

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING  
MINUTES**

Saturday and Sunday, August 16, 2008  
Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, CO

In attendance:

Irey, Bryan	District	Director
Kenney, Chris	District	Director
	District	Director
Lewis, TC	District	Asst Coach-in Chief
Davern, Paul	District	Coach-in-Chief
Day, Jill	District	Secretary
		High School Section Risk
Grover, Kelly	District	Manager
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
Cole, George	District	Webmaster
	District	ACE Administrator
Schwarz, Michael	NM	ACE Director
	USA	
DeGregorio, Ron	Hockey	President
	USA	
Briggle, Rae	Hockey	Member Services
	USA	
Anderson, Debbie	Hockey	Member Services
	USA	
DiGraw, Paulette	Hockey	Member Services
	USA	
Fenlon, Helen	Hockey	Hockey Operations
	USA	
Coutour, Kevin	Hockey	Adult Hockey
	USA	
Aldrich, Scott	Hockey	Adult Hockey
	USA	Membership
Kelleher, Pat	Hockey	Development
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
Pashkowski, Geoff	AZ	Director
Rickard, Ladee	AZ	Administrator
Gibson, Larry	AZ	Coach-in-Chief
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Paolilli, Phil	CO	President
Cardasis, Susan	CO	Registrar
Elwood, Rob	CO	Registrar
Davern, Mary	CO	
Power, Tom	ID	President
		Registrar
Lampl, Tom	ID	Coach-in-Chief
Peterson, Melissa	NM	President
Martinez, Karen	NM	Registrar
Donovan, Larry	OK	President
Hetrick, Anne	OK	Registrar
Skinner, Ted	TX	President
Lewis, Debra	TX	Registrar
Servaes, Mark	TX	Travel Section Pres
Fisher, Geoff	UT	President

Wilner, Fred	UT	Vice President
Anderson, Cathy	UT	Registrar

Absent:

Bob McMann, District Referee in Chief (a representative was present)

Chris Kenney, Chairman of the Council of Presidents, called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made and the USA Hockey representatives were welcomed.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the June 5, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Chris Kenney is the President instead of Bryan Irey. Phil Paolilli made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes with the one correction. Jon Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **District and Affiliate Reports**

Written director reports were turned in by Chris Kenney, Bryan Irey, and TC Lewis.

### **District Risk Manager**

Kelly Grover reported that the player accident deductible is increasing from \$1,000 to \$3,500 for those without primary coverage. Claim forms will be distributed by local registrars and not the risk manager.

### **Affiliate President Reports**

Written affiliate reports were turned in by Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah.

**AZ Jon Brooks** - All is status quo in Arizona. Their numbers are up about 10% even with 400 unclaimed members. For the first time, every association has an ACE program operating. They are doing an adult state championship, using the district grant. They are also doing an adult player development camp.

**CO Phil Paolilli** – The numbers in Colorado are flat with the only growth in adult. Girl's high school now has 8 teams. The high school is going to federated hockey, causing a loss of numbers.

**ID Tom Power** – Seeing moderate growth at the adult level, some drop off at the 11-13 year youth boys, girls small growth.

**NM Melissa Peterson** – They saw a growth in adult hockey. Now have a two sheet facility. High School and JV is growing which is taking out of the Bantam age group. Los Alamos is growing with only a seasonal outdoor rink. New Mexico has ratified a single officials association.

**OK Larry** - Oklahoma City sent 13,000 flyers to elementary schools for a new 10 week beginner program. Of 111 kids, 68 joined the association.

**TX Ted Skinner** - Most of their growth is in adult and high school. With the rise of travel costs, a lot of travel players are moving to high school. Texas has adopted sections for disabled and adult hockey. Two members of the National Sled Hockey team are from Texas.

**UT Geoff Fisher** – They have added three associations to the affiliate. They have started a disabled program and had one member on the National Sled Hockey team. The board has been reorganized and is operating more efficiently.

### **Youth Council Report**

TC Lewis reported that the main issue is Tier I definition. The issue of residency causes a problem in some of the Rocky Mountain District affiliates developing Tier I teams. This continues to be a high discussion issue. Ron DeGregorio says that USA Hockey would like to get to a point where the high performance litigation issues are no longer the focus and growing the game is the focus. The High School national championship is reviewing bids for the proposed tournament in 2010 (Utah has two bids in the running). Thanks to Kelly Grover for his long time service to the high school section.

### **USA Hockey Online Registration**

Rae Briggie has been participating in our phone conferences and expressed her kudos. Online registration in the Rocky Mountain District is a successful program. They are expecting 85% participation nationally this year. They have added an additional parent information line as well as additional email lines in the registration. Brochures can be reviewed online and then ordered for free. USA Hockey Magazine is looking for information on recruiting and retaining volunteers in local programs for an article. Please send Rae an email if you know of a program. She also likes to receive emails of things happening in the district.

### **District Web Master**

George Cole reported on the district tournament web hosting. We did not meet the intent of our policies and procedures during tournaments this year. Some of the tournaments sent emails to George and then he posted the information on the web site. This is not a good solution. Tournament representatives need to meet and follow the policies and procedures next year. He also requests information be sent to him to keep the web page up to date.

### **ACE Program**

Michael Schwarz shared a power point presentation. ACE works like continuing education in conjunction with CEP. The topics discussed were Why ACE (Association Coaching Education), Identify duties and responsibilities, Structure of ACE, Fulfills duties and responsibilities, and The Future. An ACE Director will be a good coach (preferably level 4), have good people skills, be a good communicator, a good teacher, and a good listener. Parental awareness is very important. Michael shared a video starring Will Farrell about a parent with very poor behavior in the stands. The ACE \$3,000.00 budget allocation is part of the Rocky Mountain District CEP budget. Michael would like some district funding to supplement that budget. It was noted that ACE is under CEP and request for funds should come through CEP. It will be discussed in the budgeting session.

### **District Procedures**

Melissa Peterson submitted the proposed changes to the policy and procedure manual. There was a lot of discussion on responsibility of web hosting during tournaments. It was also noted that there is no place for budget approval in the procedures. The host needs to live with their own budget. There is no reason for the district to approve it. Other housekeeping issues were discussed. Melissa will make the changes and send the document for final review.

### **Recruitment and Player Retention Grant**

Chris Kenney reminded everyone that reports of the use and results of the grant are due to Chris Kenney by December 10, 2008. Chris will present the results at the January meeting.

### **Wayne Lehto**

As a district, we want to do something to honor Wayne. Some suggestions are naming the district volunteer award after him, donating to the rink in ID that carries his name, donating to ID Falls Amateur Hockey, and naming the championship trophy after him. The family said that they would like his name tied to a tournament. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to donate \$1,000.00 to the Idaho Falls Amateur Hockey Association to be used for improvement at the rink carrying Wayne's name and to name the championship trophy at all district tournaments after him. Bryan Irey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Sled Hockey Grant**

Ann Hetrick requested a grant for \$3,000.00 to purchase equipment for the 3 players from the district on the national sled hockey team. She will submit receipts and Bruce will send them a check.

### **District Tournament Format**

Bryan Irey reported that the changes made in the policy and procedure manual will fix the small state large state issue.

### **2009 District Tournaments**

There has been discussion in conference calls about condensing the time of a tournament. The point isn't to diminish the importance of the tournament, but to help alleviate travel expenses and time out of school. A disadvantage of the condensed time frame is less income to the host association. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to condense the game schedule to two games Friday and Saturday and the final on Sunday. Phil Paolilli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The team declarations made will be sent out by Bryan Irey.

### **Tier I 12-15 March 2009 – UT**

Bryan Irey made a **MOTION** to accept the bid from Utah and the Regulators. Jon Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Girls/Women 3-5 March 2009 – CO**

TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to accept the bid from Colorado Selects for Girls Tier I and Women. Melissa Peterson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Tier II 12-15 March 2009 - NM or AZ and ID

TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to accept the bid from Boise for Boys Tier II. Jon Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. New Mexico said there were no bids presented. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to accept the Phoenix Polar Bear bid for Bantam and Peewee Boys Tier II. Phil Paolilli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. There was some hesitation about the proposed rink which does not register all teams through USA Hockey.

#### High School 19-22 March 2009 – AZ

TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to accept the bid from Thunder on Ice in Arcadia, AZ. Geoff Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Concern was expressed about the high hotel rates.

#### Girls Rec 19-22 March 2009 - NM or UT

Melissa Peterson made a **MOTION** to accept the bid from Los Alamos Association at the newly renovated two-sheet Outpost Ice Arena in Albuquerque for the Girls recreation tournament. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. There was discussion about the Tier II Girls teams. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** that interested Tier II teams would play in the Tier I tournament and not the recreation tournament if at least 2 teams are interested. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### District Player Development Camp

Tom Lampl submitted a written report. In last night's committee meeting it was reiterated that on line registration is mandatory this year. They still need team leaders and nominations for coaches. They struggled with filling the 8 girls' teams this year, but will not shrink the pool. The next camp is Apr 29-May 3, 2009 in Salt Lake City.

#### District Grants

Bruce Karinen reported on the 2007-08 Invitational Tournament Grant. 85 tournaments took advantage of the grant for a cost to the district of \$2,125.00. The approved budget was \$3,000.00. The incentive was a success from the district standpoint thanks to efforts of both the USA hockey staff and the District web master, George Cole. It is recommended the District discontinue this program for the 2008-09 season and evaluate the results at the end of the season.

Kelly Grover reported on last year's grant for banners and trophies. To date the cost is \$4,085.39, but the invoice for the individual medals has not been received. Kelly again requested \$7,000.00 to provide banners and awards for the 2008-09 tournaments. Jon Brooks made a **MOTION** to approve Kelly's request as written. Ann Hetrick seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. It was suggested to add the web page at the bottom of each banner.

#### Special Director Election

There will be a special election to elect a Director to complete the term of the late Wayne Lehto. It is a three year term ending at the close of USA Hockey Congress in 2011. Nominations will close on September 16, 2008. Please send nominations and an acceptance letter with bio from the nominated.

#### 2008-09 Budget Proposal

Bruce Karinen submitted the report on income and expense for 2007-08. There was a <\$10,729.00> deficit leaving the ending cash balance at \$80,831.33. The proposed budget for 2008-09 shows an anticipated deficit of <\$40,800.00>. This will be the last year to run on a deficit. Next year, we will need to live within our budget. Increasing player fees should be put off a couple of years for the economy to recover. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to accept budget as proposed. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Credential Meeting Template

Susan Cardasis has prepared a template to be used for credential meetings for tournaments. The template will be emailed to all affiliate registrars. Ann Hetrick made a **MOTION** to reimburse Susan \$109.00 for the cost of preparing this template. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Elections

TC Lewis nominated **Chris Kenney as Chairman of the Council of Presidents**. Melissa Peterson seconded the nomination and it passed unanimously. Melissa Peterson nominated **TC Lewis as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman of the Council of Presidents**. Ann Hetrick seconded the nomination and it passed unanimously. Bryan Irey nominated **Jon Brooks as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman of the Council of Presidents**. Tom Power seconded the nomination and it passed unanimously.

#### **Affiliate Audits**

USA Hockey has sent a memo alerting affiliates that independent certified audits will be required of all affiliates. The results of the audit need to be submitted to USA Hockey and posted on affiliate websites. Smaller affiliates are concerned about the cost and the fact that it falls into a time frame where it can not be included in the current budget.

#### **Next Meetings**

TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to hold the winter meeting in Florida on Friday, January 16, 2009 in conjunction with the National meeting. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to hold the annual meeting in Arizona August 14-16, 2009. Melissa Peterson seconded the motion passed unanimously.

#### **USA Hockey Adult Council**

The representatives expressed their thanks for the growth being seen in the adult area in all affiliates in the Rocky Mountain District.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Wayne Lehto.

#### **Ode**

Kelly Grover read his Ode to the Annual Meeting. We have missed these over the last few years and are grateful for his insight into our meetings.

Chris Kenney made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Tom Power seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day  
RMD Secretary

#### **Action Items**