

IDAHO AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with USA Hockey

Idaho Falls* Sun Valley* Boise* Salmon * McCall * Moscow * Couer d'Alene

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES

May 15, 2004

Boise, Idaho

Call to Order and Attendance: The meeting was called to order by Wayne Lehto at 9:00 a.m. at Idaho Ice World in Boise, Idaho. Those in attendance included: **Wayne Lehto**, (President IAHA), **Jean Hersley** (Registrar IFYHA), **Barbara Amick** (SVYH), **Bill Mason** (SVYH), **Gary Barnes** (BYH, Idaho ACE Coordinator), **Marco Pietroniro** (BYH, Idaho Ice World), **Tom Power** (Vice President IAHA, MYHA), **Nino Randazzo** (MYHA), **Tom Lampl** (Associate Registrar, USA Hockey, Idaho Initiation Program Coordinator, Idaho Coaching Education Director), **Mike Kelly** (Idaho Risk Manager), **Gail Verschoor** (MISA- McCall Ice Skating Association), **Pam Verillo** (MISA), **Curtis Spalding** (Manchester Ice & Event Center), **Annie Pflueger** (Salmon Hockey Association), **Cody Claver** (President IFYHA), **Lee Johnston** (IFYHA), **Dean Brandstetter** (Vice President IFYHA), **Nicki Bowden** (Secretary IAHA).

Names and addresses are included with minutes as Attachment 1.

Election of New Secretary: *Jean Hersley made a motion to nominate Nicki Bowden for the position of IAHA Secretary.* Seconded by Lee Johnston. No discussion. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of September 2003 Meeting: All members previously received copies of the September 2003 meeting minutes for review.

Dean Brandstetter made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Second by Jean Hersley. No discussion. **Motion carried.**

Association Reports:

Cody Claver (IFYHA): Cody reported a great season for IFYHA with 400 plus in the program and approximately 40 coaches. IFYHA hosted several IHL weekends and they continue to have good relations with the other IHL members. IFYHA took kids to Logan, Utah to get ice during the summer of 2003, and they are looking into renting ice from Pinedale, WY this summer.

Annie Pflueger (Salmon Hockey): Annie reported a good year, registration numbers were down slightly at 133 from 142 for the 02-03 season. They feel numbers will increase as they add refrigeration. They raised \$32,000 to buy the remaining refrigeration components and in January '04 they received a gift from the NHL PA to cover repairs and making the rink sound. They had to cancel 2 of 7 tournaments during the '03-'04 season because of weather. They are still \$11,000 shy on installation costs for the refrigeration unit. The Salmon Chamber of Commerce has given Salmon Hockey an auction during Salmon River Days. This auction typically brings in between \$7,000 and \$10,000. They will be sending a letter to other associations in the district looking for donations for the auction.

Kurt Spalding (Manchester Ice & Event Center): Kurt reported that their adult program had its best year ever. Their in-house hockey 101 and 201 program had 3 teams (Men's A, Men's B, and Women's) with 50 players. They won the over 30 division in their association. He reports that they are still a bit informal in their programs but want to move fully toward USA Hockey.

Gail Verschoor (McCall Ice Skating Association): Gail reports that in their first year they had 46 youth players which were evenly split between mites/pee wee's and bantam/midget. Their Bantam/Midget's played against Boise JV teams and played Midget's and Bantam's in Sun Valley. Their Mites did not have enough to field a team, but both Pee Wee's and Squirt's played a tournament in Moscow. Their rink has a developmental program for 14 and under and are looking to get more mini mite's (K-1st grade). They also have an equipment loaner program and about 80% of their participants get all or partial equipment from that program.

Wayne Lehto let Gail know that it appeared they were playing a lot of games without being USA

hockey registered and that they cannot play other USA hockey teams if they are not registered. She was not aware that this was a problem, but is taking the information back to her association.

Tom Power (MYHA): Tom reported that their numbers were up 10% with 172 registered players for the '03-'04 season (20 girls, 152 boys and 14 teams). This was the first year for travel for the Squirt, Bantam and Midget divisions. They sent 4 teams to state and their Bantam's were Tier II and went to regionals. The MYHA girls took second at State and they are really proud of that accomplishment. This year they had many Midget's and very few Mite's. Next season they will focus on development (hockey 101) and they want to build their girls program. Also working on coaching programs to keep new coaches coming and retain current coaches. Tom also reported that *Emaculate Conception* was trying to get a rink in Post Falls, but it is not happening at this time due to legal issues. *Moscow* is building a second rink that will be fully enclosed. *Sand Point* has raised \$400,000 to build a rink. *Coeur d'Alene* - Kooteni County has a ½% sales tax in place to pay for a new jail, this is scheduled to expire in 2005. They are trying to extend that through 2007 and use the funds for a community center that would include a rink, but they do not anticipate seeing anything on this community center for several years.

Marco Pietroniro (Idaho Ice World): Marco reported an overall good season with numbers up slightly over '02-'03 season. They had 17 High School Teams (7 Varsity and 10 Junior Varsity). Their house program had 6 Pee Wee teams. Next year they should have 6 teams in the Mite, Squirt and Pee Wee divisions. They will be increasing their cross-ice program. The mite's went to the Sun Valley Festival; it was well received by players and parents. The U14 girls had 8 players. Their travel teams had a good experience in the South West League and will participate in that league again next year. The Boise program had 10 travel teams and their biggest year with 35 house teams, a very fun and positive year. They face the same problem as many associations, needing to attract and keep more coaches.

Bill Mason (SVYH): Bill reported that Sun Valley went through a restructuring to bring more young kids into the program and retain the older kids. Their U-10 group was re-named from Mini Mites, Mites and Squirts to Level 1, 2 and 3. They introduced cross-ice at these levels and it was a tremendous success. The U-10 program had almost 50 skaters. They have expanded their house program so there is more opportunity for those that do not want to travel. Their girls program has many kids in the U-14, but low numbers in U-19. Their equipment program (giving out free equipment) has grown tremendously. They share the frustration of finding qualified coaches. This year their Pee Wee's and Midgets both went to regionals.

Treasurer's Report: Wally Morgus was not present but provided copies of the Treasurer's Report for distribution to all present (filed as handout no. 1). Discussion led by Wayne Lehto and Tom Lampl regarding use of Grant funds for next year. Tom indicated that there as a CEP clinic in Denver on September 17th followed by a Level 4 Clinic on the 18 and 19. Tom also warned we had issued 16 temporary coaching cards last year and USA Hockey will not allow that again. They are clamping down and we will not have temporary cards issued in the future. Discussion indicated that we should send 6 people to the CEP and Level 4 clinics in Denver using Grant funds with extra money coming from Player Development fund if necessary. Person's attending will need to make a 3 year commitment to train coaches throughout the state, not just in their own association. Names to be given to Tom Lampl for final approval. *Dean Brandstetter made a motion to send 6 people using Grant funds.* Second by Jean Hersley. No discussion. **Motion carried.**

Further discussion on how to cut budget, Wayne Lehto indicated he could cut budget by not attending USA Hockey winter meeting in Florida since in the past the meeting has not been worthwhile. Discussion continued with effort to leave budget "as is" giving Wayne Lehto authority to skip winter meeting. Mike Kelly agreed that the money budgeted for background checks and insurance was accurate.

Dean Brandstetter made a motion to approve budget. Second by Tom Lampl. No discussion. **Motion carried.**

Registrar's Report: Tom Lampl indicated that we, through USA Hockey, are moving toward online enrollment. (filed as handout no. 4)
Tom also indicated that we have one troubling area in our State Association; that is, all the

tournaments in the State are not being registered. A tournament is defined as any time two or more associations get together to play games. League games (IHL) don't have to be registered. When registering a tournament you must submit the official rules. The rules can be set by the association, the only rule that is required is that all participating teams must be registered as USA Hockey Teams.

Player Development Camp: Tom Lampl indicated we had a 25% increase in numbers participating in Player Development Camp this year. (report filed as handout no. 5)
Tom indicated we need to do a better job of promoting the fact that the players who move on from our State Player Development Camp are not pre-selected. Our numbers show this to be true and we need to make people aware that new kids are selected and sent every year; they are not pre-selected. Annie Pflueger (Salmon) asked about the possibility of trading evaluators with other states. Tom stated that we've done that before, but he thinks we are doing a good job in Idaho and don't need to do that. Also, very difficult as Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and Idaho all held player development the same weekend this year. Last Week the Rocky Mountain District camp was held and Devan Hardigan (Boise U-17 Goalie) made it to the National Festival Level.

Tom also indicated we tried to form a Team Idaho at each level. We didn't do the best job, but it went well and we will improve system for next year. Next year at Player Development Camp they will have all information as to practices, tournaments and cost so that we have commitment from all those trying out. Teams participating next year should be Team Utah, Team Montana, Team Wyoming, Team New Mexico and Team Idaho. At the district meeting in August, venues and dates will be set. Also color of jersey for each team so that costs can be kept down. Team Idaho will be on the agenda for September 2004.

Coaching Education Report: Tom Lampl gave report. Last year we held 10 clinics and trained a total of 213 coaches in various levels. (report filed as handout no. 6)
Several clinics were set for this fall:

Boise:

Level 1 August 14, 2004
Level 2 August 15, 2004
Level 3 October 2, 2004

Idaho Falls:

Level 1 November 6, 2004
Level 2 November 7, 2004

Sun Valley:

Level 3 November 13, 2004

All coaching requirements are listed on page 176 of the guidebook. Let coaches know that you can NEVER receive a second temporary coaching card.

Northern Idaho needs to set dates and publicize clinics in Washington as well. 1 ½ hours of ice is needed at the end of the day for coaching clinics.

Copies of coaching plans were given out to those in attendance. (filed as handout no. 7)

Flyer regarding opportunities in hockey after high school were also handed out to those in attendance. (filed as handout no. 8).

Idaho ACE Program: Gary Barnes reported on the Idaho ACE Program, letting everyone know that this is a position required in every association by USA Hockey. This is the person who oversees all coaches in the association and gives your association coaching continuity. Gary would like to create a network between associations where they can share knowledge and create a network for sharing information. This is a position that has the most potential to positively impact your association. Information regarding each associations ACE Coordinator needs to be to Gary Barnes by September 1, 2004. Gary indicated we need to make sure the position is filled by someone who buys into USA Hockey coaching guidelines. We want to build this program so

that we can put Idaho on the hockey roadmap. (filed as handout no. 9)

Referee/Officiating: Bobby Noyes was not present but provided copies of report that was distributed to those in attendance. (filed as handout no. 10)

Tom Lampl lead a discussion on referees, saying that each association needs to create volunteers by recruiting specific people, not by just asking for volunteers. Local associations have the ongoing responsibility to recruit and develop QUALITY referees. He reminded everyone to remember “you are the customer, you are paying and you CAN demand a quality product.”

Risk Management/Screening: Mike Kelly gave report (filed as handout no. 11) Mike indicated that everyone screened the first year, should have been screened again this year along with any new people. The state pays for background check on all officials and each association pays for all background checks on coaches. Mike encouraged everyone to check out the screening policy located on the web (www.usahockey.com/iaha_riskman/main/home/) If you need to know who needs to be screened, send an e-mail to Mike and he can send a list by association. If someone is going to be a coach and an official, you only need to send one application, make sure all apps are accurate and do not send money with the application. Mike also noted that there is a movement afoot to move to a national screening process. He will let us know more when information is available.

Winter Games: Marco Pietroniro reported that the adult winter games went well. The winter games will continue, but will not be sponsored by Wells Fargo. It is currently out for bid for a new sponsor.

State Championships: Wayne Lehto handed out information on the State Tournament to those in attendance. State Championships went very well this year. (Filed as handout no. 12). After qualifying at state, the Boise U-17 team went on to District Championships.

High School Championships: Tom Lampl reported that we had 8 teams in attendance this year, 3 from IF, 2 from Boise and one each from Moscow, Salmon and Sun Valley. We need to do more to promote this venue. It was discussed that we only had one team from Idaho that was eligible and wanted to attend the District Tournament this is because of players on one high school team that attend a different school (i.e.: private school, home school, schools that combine to have enough for a team, etc.). It was agreed that the IAHA will take forward a proposal that more of our kids could qualify if the rules were changed somewhat, for instance, Freshmen that are still in a Jr. High, kids going to private schools, etc. This will be taken forward but it was made clear that the ruling was not likely to change. Lee Johnston (IFYHA) suggested that we look into having a Division A and Division B so that the high school tournament could be more competitive for all involved.

Blue Pucks: Tom Power indicated MYHA followed the rule to the letter of the law, the kids loved it. Biggest training issue was training officials how to use the pucks. The concern for MYHA is that based on the number of out of state teams they face , they'd like to go back to the USA rule which recommends using blue puck at squirt level, but does not require it. Tom Lampl indicated that he has tested it and the kids always migrated to the blue puck, which seems right as most other sports use smaller equipment for younger kids. It was decided that if anyone wants rule revisited they should bring it forward at the next meeting as an association agenda item.

Revised Policy & Procedure Manual: In reviewing the policies, Mike Kelly brought up the fact that under the screening policy, we could take out the 7 items that indicate who could be disqualified and just refer to the procedure since they are listed there as well. Tom Lampl had a question under Rules and Procedures II “Idaho Amateur Hockey Member Association”. The question stems from potential directors and Directors of record used to make a quorum because our by-laws state “eligible Directors”. After discussion, the conclusion (to be stated in the minutes) is as follows:

If an association has the potential for 4 Directors but only 2 have been elected and are in office, 2

will be the number used to determine if we have a quorum. In order for the IAHA board to function there must be a majority of elected Directors present to form a quorum.

Marco Pietroniro had issue under Rules and Procedures VII "Tampering". Basic question is what constitutes tampering? When does the season really end? There was much discussion regarding the intent of the policy. In the discussion, Tom Lampl and Marco Pietroniro both feel it is an association issue, not an IAHA mandated item. After discussion, agreement was made to remove #7 Tampering. All were in agreement.

Tom Lampl had issue with Rules and Procedures No. 9 "Rocky Mountain District Sanctioning of Individual Tournaments. No. 1, Definition should be changed to read "...more than two associations..." Agreement was made to use wording from handbook, Page 178, section 10, Paragraph C. Also #2, C, should be changed from 30 days to 7 days. All were in agreement. Discussion of Item No. 11 State Tournament Rules, as discussion began, Wayne Lehto indicated that there were a lot of changes and reminded everyone that he had asked them to read the item carefully and submit changes in writing.

First item - Tom Lampl brought forward that he believes the leader of the credentials committee should not have a player in the tournament unless a waiver is granted by the Tournament Director. This item will be added. All were in agreement.

Much discussion as to whether or not Tier teams or "select teams" should be allowed to participate in the State Tournament. After much discussion, *Dean Brandstetter made a motion to table the issue and form a committee consisting of Cody Claver (committee chair), Tom Lampl and Wally Morgus to work through the various issues and bring forth a proposal at September meeting.* Second by Lee Johnston. No further discussion. **Motion carried.**

After further discussion of Rules and Procedures, *Lee Johnston made a motion to approve entire document as written (with incorporation of above noted changes) EXCEPT for Item XI State Tournament and XIII High School Tournament.* Second by Dean Brandstetter. No further discussion. **Motion carried.**

New Business: Marco Pietroniro would like to develop a "Girls Team Idaho" at the U-16 and U-19 levels to play a 4 event series. Asked that associations send names for him to look at. Also, Tom Power would like to see this team go to the District Tournament. Tom Power volunteered to take lead of committee to look at issue of these Girls teams.

Election of Officers: Wayne Lehto opened nominations. *Dean Brandstetter made a motion to re-elect all current officers (Wayne Lehto, President; Tom Power, Vice President; Wally Morgus, Treasurer; Nicki Bowden, Secretary)* Second by Bill Mason. No discussion. **Motion carried.**

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be September 11, 2004 in Idaho Falls.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicki Bowden