

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, June 6, 2013
Hotel Elegante, Colorado Springs, CO

In attendance:

Kenney, Chris	District	Director/Chairman
Lewis, TC	District	Director
Brandstetter, Dean	District	Director
McKibbon, John	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary
Lehto, Mike	District	Coach-in-Chief
	ID	Vice President
		High School Sec.
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
Pariseau, Gary	District	Referee-in-Chief
Briggle, Rae	USA Hockey	Member Services
DiGiacomo, Paulette	USA Hockey	Member Services
Doyle, Joe	USA Hockey	Administration
Lukken, Mike	USA Hockey	Member Development
Mariconda, Joan	USA Hockey	Director at Large
Urban, Bruce	USA Hockey	Director at Large
Rogers, Jim	AZ	Vice President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Gibson, Larry	AZ	CEP
Eisentraul, Bryan	AZ	Super. Of Officials
Haley, Herb	AZ	Safe Sport Coordinator
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
Bloomer, Al	MT	Director Emeritus
Chapman, Alice	NM	President
Hoskins, Mike	OK	President
Graves, Bettepat	TX	Registrar
Thompson, Darla	TX	Registrar
Ritter, Doug	TX	Travel Section President
Wilner, Fred	UT	President
Radke, Derrick	UT	Girls/Women
Korth, Don	UT	CEP
McKenna, Jim	UT	Super. Of Officials
Lilley, Chris	UT	HS President
Lilley, Jennifer	UT	Tier Representative

Absent:

Ballou, Patrick	District	Webmaster
Brooks, Jon	AZ	President
Hall, Reggie	TX	President

TC Lewis called the meeting to order for Chris Kenney, Chairman of the Council of Presidents (who joined the meeting at 6:50 am) called the meeting to order at 6:30 am. Introductions were made. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Dr. Alan Ashare talked about the "Heads Up, Don't Duck" program. There is a great video on line, there are posters available, and drills are also available online. He also talked about concussion education.

There was little discussion about the fact that Chris Kenney has been transferred to Colorado for work, and how it affects his role as district director. The district rules state that there can't be more than one director from an affiliate. Since he still has house in Arizona, no action was taken.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 17, 2013 meeting were not available due to a corrupt file. Help is needed to help recreate the minutes. Please send any information you have to Jill (jillv8@comcast.net).

Player Development Camp

The 2013 camp in Utah was successful again. Numbers were down for attendance. There are two years left on the Oval contract. Discussion was started about moving the camp around the district again expressing concern for cost of travel, altitude and attendance. 48% of this year's attendance was from Texas and Colorado. Bruce explained that he has seen it both ways, moving the camp and keeping it in Salt Lake. The Salt Lake camp is very well run and the facility (Utah Olympic Oval) gives the camp the run of the building. Some feel that the issue is why are they not attending (cost, date, other camps, etc.) not where it is held. Al Bloomer suggested that it is a marketing issue and promoting the camp should be done early in the season to get players excited to attend. Affiliate presidents were assigned to find out why their players aren't coming and report in the August meeting.

Membership Development and Registration

Rae Briggie reported the registration numbers were down this year, but not as much as the last time there was an NHL lockout. Rocky Mountain District numbers showed little change. Youth retention is going up even when membership numbers are down. Rae introduced Mike Lukken, our Grow the Game contact with USA Hockey. The Membership Development program is doing a lot to grow the game. Everyone was encouraged to put on Try Hockey for Free events. Online roster management is making it so that signatures will no longer be required on rosters. Affiliates have now assigned Safe Sport program coordinators and will meet during this congress. Chris Kenney made a **MOTION** that all district personnel log on and watch the 90 minute videos before the august meeting. Keeping our kids safe should be a number one priority.

Ron DeGregorio stopped by to ask what tools and support we want from USA Hockey. Affiliates should come to the August meeting prepared with answers to this question. Then they will be sent back to him.

Awards

Al Bloomer was presented a plaque for his dedicated service to the Rocky Mountain District. Bruce Karinen was presented an autographed jersey from the Girls' Pittsburgh Showcase Team.

2014 District Tournament

Please come prepared to the August meeting with a date for the tournaments. This will be discussed during monthly conference calls. Arizona is interested in hosting both boys and girls.

Hot Button Topics

Youth Council – TC Lewis reported that there is discussion on reinstating the Peewee National Tournament. A straw vote was taken showing only 2 in favor of reinstating it. The ADM program is against it. Some say other competition suggests it needs to be brought back to keep our players interested. There is discussion of increasing the Tier 1 National Tournaments from 12 teams to 16 teams. Rule changes major aggressive penalty for fighting needs to be amended, and the match penalty rule for taking a helmet off is being discussed. The adult leagues have had so many appeals, that the rule is being reconsidered. The learning curve seems to be lessening the occurrences.

Junior Council – Chris Kenney reported that there is discussion of smaller councils with caucuses working the issues. The Junior Tier 3 and AAU programs seem to have the highest participants in our area. There is still a lot of concern about the difference in USA Hockey and AAU liabilities and responsibilities. Education is the key – making sure participants know and understand the differences.

High School Section – Kelly Grover took a poll of which affiliates would be sending teams to the High School National Tournament next year - AZ CO ID NM (OK maybe) TX UT, and to the Pittsburgh Showcase – AZ CO TX UT.

Executive Committee – TC Lewis says the minutes are online for anyone to read.

Adult Tournament Grants

Bruce Karinen reported that the district fiscal year ends June 30th. If you have grant backup, it needs to be submitted immediately. There will be discussion of pros and cons on adult tournaments in the August meeting. Please be prepared with suggestions and comments. With the diversity in the district, it was suggested that each affiliate be able to submit for a grant that they need. This will be discussed in a monthly phone call. Be prepared to submit grants in writing.

Bruce Karinen said the second billing to the affiliate had not been sent yet and wanted to know if it should be done with the fiscal year closing. He was told to send them out.

USA Hockey Female Honor Award

Bruce Karinen presented the criteria (see handout) for the yearly award to recognize hockey associations that are leaders in the growth, development and promotion of ice hockey for females. One award is given to each District each year. Please submit your nominee by March 2014.

Bylaws and Policies

Dean Brandstetter reported that he had just received the comments from USA Hockey on the new bylaws and policies. He will make their requested changes and send it to all for review before voting on it in the August meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be August 16-18, 2013 at the Marriott Albuquerque North. There will be a registrars' meeting on Sunday from 8-11am. The Winter Meeting in Florida in January 2014 will be a late afternoon to evening meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day
RMD Secretary

USA HOCKEY FEMALE HONORS AWARD

Purpose

This yearly award is designed to recognize hockey associations that are leaders in the growth, development, and promotion of ice hockey for females.

Overview

The award is given annually to one organization per district, chosen by the district under the guidelines established for recognition.

Criteria

Associations that are considered for the award should meet all or most of the following criteria:

- Bylaws and Mission Statement that supports growth and development
- Parent Education program that is mandated for all levels
- Fee structure that is economical for the area of the district, and offers alternatives for those less fortunate to play for a reduced or no cost
- Pays for and supports all Coaches being properly certified through the USA Hockey CEP
- Offers Learn to Skate, Cross-Ice, Recreational/House league, and Competitive teams wherever enrollment numbers indicate
- Has a documented practice to game ratio
- Has established limits on game counts
- Has established limits on travel distances
- Supports and promotes all USAH initiatives such as the ADM, Girls Try Hockey For Free, HWAA, WGIHW, SafeSport, etc.
- Holds community based activities designed to promote the sport and entice players to join their organization.
- Has established limits on the length of season – reduces overall time commitment for the sport.
- Offers short term player development opportunities for children to play hockey.
- Is involved in humanitarian, volunteer, or community based activities that help enhance the public perception of the organization as a contributing member of the local community.

Selection Process

Organizations will submit a one page document listing their compliance to the stated criteria and an explanation of their leadership in girls'/women's ice hockey to their USAH Girls'/Women's Section representative and the Affiliate President. Applications are due May 1st each year. Winning organizations will be announced at the USAH Annual Congress by the President of USA Hockey. All selections will receive recognition and the award at an affiliate/district function as selected by the affiliate/district president. The affiliate/district will provide information on the event for the web-site and/or magazine.