

Alaska State Hockey Association
Board Meeting
November 8, 2008

Members present: Corey Millen, Destry Lind (alt.), Martha Stramp, Brian Graff, Todd Green, Robbie Snelson, Annetta Powell, Pat McDonald, Suzy Coronel, Anny Culley, Wayne Sawchuk, Jack Tragis, Dan Massie, Tom Fisher, Pete Sloan, and Dave Kosinsky (alt).

Officers present: Cullen Wallace, Brenda Luthi, Joe Newhouse, Rosalie Nadeau, and Brian Gross.

USA Hockey officials present: Bruce Urban, Lynn Beehler-Urban, Dan Rogness, Connie Hardwick, Blasé Burkhart, and Chris Milles.

Visitors present: Bill Dubinsky, Kim Haman and Lisa McPheters.

President Cullen Wallace called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. There was a welcome back for Blasé Burkhart. Cullen announced the Anderson Awards. The Pete Anderson Award went to Doug Gillan in Fairbanks, the Dempsey Anderson Award went to Rob Palin in Nevada. Cullen then presented the Andy Anderson Award to Dan Rogness of Anchorage. A special thanks was given to Dan for his time and dedication to youth hockey.

Introductions were made of all present. The agenda was approved with one addition. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Correspondence: There was none.

Persons to be heard: There were none.

President's Report: Cullen Wallace gave his report. (see attached)

Finance Report: Joe Newhouse went over the Year-End Balance Sheet, the Balance Sheet as of November 8, 2008, and the budget worksheet. Todd Green moved and Annetta Powell seconded to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

VP Tournaments: Connie Hardwick gave the report for Gary Hardwick. She went over the tournament cost sheet. (see attached) She also mentioned that Homer has requested to move the Bantam Tier IV State Tournament from Homer to another location due to the fact that Homer is not fielding a Bantam Tier IV team this year. Action will be taken during New Business.

VP Comp Council: Rosalie Nadeau reported that the Comp Council held a meeting prior to this meeting. The Squirt Coordinator has resigned, but Dennis Sorenson will take over and finish the year out. Pete Sloan will chair a committee on looking into the tier definitions and will report at our next state board meeting. They have discussed try-outs, and Brian Graff will chair a committee on try-outs and will report at the next state board meeting. There is an appeal from the Boys & Girls Club that will be discussed under New Business.

VP House Council: Brian Gross reported that this is a busy time with the house programs starting up. He will address the Bantam Tier IV issue under New Business.

VP Girls/Women Council: No report.

VP Adult Council: No report.

VP Player Development: No report.

Discipline Committee: John Jolly reported that the match penalties are down this year. However, the 601's are up, which is the abuse of officials. Discussion followed regarding this trend. The Arctic Lions have imposed a \$100 fine on coaches who receive a 601 penalty, and it appears to be working in their association to reduce the number of 601's being assessed. John mentioned that if a coach has a complaint about an official, it needs to be put in writing and sent to the referee association.

Also, in regards to the collections issue, the Discipline Committee's job is to review a case and declare the player eligible or ineligible. After a case has been sent to them, everything has to go through them - no back door deals. Once it is turned over to the state, the committee doesn't collect the money, they just declare eligibility.

Once the money is paid, let the Discipline Committee know. Please just follow the steps in the guideline book.

District Director: Bruce Urban thanked everyone for their work in getting the icing pilot forms into him. He asked that each association poll their coaches on their opinions of the icing pilot. This issue will be voted upon later this year in June. Please keep sending him data. The District Select Camps will be held the last weekend in April and the first weekend in May in Seattle. The fees have not been determined yet.

Director-at-Large: Lynn Beehler-Urban reported that the rules committee meets next weekend. The District Directors need to get input from the grass roots coaches, players and parents so they have a local perspective when they vote on rule changes.

Associate Risk Manager: Suzy Coronel reported that the coaches need to wear their helmets! She is happy to help get certificates of insurance for off-ice events, such as fundraising. Parents are not covered under USA Hockey insurance during parent/player games. When renting vans to transport players, people need to know that (1) USA Hockey doesn't provide auto-liability coverage for any vehicle, and (2) that many personal auto-liability policies exclude coverage for renting 15 passenger vans. This may leave a gap of coverage if people rent a 15 passenger van and don't buy the rental company's offered insurance. So, it's important to remind people that if they rent these vans, they need to check their personal auto coverage to make sure it covers their use of these kinds of vehicles.

Registrar: Dan Rogness would like association input into the idea of changing the registration season to being August 1 to beginning May 1. The membership cards may go away in order to reduce costs. USA Hockey is thinking of a way to certify player birthdates so that team managers

do not have to carry birth certificates with them or mail them for credential checks.

Associate Registrar: Connie Hardwick went over the member count sheets. (see attached) Be sure to contact Connie for tournament sanctions. Also, be sure to send in the tournament rules when applying for a sanction. There is a 21-day notice required for travel permits. Make sure that the tournaments you are participating in ARE sanctioned. There is no insurance coverage if the tournament is not sanctioned. Also, make sure that any Canadian teams that come to your tournament have a travel permit.

Referee-in-Chief: Chris Milles presented his report.
(see attached)

Coach-in-Chief: Blasé Burkhart gave a big thanks to all for the thoughts, gifts and donations in memory of his son. Blasé has resigned as Referee-in-Chief and he needs a replacement. Rick Trupp will help out with clinics to finish this year. The success of the coaching program depends on volunteers. The job description of the Coach-in-Chief is to be an organizer, keeper of the calendar, order material for clinics, get speakers and organize clinics, report to USA Hockey and send fees to them. The job could be split into duties. He just needs someone to take his place. A reminder was also made that people are always needed to help out at clinics, especially coaches.

ACE Coordinator: No report

Web Master: No report

Jr. Hockey: Jack Tragis reported that the leagues are growing, and the our Alaska League is very competitive.

Old Business:

Thanks to Martha Stramp for the icing pilot program posters.

New Business:

Screening update - Cullen reported that the information is up on the website and the screenings have gone well. There is talk of a national screening coming up in a couple of years like a national clearinghouse.

Tier I definition - (see attached) Cullen wants us to discuss with our associations. Bruce and Cullen need feedback on this issue.

Rosalie Nadeau moved and Martha Stramp seconded to move the Bantam Tier IV State Tournament to Eagle River from Homer. The motion passed unanimously.

U16 Tier II Bulldogs issue - Pat McDonald presented the case for the last spot in the state tournament. There was a tie between Mat-Su and the Bulldogs. Rosalie Nadeau said the Comp Council met and discussed this situation. The language in the handbook is poorly written, but he Comp Council discussed and figured out the tie-breaker. They voted to have Mat-Su be the last spot in the tournament, which leaves the Bulldogs out. Rosalie moved and Pete Sloan seconded to have Mat-Su be

the #7 seed, FAHA (the host) be the #8 seed, and the Bulldogs not in the tournament. Discussion followed and the motion passed.

Board Member Comments:

Rosalie Nadeau reminded everyone to watch out for sexual harassment.

Pat McDonald stated that it was hard on a team to have their season done in October. Maybe in the future consider letting the older teams not have a limited number of teams in the state tournament. James Williams is leaving the Boys & Girls Club and Kim Haman will be taking over as hockey coordinator. Her email address is khaman@bgcalaska.org. Also, Audrey Hoak resigned, so Pat McDonald is now the athletic director.

Martha Stramp would like to see limitations to the amount of money players can owe.

John Jolly mentioned that Josh Benton is fighting a disease and funds of over \$50,000 has been raised thanks to Guido's Restaurant.

Pete Sloan gave a special thanks to Blasé Burkhart for his work.

Brenda Luthi reminded associations that have not turned in their current officer's list that she needs them. Also, please make any corrections to the sign-in sheet.

Cullen Wallace mentioned that nominations for the Anderson Awards for next year need to be in to him by January. He also mentioned that a possibly a player-release form is needed so it is known whether a player is current on bills when changing associations. Remember that travel is expensive, so try not to make any unnecessary travel.

The next meeting will be January 3, 2009, at 10:00 at the Coast Inn in Anchorage.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Luthi
ASHA Secretary