



PNAHA Annual Winter Meeting

January 8, 2011

Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel & Wenatchee Convention Center
201 North Wenatchee
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

The meeting was called to order by President, Dru Hammond, at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was obtained at 9:27 a.m. with the arrival of the representative from IEAHA. The Board of Directors promptly reviewed and approved the September minutes and January Treasurer Report.

1. Sign-In

- ◆ Sign-in sheets distributed and on official record with these minutes. Voting delegate sign-in sheet completed with the following delegates present: PNAHA President – Dru Hammond; 1st PNAHA Vice President – Dave Bittenbender
- ◆ Member Organizations: EYH – Chris Raub; IEAHA – Dave Nieuwenhuis; KVHA – Jay Johnston; KCAH – Jay Miller; PSAHA – Rob Kaufman; SJR – Scott Farrell; SKAHA – Kim Roberson; TCAHA – Frank Dunn; WAHA – Teka Parks; WCAHA – Mark Smith; WWFHA – Shirley Williamson.
- ◆ Member Organizations not represented – MLYHA; PCMH; SAYHA.
- ◆ Member Teams not represented – YAHA.

2. Introductions

- ◆ Personal introductions made by the PNAHA Board of Directors and special guests Donna Kaufman, Pacific District Director, and Winthrop representative, Erin White.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- ◆ Reading of the September 12, 2010, PNAHA Annual Fall meeting minutes. Dave Bittenbender (1st PNAHA Vice President) motion [*to approve minutes*], seconded by Shirley Williamson (WWFHA). No discussion. Motion passed.

4. Treasurer Report – Katie Kusske

- ◆ In Katie Kusske's (PNAHA Secretary/Treasurer) absence, Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) presented copies and reviewed the September through December 2009 Treasurer's Report which covers September 1 through December 31, 2010, to the PNAHA Board of Directors. The balance as of December 31, 2010, is \$77,596.77. Motion [*to approve the September through December 31, 2010, Treasurer's Report*] by Mark Smith (WHAT), seconded by Dave Bittenbender (1st PNAHA Vice President). No discussion. Motion passed.

5. Special Guests – Donna Kaufman

- ◆ Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) introduced Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director). Donna updated the PNAHA Board of Directors on the recent approval by the USA Hockey Rules Committee regarding Body Checking at the PeeWee level. There is a lot of documentation to support the recommended change, but the vote to do this could be very controversial.
- ◆ All District Tournaments are March 3-6. Tier I Youth U16/U18 will be held in Anchorage, Alaska. Tier I Youth U12/U14 will be held in San Jose, California. Tier I and Tier II Girls will be held in Anaheim, California. The District fee for teams is \$1,000.
- ◆ Tier II Nationals will be April 7-11, 2011. Tier I/II Youth are March 30-April 3, 2011. Tier I Girls is April 6-10, 2011, in Detroit, Michigan. Tier II Girls is March 30-April 3, 2011, and will be held in Anaheim, California. There is no tournament fee for Nationals.
- ◆ Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) welcomed and introduced Erin White, President, Winthrop Amateur Hockey Association. Winthrop has been a long-time member of USA Hockey within Washington State, but recently their membership has expanded to three levels of teams as well as a learn-to-skate program, and Winthrop feels that, with their new and continued growth, it was now time to join PNAHA to expose their teams to other opportunities within the affiliate. Winthrop is present today to apply for membership within PNAHA. Erin provided the PNAHA Board of Directors with a brief description of their program and their visions of the future. Erin submitted their application and check for membership to the PNAHA Board of Directors. PNAHA welcomes their application and Erin was invited back in June to hear the results of their application.

6. Officer's Reports

◆ Coaching Director Report – Rob Kaufman

- **State Development Camp Information:** 2011 PNAHA State Development Camp will be held January 29-30, 2011. The location is set to be in Wenatchee again. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) reminded everyone that the player development camp is just around the corner. There are only a limited number of spots and, due to the interest in the camp, Rob reminded the Associations to get their top-end players to register or they may not get a spot. Due to the number of registrations, registration for the camp may need to be closed early. Rob requested the Associations to identify any individuals attending the camp who wished to volunteer as a bench coach. Rob also noted that he had player evaluators identified and committed and was looking forward to holding the camp in Wenatchee again. The dual rink facility is an excellent location to host this event and the management of the Town Toyota Center has worked hard with us to keep this event affordable.
- **Rocky Mountain Register** is the new online registration program for our development camp. This is the preferred program by USA Hockey and will be utilized this year. The advantage of using this registration system is that the player's information is already in a database that can be accessed at the district and national level. As players advance, the administrator just indicates who advances. The system then automatically notifies the player of the advancement and directs the player to use their previous password and pay the new camp registration fee. The player can update any of their information as well. If a player is invited to the PNAHA Development Camp next year, they just use their previous password to access the database and update their information and pay the camp fee. This should improve the process in the long run.
- **Coaching Clinic Update:** Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) reminded the Associations to review their coaches to ensure they had gotten the proper cards for the levels they are coaching. In addition, Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) mentioned that, as of December 31, 2010, all coaches on the bench must have the proper credentials and any waiver applications were due by December 31.
- **Pacific District Select Camp (Kent):** Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Coaching Director) reminded everyone that the Pacific District Select Camp will be held at Kent again in 2011. The dates are April 29–May 1, 2011, for birth years 1996 and 1997; May 5–May 8, 2011, for birth years 1994 and 1995.

◆ Girls/Women's Hockey – Shirley Williamson

- **Female Development Camp Information:** Shirley Williamson (Girls/Women's Director) reminded the Associations that the 2011 PNAHA Female Development Camp will be held February 5-6, 2011, in Wenatchee, Washington. Evaluators will be Mark Preston and Teka Parks. Shirley Williamson (Girls/Women's Director) noted that she had asked Candace Scott (Oregon NW Select) to assist with the on-ice sessions and that some Oregon girls will attend the camp to ensure that there are enough girls to have scrimmages. Shirley Williamson (Girls/Women's Director) stressed the Oregon girls will have a different colored jersey and will not be evaluated against the Washington girls as per the agreement with the Oregon Affiliate.

◆ Supervisor-of-Officials – Jason Michelbook

- Jason Michelbook (Supervisor-of-Officials) commented that, up to this point of the season, everything seems to be running smoothly with no major issues. Jason requested to receive state tournament schedules as soon as possible due to the effort it takes to get out-of-town officials to commit.
- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) provided a belated congratulation to Jason on the birth of his daughter. Claire was born August 23, 2010, but Jason was unable to attend the September meeting.

◆ USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager – Ed Imes

- Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) welcomed Ed Imes (USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager) back. Ed had undergone surgery for a broken back and has been missed during his long recovery. Ed Imes (USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager) stated it was nice to be back and among friends again.
- A review of the list of approved Tier I and Tier II teams that are eligible for state, district, and national participation was presented. It was noted that, because of the current League Rules, some

of the teams were classified as Tier II teams while their real intent is to be classified for the B state tournament. This dual process is confusing, and it is Ed's recommendation that the Competition Committee spend some time on this process to refine it. It creates a lot of unnecessary work for him to track rosters that are not needed. It also causes confusion for the state president to commit teams for state and district administrators since the final decisions are made so late in the process.

- Frank Dunn (TRI) submitted an official written copy of their team commitments for the upcoming tournaments.
- Birth certificates in credential books were also discussed. Ed stamps the certified rosters, but the lack of birth certificates can cause problems for those who verify that all the appropriate paperwork is there for district and nationals for foreign born players. Also, those teams traveling to Canadian tournaments are often required to show birth certificates. Ed is of the opinion that the team managers should consider continuing to include these birth certificates in their credential packets.

◆ **League Commissioner – Glen Triner**

- No report.

◆ **1st Vice President – Dave Bittenbender**

- Dave (PNAHA 1st Vice President) spoke on the new member proposal presented by Erin White. He has a second home in Winthrop and has personally been working with Erin to help Winthrop through this process. He is very excited about the prospects of their potential membership within PNAHA.
- Dave Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st Vice President) stated that he would be holding an appeal hearing directly after the PNAHA meeting for a Wenatchee player.

◆ **2nd Vice President – Glen Triner**

- No report.

◆ **PNAHA President – Dru Hammond**

• **Credential Packets (Only Tier I/Tier II)**

Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) reminded Associations that they were required to turn in their credential books at this meeting. Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) pointed out that there were boxes placed at the front of the room to collect the books. Ed Imes, Glen Triner, and Dru Hammond will do the Tier I and Tier II books this year. The PNAHA President indicated that everyone was sent information on how to prepare these books. This year, books will be returned to the home Association if they are not prepared correctly or invoiced for materials that have to be purchased to prepare the books properly. Everyone was also reminded that there is a fine for not turning in their books at this meeting.

- USA Hockey Mid-Annual Meeting/Pacific District Meeting (Orlando – January 21-23, 2011). It is anticipated that there will be significant dialog regarding the body checking issue at the PeeWee level. The PNAHA Board of Directors was asked how they feel about it. Brief discussion followed.
- Pacific District Meeting – (Reno – February 12, 2011, and Seattle – May 14, 2011).

7. Tournament Updates

- ◆ Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) began the discussion by reviewing the validated list of teams identified by Ed Imes as properly rostered and committed to the various tournaments. She asked the PNAHA Rep from each Association to please come sign off on their committed teams after the meeting. She explained that there are always a few rosters that have not been processed that were sent in the mail at the last minute and she would confirm the list again with Ed after his return home to see if any more have come in. If there are any changes, she will contact the individual Associations.
- ◆ **Tier I Tournament for Bantams and U16 (Seattle Junior: February 10-13, 2011):** Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) thanked Seattle Junior for volunteering to hold this tournament. Scott Farrell (SJR) provided a quick overview of what to expect. Dave Bittenbender will serve as the Tournament Director for this event. Dru Hammond will be in Reno attending the Pacific District Board of Directors meeting. Glen Triner will assist Dave with the running of this tournament as well as Katie Kusske.
- ◆ **Tier II Tournament (Tri-Cities, March 10-14, 2011):** Frank Dunn (TRI) is the Tournament Coordinator for Tri-Cities and gave a short report on the status of the tournament and he let everyone know that tournament information will be available soon on the TCAHA website.

- ◆ **Squirt Festival (Wenatchee, March 17-20, 2011):** Teka Parks (WEN) provided the members with a handout. Wenatchee is thrilled to host this event and is eager to make it very festive. They plan to focus on fun! Their NAHL team also has games the weekend of the Festival against the Fresno Monsters. The team is offering special ticket packages for this event. Information is on their website and the schedule has been done for months. We just need the League to finish assigning teams to the brackets. They asked the teams to hurry and get their team photo and roster submitted. They need this information so that they can get the program prepared and make the score sheet stickers.
- ◆ **“B” State Tournament (Sno-King, March 17-20, 2011):** Kim Roberson handed out a flyer regarding the upcoming tournament. She indicated that there currently is not much information on-line concerning the tournament. She also indicated that the website will be updated shortly.

8. Associations

- ◆ The PNAHA President requested to speak privately to the Kent, Seattle Junior, and Puget Sound PNAHA representatives after the meeting regarding some sensitive member issues that had been reported.

9. America’s High School Showcase

- ◆ Tryouts will be at the Puget Sound Hockey Center on February 12-13, 2011. Evaluators from the showcase team will also attend the Tier I U16 PNAHA State Tournament to evaluate players involved in that activity. Players involved in the state tournament and interested in participating on this team need to follow the application procedures, but also let the showcase administrators know they will be participating in the state tournament that weekend. All Associations are encouraged to let their high school juniors and seniors know about this opportunity. USA Hockey has become involved with this tournament again and it is an excellent opportunity for those players who live and play in pockets of typically under scouted areas to be seen by college and junior team scouts.

10. Old Business

- ◆ Discussion regarding body checking already covered under “Special Guests” by Donna Kaufman (Pacific District Director) and under “Officer’s Reports” by Dru Hammond (PNAHA President).

11. New Business

◆ **District Director Elections:**

Dru Hammond (PNAHA President) shared that Donna Kaufman and Charlie Fuertsch had been the only nominations received within the District by Dan Rogness and were therefore automatically reinstated as Pacific District Directors.

- ◆ **Kamloops International Bantam Ice Hockey Tournament (KIBIHT):** Scott Farrell (SJR) distributed a proposal for consideration to the PNAHA Board of Directors to officially have PNAHA sponsor two teams as a state (Tier I/Tier II) for this tournament as an additional opportunity for our affiliates’ top players to be scouted at this well known venue. PNAHA has received permission from the KIBIHT with conditional approval for upcoming years with no player restrictions. The goal of the program is to have all PNAHA Member Associations and the PNAHA Board oversee and participate in the management and operation of two teams annually to play together in this heavily scouted and prestigious tournament. Since this opportunity has occurred so late in the season this year, it was determined that the State Development Camp would afford an excellent venue to evaluate players and to assist in creating this team. Seattle Junior and Spokane are willing to manage these two teams this first year since they had already submitted applications that were accepted by the KIBIHT. In an effort to get this off the ground this year and not violate USA Hockey and PNAHA Affiliate tampering and recruiting rules, they have brought this proposal to the PNAHA Board for approval so that they may contact other players for this one-time event and utilize the PNAHA Development Camp venue as an evaluation location. Discussion. Rob Kaufman (PNAHA Player Development Coordinator) did state concerns that this was a Canadian Hockey showcase versus a USA Hockey showcase and, as USA Hockey players, felt we should focus our efforts on finding USA opportunities. He did agree that, in the meantime, this could be a great tool. There were no objections and in general everyone felt this might be an excellent opportunity. It was felt that they needed to put more efforts forward on finalizing the process for future years so that the state would be prepared to budget support dollars for items such as tournament fees and perhaps the purchase of jerseys. Scott will go back and refine his proposal so that the Competition Committee can review it and a final proposal can be voted on by the September 2011 PNAHA meeting.

12. Spring/Summer Meeting

- ◆ The PNAHA Annual Spring/Summer meeting will be held on June 18, 2011, at the Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel & Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee, located at 201 N. Wenatchee Avenue. Room reservations can be made by calling (509) 662-4411. All members are reminded to make their room reservations prior to leaving the facility as availability is always limited at the hotel due to high occupancy during the summer months.

13. Adjournment

- ◆ David Bittenbender (PNAHA 1st Vice President) [*motioned to adjourn*], seconded by Shirley Williamson (WWFHA). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.