



## 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – ZOOM MEETING

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*Date | time* 6/17/2021 10:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Glenn Hefferan, President  
*Meeting Adjourned (motion from Gene Palecco and Charlie McLaughlin)* 1:19 pm  
*Minutes respectfully submitted by* Maureen Thompson Siegel, AAHA Secretary

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### In Attendance

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There were 67 members that attended the virtual meeting.

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### Voting Eligibility

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Voting Members - 52

Simple Majority - 26

2/3 Majority - 35

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### Opening Comments

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Pat Kelleher – USA Hockey Executive Director

- Commended AAHA for celebrating the completion of the “Covid-19” season
- Commended AAHA for working through the virus issues to have a season for the players and families
- Welcome to new USAH President – Mike Trimboli
- Acknowledgment of Service Award Winners – Tony Montagna, Frank McGady, and Alex DePalma
- Biggest challenge is bringing people back to the game
- Working to make Ice Hockey a more inclusive and welcoming environment
- Moving into an Olympic and Paralympic year – lots of excitement
- Thank you for all you do to support the sport

Donna Guariglia – USA Hockey Treasurer

- Thanks to all for their efforts this year
- Glenn was elected to the USAH Executive committee
- Sees the excitement of the community to get back to the rink

Glenn Hefferan – Moment of Silence

- John Graves’ father – Robert Graves
- Bruce Canburn – Former coach of Bethlehem Blast
- Mark Spiehs – Lehigh Valley Phantoms coach and administrator

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## Approval of Minutes

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The minutes from the Winter 2021 virtual meeting were presented. They were distributed electronically via email to the directors prior to this meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jay Finnigan, seconded by Callie Smith. Approval of the minutes of the Winter 2021 meeting passed unanimously.

- o All reports were distributed prior to the meeting.
- o All voting in this meeting is limited to those that are dialed into the Zoom video. Phone attendees are not able to vote. Explicit instructions were included with the meeting invitation and pre-registration instructions.

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## Treasurer's Report

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AAHA Treasurer, Jake Geverd, presented the annual financial report. It was distributed prior to the meeting.

- o Balance sheet is being modified – from reporting on cash basis to accrual basis.
- o Covid cancelled some events that we would have spent funds on and we had to hire lobbyists to work with our state houses to get the sport open and playing – it cost about \$50k
- o Player development and festival teams were not able to compete
- o We will be receiving \$15 per player registration from USAH which will be used to underwrite playoffs, etc. where the leagues and teams used to cover these expenses
- o Our books were audited by McCarthy and company. USAH also has their auditors review our books and they have access to our Quick Books files at all times
- o The tax return was filed timely last year and once the auditors are finished we will file this year's returns

A motion to approve the annual financial report and adopt the budget was made by Charlie McLaughlin and seconded by Jay Finnigan. Approval of financial report and budget passed unanimously.

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## President's Report

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AAHA President, Glenn Hefferan, presented his annual report to the membership. It included the following:

- Thank you for all of your efforts this year – officiating assignors, officials, master schedulers, rink owners and operators, club leadership, league leadership, players, parents and families. We could not have made it through this season without your efforts
- We learned much from social distancing, working with lobbyists, legislators, etc. Our sport is better for it. We know this was an emotional struggle too.
- We had three teams win at USAH Nationals - Woodbridge Wolfpack at 14AA – Gold, NJ Avalanche 16AAA – Gold – and Jr Flyers 16U – Silver. We also had two Tier II girls teams win bronze – Jr Flyers 19U and Princeton Tiger Lilies at 14U.
- Pilot DEI projects are happening in the AAHA – next one at Woodbridge Community Center, hosted by the Wolfpack
- Fuerza Strategy has done an outstanding job covering our sport on our social media channels. Please share any information you may have with them and they will help promote the good work
- We are working hard to enhance the adult hockey experience and will promote more opportunities in the future for this segment of our Affiliate

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## Executive Vice President's Report

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Executive Vice President Ray Ferry - no written report.

- USAH sub-committee on the retaining of officials – Jack Witt – Chair
  - Addressing reasons for why we do not retain officials - abuse of officials largest reason
  - Increased communication between officials and coaches – appropriate to the age group
  - Assignment of spectator monitors (one per each team)
  - Rink staff involvement

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## Vice President Reports

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Annual reports from the Vice Presidents were distributed prior to the meeting.

- Ray Ferry announced that the USA Hockey block grant amount is \$103,581.00
- Adult hockey were hit pretty hard by Covid, please work to re-register these teams so our numbers get back to normal.
- US Ice Rinks – did not have NARCE again this year. Plans to move forward to in-person in 2022. Created educational content virtually – please reach out.
- Official retention committee – having issues retaining officials – identifying abuse of officials as the culprit. Key players are coaches and officials – work together to get better communication between these groups.

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## USA Hockey Director Reports

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Annual reports were distributed prior to the meeting.

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## USA Hockey Appointee Reports

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Annual reports submitted by the USA Hockey Appointees were distributed prior to the meeting.

- Coaching Education – Mike Lichtenberger
  - Plan is for both virtual and in-person clinics
  - The elimination of level 3 renewals will require several more level 4 clinics added
  - Continuing education credits to be rolled out this season
- Officiating – Jim Doyle
  - Summary of rule changes will be disseminated to the AAHA
  - Changes include penalty length, offsides and icing rules, and number of penalties that require suspension from 15 to 12 for players and coaches
  - Seminars will be via Zoom and in-person for lower levels
  - Rule change package was distributed prior to the meeting
- Registrar – Tony Montagna
  - 5,569 registrations so far - \$78,000 in affiliate fees
  - Coaching reports are available to show certification status
  - New Registry to separate Adult from Youth members

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## AAHA Appointee Reports

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Annual reports submitted by the AAHA Appointees were distributed prior to the meeting.

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## USA Hockey Reports

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Pat Kelleher comments are listed above.

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## Election Slate

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Position	Candidate	Term
Executive Vice President	Ray Ferry	2021-2024
Secretary	Maureen Thompson-Siegel	2021-2024
VP Rules and Regulations	Bill Fox	2021-2024
USA Hockey Director I	Glenn Hefferan	2021-2024

All positions were not challenged. They are re-elected via acclamation.

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## Annual Awards

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### Lou Manzione Scholarship

- o New Jersey Recipient – Ryan Sordillo, Chatham High School
- o Pennsylvania/Delaware Recipient – Madeline Ryan, West Chester East High School

### Daniel Triano Scholarship

- o Recipient – Emily Barling, Lenape Valley High School

### Coach of the Year – Youth

- o Chris Barless, Mercer Chiefs

### Coach of the Year – Girl

- o Paula and Bob Jorgensen, Mighty Moose

### Coaching Education

- o Dave Moss

### Official of the Year

- o Brian Bell

### New Leader Award

- o Tim Holtz

### Volunteer of the Year

- o Mike Lichtenberger

### AAHA Hall of Fame

- o Ray Ferry

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## Old Business

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- None

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## New Business – Legislative Proposals

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Those members that are using telephones to participate in the meeting cannot vote. All were instructed to pre-register and to use zoom video features to enable voting. Voting is not possible via phone.

### **Proposal Number AM2021-01 – General Housekeeping** (proposed by Maureen Thompson-Siegel)

- Cleans up references to Association, Organization, etc. in alignment with definitions in the Bylaws. Updates the Non-Sanctioned Play Policy taken from the USA Hockey Annual Guide.
- Motion to approve by Jay Finnigan and second by Ken Anderson.
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-01A – Housekeeping – updated redaction in Player Movement Rule** (proposed by Glenn Hefferan)

- Redacts language based on the previously approved rule.
- Motion to approve by Pete Rothman and Dave Jackson
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-02 – Clarify Intent of Financial Outstanding List** (proposed by Maureen Thompson-Siegel)

- Proposal to clarify that players added to the Financial Obligation List may resume skating once financial obligation is satisfied. This is our actual practice, just brings the rule to reflect same.
- Motion to approve by Pete Rothman and Jay Finnigan
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-03 – Update Nomenclature for Tryout Dates** (proposed by Maureen Thompson-Siegel)

- Proposal addresses that we begin tryouts at the younger age levels 48 hours after the end of AAHA Championships, and not after the USA Hockey Nationals. Updates rule to reflect current practice.
- Motion to approve by Ray Ferry and Pete Rothman
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-04 – Association Board Credential Requirements** (proposed by Maureen Thompson-Siegel)

- Adds in Team Manager to rule, along with all Association leadership. Requirement to be USAH registered, background screened and SafeSport certified.
- Motion to approve by Pete Rothman and Larry Sechuk
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-05 Team Tournament Credentials** (proposed by Maureen Thompson-Siegel)

- Updates this rule to mirror current practice. All teams must submit and have their credentials approved prior to the start of any round of Championship Tournaments (including play-ins, qualifiers, etc.)
- Motion to approve by Jay Finnigan and Dave Jackson
- **Proposal approved.**

### **Proposal Number AM2021-06 Explicit, Hateful or Derogatory Language in Music at Games/Practices** (proposed by Glenn Hefferan)

- Introduces a rule to prohibit the playing of music that contains, hateful, explicit or derogatory language, and includes a fine per occurrence for violations.
- Motion to approve by Maureen Thompson-Siegel and Jay Finnigan
- **Proposal approved.**

**Proposal Number AM2021-07 Declaration of Association Status** (proposed by Glenn Hefferan)

- Revises current rule to add in that all Associations seeking Tier I or Tier II National Tournament Bound status for the following season must declare whether they will be Independent or a member of an Affiliate sanctioned league by 11/30 of the current season.
- Motion to approve by Tyler X and Frank McGady
- **Proposal approved.**

**Proposal Number AM2021-08 Number of Tier I Girls Teams Calculation** (proposed by Pete Rothman)

- Adjusts the number of Tier I Girls teams from 20% to 12% of total players registered in that age classification. Aligns the girls to the youth percentages.
- Motion to amend Larry Sechuk and Alex DePalma
- Motion to approve by Jay Finnigan and Larry Sechuk
- Motion to amend Larry Sechuk and Alex DePalma
- **Proposal approved as amended.**

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**New Business**

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- Announcement of Tournament Dates - on the AAHA website.
- Announcement of Tryout Dates – on the AAHA website. – Chart updated to reflect the movement of TI Girls 14U/16U/19U to start on same date as TI boys – Wednesday, 4/6/22. Motion to approve – Larry Sechuk and Frank McGady – Tryout dates approved.
- Ice Line shared that everyone had a great time at the Nationals held at Ice Line. Thanks to all involved – it was an awesome event.
- Alex DePalma is promoted to National Special Hockey representative for the disabled section
- Maureen Thompson-Siegel is now the AAHA Disabled Hockey representative.

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**Next Meeting**

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The AAHA 2021 Winter meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 27, 2022.**



## **ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

MEETING TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021 – 7:00 PM

- Call to Order – Roll Call – Proof of Notice
- Announcement of Annual Awards (presentation to be held at a separate event – included in distribution\*)
- Minutes of Winter meeting (included in distribution\*)
- Treasurer's Report – Jake Geverd (included in distribution\*)
- President's Report – Glenn Hefferan
- USA Hockey Appointee's Reports – (included in distribution\*)
- AAHA Vice President Reports – (included in distribution\*)
- AAHA Appointee Reports – (included in distribution\*)
- Bylaw, Rules and Regulations Proposals (included in distribution\*)
- Election of Officers and USA Hockey Director(s) (included in distribution\*)
- Old Business
- New Business
- Announcement of Tournament dates/locations (included in distribution\*)
- Announcement of Tryout dates
- Announcement of 2022 AAHA Board of Directors Winter Meeting
- Adjourn

\*Distribution of reports to occur shortly before this meeting to accommodate updates from the USAH Annual Congress