: Please remind your **Tournament Coordinators about the upcoming mandatory Tournament meeting via zoom call on 9/23/2020 at 7:00pm.** If they are not able to attend a representative (*Association President or D3 Rep*) from each association must be in attendance. Please also let your president know as well. Chad and I are working on sending the packets to each association and we will have that done Tuesday next week. If you have any questions, please let me or Chad know. Nicole added that our teams need to follow D3 rules when traveling- including when out of state.
- Social Media/Website: no report
- HP/Tier 1: no report
- Hockey Operations: no report

## 6. D3 Association Representatives:

Armstrong Cooper: Camp starts this week. Potential adjustments depending on final registrations. Covid policy and website tab updated and ready for season start. We'll make modifications as needed.

Delano: Registration deadline was extended due to lower than expected numbers; working through putting COVID plan in place for the season; preseason clinics to start next week.

Hopkins: Registration is picking up. Continuing with emails, signage, mailing etc encouraging registration. Preseason clinic starting this week.

Minneapolis: Registration #s have picked up this week in advance of Fall Clinics starting Sep 12th; still below normal but following the trend of past 5 years w/ post Labor Day increase in registration Working with D3 Director and MN Hockey District Director Committee to get

Affiliate Agreement updated for 2021-2022 season which will become in conflict with City of Lakes Hockey Assn (District 1) once the Mpls Public School District Redesign is in effect for the beginning of next school year (Mpls Hockey Assn at Risk of losing a significant # of players to our counterparts in northeast Mpls) Implemented COVID plan and have QR codes + Google Forms in place for checking in players at preseason clinics and tryouts Will update D3 with arena COVID guidelines once we get closer to the beginning of the season - as mentioned at previous meeting their guidelines have changed multiple times past 2 months and expecting that to continue to be the case until things settle in after fall camps. Assn has implemented closed tryouts - first time we've done this and while mostly due to covid concerns this will likely be the plan moving forward as well.

Mound-Westonka: Finalizing registration numbers, making calls to shake out a few more, Mite numbers are higher than expected, other level 5-7% down Updating return to play policies with Thaler and Pond rinks. Questions- 1. Policies for when player or team tests positive, time away, etc? Discussion: - associations report to MDH and MDH decides next steps and direction. 2. Rescheduling games due to covid, reserving ice for this or extending season...? 3. Still resurfacing ice after two periods for Bantams, back to locker rooms or remain on bench? Discussion: maybe stay on bench when resurfacing.

North Metro Registration numbers are low, our registrar has made phone calls and send out emails to those who have not register yet.

Orono: Early Registration completed...numbers down a little except for Bantams. Will need to drop to 1 BTM B2 team. Also taking a second look at BTM AA. New Zamboni purchased and will arrive around end of year. Have most paid coaches wrapped up. Fall faceoff fundraiser Sept 21. Finalizing details of preseason clinics as well as evals/tryouts.

Osseo Maple Grove: Association held our fall tryout camps this last week. Things seem to go very well. No cases of COVID reported. We had some issues with players not following social distancing guidelines. i.e. player arriving much earlier than 15 minutes before and socializing in groups less that 6 feet apart and not wearing facemasks. We have rolled out our first draft of a COVID Preparedness Plan, QR code, Season safety protocol's, and member acknowledgement form. I will email them out separately if any associations want to reference them. Is D3 going to set any specific rules on how teams need to handle a positive case or how we need to notify other teams in the district if we have a positive case? Are there any other COVID rules or regulations

that D3 wants all associations to follow uniformly throughout the season? Registration is going as expected.

St Louis Park: We will be finalizing out of town tournaments. I have also been asked to find out what the answer about out of state tournaments (SLP has two teams traveling out of state). 8U and Mites: are we expecting anything different this season with jamboree's as they look a little different than a regular tournament. Are we expecting any changes due to COVID at the mite or 8U jamboree. What are others doing for out of town tournaments. I know a few associations decided not to have them. SLP did a survey to see what parents are comfortable with. COVID spreadsheet (I have a great solution and have emailed it to everyone). SLP will not be having Bantam B2 this season. Looking at Squirt A, B2 and C.

Wayzata: Early bird registration ended 09/07, we were trending along same glidepath as last year for registration numbers before Labor Day weekend but awaiting updated numbers to see if last 3 days trended in same way as last year with final communication to members. We will be instituting similar protocol for tryouts from best practices with other D3 associations on contact tracing, thanks for all of the communication and collaboration on it!  
We need clarification on USA Hockey COVID-19 waiver form (e.g. location of form, how it is to be archived). Nicole will get the waiver to associations.

**7. Old Business:** need for new treasurer-have a short term solution to get invoices taken care of. Working on long term solution.

- a. Review 2020-2021 Calendar and Bylaws
- b. Arena protocols for Covid 19.
- c. Squirt restructuring-looking at forming a committee after the season is up and running and work on for the future and come up with ideas. Let Mark or Nicole of interest in being involved. Discussion around making sure district reps are included in communications when discussions occur that impact multiple associations. District reps are the liasons between the D3 board and associations.

**9. New Business:**

- a. Hopkins suggestion: Although team levels have been established D3 should discuss possible changes to submitted team levels. If there is a dip in registration, associations would need the flexibility to remove a team. Discussion-please make associations aware. Get adjustments settled a week before scheduling meetings.
- b. A lot of arenas are not doing ice scrapes. Discussion around establishing in D3 that we do a scrape but players remain on the bench and not return to locker rooms. Paul asked if there are

insurance concerns. Nicole will include topic in communication to presidents. Mark said to have ice schedulers check with arenas.

c. Michelle asked about flexibility of rosters under current circumstances. Nicole said a player could move up for a permanent adjustment, but players not allowed to go back and forth on rosters. Also, SLP had some pushback on the number of games. Nicole clarified that associations only get billed for the games they play-the actual costs. If associations are charging families a certain fee for the season, can always use extra resources to distribute to teams for scrimmages etc.

**10. Adjorn TIME:** 8:37pm

Motion: Kelly

Seconded: Brad B

APPROVED