



Minnesota Hockey District 3
Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes
Plymouth Ice Center - Center Ice Meeting Room
February 12th, 2025 @ 8:00PM

	Executive Committee & Associates			Association Reps	
X	Paul Steenerson	District Director	X	Kevin Pote	ACYHA
X	Mark Brandt	President/Scheduling	X	Kristi Duis	Delano Area
X	Michelle Jirik	Administrator		Matt Schadow	Hopkins
X	Josh Hicks	Hockey Operations	X	Mick Mullen	Minneapolis
X	Machel Whitmore	Registrar	X	Mike Walsh	Mound Westonka
X	Kendra Verbeten	Treasurer	X	Gina Hansen	Orono
X	Neil Olson	BHRA President	X	Nick Rice	OMG
	Matt Olsonoski	BHRA Supervisor	X	Rob Anklam	St Louis Park
X	Mike Anderson	BHRA Scheduler	X	Michelle Ugurlu	Wayzata
X	Michelle Jirik	Tourney Coord.			
	Chad Wieneke	HP/Tier 1 Program Dir.			
X	Josh Hicks	Coach-in-Chief		Guests/Alternates Present:	
	Tim Przybyski	Disciplinary Chair	X	Ashley Monseth - Hopkins SUB	
	Todd Sherner	Girls Coordinator			
	Open Position	Membership Devel.			
	Greg Gibson	JGHSL			
	Todd Larson	JGHSL			
X	Andy Treno	Goalie Coordinator			

Call to order TIME: 8:09pm

Approval of Jan 2025 Meeting Minutes

- Time: 8:10pm
- Motion to approve: Mick
- Seconded: Kristi
- Minutes Approved: Yes

District 3 Director Report: MN Hockey Meetings Recap: Mite waivers will NOT be looked at for the 25-26 season again. MN Hockey rule will stand. Parent behavior, coach behavior and players. Please remind your members to work with you first on questions surrounding hockey in general vs. going to MN Hockey as it will just flow back down to me. Please ensure your associations are following the rules and decisions made by the Director, D3 and MN Hockey.

District 3 President Report: District tournaments will start this Saturday. Any questions or issues with trophies and medals please email me. Please look at the brackets for which games will



need to have hardware handed out. Been also getting things in order for the Super Championship Series for March 8th & 9th, 2025. Will be holding a scheduler's meeting on March 11th, to review this past season and plan for next year. If there is anybody that is thinking about being President next year, please let me know because it may be helpful to have this person(s) attend this meeting since the main role of the President is to run the league. There have been 219 game changes this year, of which 108 were to make games back-to-back. There were 27 games rescheduled due to tournament conflicts. Possibly bring up with new director/president during the winter break and shortening the time frame during that winter break.

District 3 Administrator Report: Prepping for the tournament meeting. I will be available via text if there are any questions that should arise during the tournaments so please text me first before emailing. Please add the second Wednesday to your calendars as we would like to have all members of the board present moving forward as we are planning for elections in May. We are still holding our annual banquet on April 9th starting at 6pm but the location is TBD. Looking for a different location with lower costs. Should have that nailed down by the end of this month.

District 3 Registrar Report: Please submit any changes to the mite rosters as needed. I will work on finding a date and time for our end of season meeting registrar soon. Last USA Hockey meeting a notice for a rule for the registrars that if they don't have an email from your association that they need to have one that is for them specifically for the registrar as an email. USA Hockey will be increasing the cost for registration fees for all members.

District 3 Treasurer Report: Financials will be sent out later this week to the board. Thank you to those associations who sent in checks and tournament invoices will be sent out soon.

GameSheet Report: Tournaments are all ready and just need to add seeded teams to the website.

Associates Reports:

Supervisor of Officials: No report.

Coach in Chief: Planning is moving forward for Continuing Education. This will be a large issue next year, as many coaches will be needing 5 credits. Online courses are currently available. We are working with MN Hockey to attach CEU credits to some of the upcoming programs, along with special events. If you have wants or needs for your association, please reach out. We will be able to deliver in person. MN Hockey will be sprinkling in some time to help with this. Level 4 and 5 coaches that were grandfathered in prior to 2020 until you coach a tier 1 team and then will need the continuing education credits and will need to do this by Dec 31st, 2025. Once done you are good for three years and then coaches will need 5 credits for the next 3 three.

Membership and Development: **OPEN POSITION – PLEASE HELP FIND A PERSON FOR THIS POSITION!**

Jr. Gold/JGHSL: There is one JGHSL item that I would ask everyone to think about so we can make a decision at the March 12th D3 Board meeting.



- *District 3 is assigned the JGHSL Playdowns for the 25/26 season. Starting with the 25/26 season JrGold will be a combined Playdowns of all teams at JGA, JGB and JG16 with qualification based on league standings including FPP's.
- *JGA: currently no outstate teams so 12 games (1-Playdown) can be played from Thursday Feb 26, 2026 to Sunday March 1st, 2026
Note: if any outstate teams move up to the JGA level, JGA Playdown will need to play Friday Feb 27, 2026 to Sunday March 1st, 2026
- *JGB has outstate teams so 37 games (3-Playdowns) must be played from Friday Feb 27, 2026 to Sunday March 1st, 2026
- *JG16 has outstate teams so 24 games (2-Playdowns) must be played from Friday Feb 27, 2026 to Sunday March 1st, 2026

Note: potential 2026 JGHSL Playdown brackets are attached using PIC for JGA /JG16 and MGCC for JGB since both have 3 rinks on site. I think this makes the most sense but Playdowns could be spread over other rinks if desired. Times are arbitrary from the MN Hockey standard regional so they would need to be adjusted when rinks are selected.

My ask is that everyone review this so we can have dialogue and make a decision at the Wednesday March 12th D3 Board meeting. I have found that it is better to start early when one is talking about 73 games in total.

Disciplinary Committee: We have the potential for 3 match penalty hearings in the works.

Tier 1/HP Director: -The HP process has begun (e.g. nominations). -Futures Development registrations appear to be lagging some from previous years

Girls Coordinator: Passed along info to Girls Coordinators on the Girls Global Game. February 14-16 is the Girls Global Game. This will be showcasing a girls game every hour from 5:00 pm on the 14th to midnight on the 16th. If you have a game for any association that is being streamed, please sign up in the link below. They are looking for at least one game in each of the 12 USA Hockey Districts. If you have a game that you want to showcase, sign up in the link below. Doug Foster - USA Hockey Girls Council, MN Hockey Girls League Coordinator, Dougfoster48@gmail.com (New). Kendra has signed the 19U Frost Team up! Also shared info from USA Hockey on: "Breaking Down Women's Hockey Collegiate Opportunities & the Diverse Paths to Get There"

<https://sites.google.com/view/ncsa-partner-programs/2025-hockey-workshop-series>

Hockey Operations: Trying to find Coaches for Futures Programming - if you have coaches who may be interested, please pass their name on to me. Held a Hockey Directors meeting 1/21 Thanks to OMG, Westonka, Orono, Minneapolis, Armstrong/Cooper for attending. Discussions included potential clinics for CEU, Goaltending shortages - how to deal with them, Intermediate nets, Student Coaches, and Mite Hockey. Want to encourage Mites to share practices across associations, potential for district programming. Would this be something the board would want to take on or leave at the association levels.

Tournament Coordinator: Mike, Neil and Michelle will set a date for the 2025-26 sanctioned tournament meeting and it will be held in June of this year. We have had many issues this year with tournaments including trying to schedule three games in a day, too early or too



late games for out of town teams and at the younger levels. We would like to get ahead of this and meet earlier in the year so that we can help prepare tournament coordinators to have a successful start to the season and also help with any associations who will host a region or state tournament the coming year. On a different note, I would really like to find someone to shadow the district sanctioned tournament coordinator position. This position reviews the applications that are submitted through MN Hockey registration site and determines if the tournament meets all of the rules. The timeline is mainly from Oct through Jan every year. If you know of anyone that would be interested please reach out. It is always great to have someone that is already on a board but it doesn't have to be either.

Goalie Coordinator: Devenir Goaltenders hosted the 5th and final "Coach the Goalie Coaches" clinic last Sunday. These Zoom clinics were recorded and will be made available to D3 coaches that weren't able to attend live. Would like to post these clinic links on the D3 website under a new goalie section. Who do we work with for this? D3 will get these videos posted and will make sure we have a release from the company to post these videos as well. Association please send this information out to your coaches for helping goalies. Andy Treno from Hopkins Association will be transitioning into the D3 Goalie Coordinator role and is attending this month's meeting. Bring back to your associations to look at 12B1 and PWB1 period levels change from 12 min periods to 15 min periods. This would need to be voted on at the next meeting in March.

D3 Association Representatives:

Armstrong Cooper: Had a super successful PWA and Bantam A tournament this past weekend! Hoping to find EBUGs for our 3 teams that are in need of one for their respective district tournaments. Wishing success for our teams as they enter districts! Excited to host the BA regional at the end of Feb/March! Like D3, we are in need of a lot of new people to take over important roles at AC!

Delano: Preparing for District playoffs. Starting to review this season and considering changes for next season. Ideas brought from our Board - * use the MN Hockey 4 penalty rule and allow the head coach to make the call on whether they bench the player at 3 to prevent the single game suspension. *allow checking (with some guidelines) at the Squirt level when the speed of the game and size of the players is more reasonable so that by the time they get to Bantams, they are better prepared.

Hopkins: Nothing to report - season going smoothly

Minneapolis: The season is running well. Put on "The Great Skate" to celebrate 30 years of women's hockey. This was a fun day where girls and women could come out and skate for a day of celebration. Beginning conversations about teams for next year already.

Mound-Westonka: Getting prepared for PWB2 tournament and end of year jamboree. Fundraising events and year end raffles coming to a head. Successful year for our youth program.

Orono: Board is working on identifying potential candidates for positions that are expiring. A few things we are looking to improve next year but not all: Coach selection process, identifying mite coaches, ways to offset impact of smaller mite program as a result of waivers



(we did about 45 players this year and expect downward trend to continue) and finding more ice to name a few :) I would just like to thank each and every one of you for a great organization. We had a team with an incident a few weeks ago in another district and it becomes so crystal clear that other districts in the state operate very differently and I have to say, not as effectively.

Osseo Maple Grove: Higher amount of Squirt and U10 games ending with the hour clock? For D3 Tournament "Play-in games" does the lowest seed play the #1 seed?

St Louis Park: Dealing with some traveling choices on our girls' side that violated district travel policies. Working through later stage details for the regional tournaments now that our association tournaments are complete. Looking for a status update regarding the regional expansion tournaments. At the January meeting D6 had dropped out and we are wondering if these tournaments will just be the remaining 2 districts?

Wayzata: Andy has resigned from WYHA Board and as the D3 Rep for WYHA. Michelle Ugurlu and Jaclyn Hill will be stepping in for the spring and a new D3 Rep for WYHA will be put into place in May. The USA Hockey National High School Tournament for 2026 will be hosted by WYHA at PIC and the Maple Grove Community Center.

New Business:

- **Orono** - Looking for what other associations do with regard to coaching? Application process? Do you require them to do anything before they apply?
- **SLP** - I would like to start the discussion around expansion of the stipend for the District Director, President, and Treasurer positions. I think we should be prepared to offer up to 3x the current levels to lure qualified candidates into the process. The job descriptions provide a better outline of the expectations, but with greater earning potential we will need to verify candidates can commit to the job requirements. So we will need to build in safeguards such that we can react if the responsibilities are not being met.

Old Business:

Adjourn TIME: 9:26

- Motion to Approve:
- Seconded:

