

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT HOCKEY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 11, 2020
ZOOM**

In Attendance:

Lewis, TC	District	Director
Servaes, Mark	District TX	Director Vice President
Pashkowski, Geoff	District AZ	Director Director at Large
Smith, Kathleen	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary/Treasurer
Clarke, Cosmo	District	Coach-in-Chief
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Thompson, Darla	District	Registrar
Reinhard, Ken	District	Referee-in-Chief
Reckell, Tim	District AZ	High School Section President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Craven, Anda	CO	Registrar
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
Lehto, Shelly	ID	Registrar
Williamson, James	ID	Webmaster
Wenner, Rick	NM	President
Reid, Lucas	TX	President
Nicholson, Jill	TX	Registrar
Brewer, Tonya	TX	Registrar
Radke, Derrick	UT	President
Bonnett, Joe	USA Hockey	ADM Manager
Wright, Kristen	USA Hockey	ADM Manager
Passamonte, Lisa		
Furst, Kate		

Absent:

Absent Corona, Alfredo District Disabled Rep

TC Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM CST. Attendance was taken and a quorum was present to conduct business. (The minutes of the January 16, 2020 and September 4, 2019 have not been approved.)

Elections

Darla Thompson reported that TC Lewis and Mark Servaes were re-elected as Directors. She also noted that Geoff Pashkowski's term would be up the end of this fiscal year.

District Registrar Report

Darla Thompson reported that the first Try Hockey for Free this season will be November 7, 2020 and the second one will be February 12, 2021. She also noted that any registration waiver signed after May 2020 included Covid language. Safe Sport will be required every year. Anyone 17 or older must take safe sport training. USA Hockey has selected NCSI to provide all background screenings as of April 1, 2020. All coaches, officials, board members, employees, volunteers, or anyone that has regular routine access or authority over minors are required to have a background screen before any contact. Screenings are valid for TWO seasons.

Referee-in-Chief Report

Ken Reinhard reported that registration is open and there are 5% fewer than registrations than this time last year. RIC section call last night hoping a huge in rush in late October and November. Clinics are Zoom seminars and not in person. Test is online and not printable, must be taken in one sitting. Do have access to the rule book. Have 7 days to complete once notice is given. If closed book exam is not completed, lever will be dropped back to one.

Coach- in-Chief Report

Cosmo Clarke is the new RMD Coach-in-Chief. The deadline of Dec 31st for temp cards. Clinics are posted online. No in person clinics, all available online. The affiliates have discouraged any temp cards. Affiliates need to encourage their coaches to take the online clinics instead of requesting temp cards.

ADM Report

Joe Bonnett and Kristen Wright with USA Hockey reported that there is a new curriculum for coaching, ADM is taking a big role in the coaching curriculum. The online product has been accepted and rated very high. Another piece is that it takes longer on Zoom than in person, and needing to deploy so many Zoom meetings due to the 50-person cap. So temp cards are offered in case some can't get clinics. Here in the RMD, we do not want any temp card issued. Website now has social distancing drills for practices. Kristen and Heather hosted a girls player development webinar for the Rocky Mountain District. Working on a job description for girls growth and retention personnel. National team players are willing to help in webinars. USA Hockey is still on travel lockdown so they are doing a lot with their local communities.

Risk Manager Report

Kelly Grover reported that the 2020-21 Certificate of Insurance is not available yet. The policy is still being negotiated. There are a lot of COVID related questions and if it is covered. As of September 1, 2020, it will not be covered in the USA Hockey policy.

Affiliate Presidents

Arizona - Tim Reckell Rinks are open, tryouts for Tier I and II are happening. Adults have been playing, but youth haven't been yet. Having their share of COVID cases. Referees are tentative or gung ho, no in between. Must follow rink's protocol. Girls program is going really well and the player count is up from last year. High School registrations are up from 32 to 36 teams.

New Mexico - Rick Wenner Two of their three rinks are operating. Sante Fe is still deciding if they will open this season. Two outside rinks won't know until later in the season. Will try to keep youth associations together with ice time at the rinks that are open. Adults not playing right now. Officials not needed yet.

Colorado – Randy Kanai Tier 1 tryouts are complete, and Tier II will be in the next couple of weeks. COVID has not impacted any attendance at tryouts. Adults are playing. High School will push their

season back a month. Some rinks are still undecided about opening. One rink is up for sale and might shut down permanently. They will not withhold tournament sanctions due to COVID.

Idaho - John Heinrich A few rinks are open. Boise only open for private groups so far. Expect all rinks to open on time.

Utah - Derrick Radke Tier I tryouts were the second week of June and Tier II were a week later. Decent amount of attendance. Still trying to figure out if we have one or two tier II Teams. Rec leagues start Oct 1. Rinks are open depending on the County and COVID restrictions. Hoping for a normal season. Thinking about requiring a travel permit to double check any COVID restrictions. Adult leagues are playing.

Texas – Lucas Reid (had to leave the meeting so Mark Serveas reported.) Tier I tryouts done, Tier II soon. Adult leagues playing and match penalties are following. Youth leagues are playing. Rinks are open and have COVID requirements. Back in action in a different world. Houston anticipates 25% lower house participation. Travel players aren't concerned at all about COVID. Older adults don't think they will come back to hockey.

District Directors

TC Lewis reported that it has been fairly quiet. Youth council is receiving requests to lessen the 10/20 rule and 15 minimum players on a roster rule due to COVID. Youth Council not in favor of changing the game requirements because of COVID and feel that the affiliates will need to deal with it. Affiliates would have to let National know if they can't get their games completed. 2021 Nationals will be held. The locations that were going to be used for 2020 will be used in 2022 except tier women. They need a location.

Mark Serveas working on the nomination committee and joined the adult committee.

Kathleen Smith working with Idaho to update their bylaws. The Idaho Board has been reelected. She worked with Tim on Tier issues in Arizona. USOPC new bylaw requirement to increase athlete participation on the board from 20 to 33%. It will take a lot of work to get this figured out.

Geoff Pashkowski RMD girls' webinar was hosted in early July to replace the girls camp canceled due to COVID. It was a very well-done webinar. It was disappointing to have 48 signed up and only 12 actually signed on to the call. It is posted on the district website. Girls/Women section getting calls scheduled for the season.

RMD Treasurer and Finances

Jill Day reported that COVID has made it so balancing budget was not a problem this year. The District fiscal year ends in June so the budget should be approved in the summer meeting. The committee has not been able to meet to work out the camp accounts yet. We will file the normal 990 post card for under \$50,000 annual income for this year. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to keep the budget for 2020-21 the same as last year. Kathleen Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. It was agreed that the fifty-cent increase to the RMD fee to youth registrations that was approved last year will still go forward.

Policies and Procedures

Geoff Pashkowski reviewed the changes that were submitted for review in January. It was determined that the District Tournament Sanction Fee of \$50 will be postponed for the 2020-21 season and be effective for the 2021-22 season. John Heinrich questioned the rotation of the Tier I district tournament to only Colorado, Arizona, and Texas. They are the only Affiliates with teams in all 4 age divisions, so it rotates between them. There was much discussion about the Host responsibilities for the district tournament and ensuring that officials and district personnel not housed in the same hotel as the teams.

Kathleen Smith made a **MOTION** to approve P&P as presented. Tim Reckell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bylaw Change

The only changes proposed were to shorten the time frame from nomination process to completion of vote to 20 days on District Director elections and to allow it to be done by Zoom conference call. There is an error in numbering on bottom of page 6. Kathleen Smith made a **MOTION** to accept with the numbering change on page 6. Mark Serveas seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District Tournament

Hotel costs in Arizona at time of spring training is a reason not to hold the tournament there. But, since they were approved for 2020, we should have it there in 2021. In 2021, it isn't spring break for the tournament dates. Arizona would like to host it in 2021 but the Association host has not been determined. Mark Serveas made a **MOTION** to have Arizona be the approved tournament location for 2021. Kathleen Smith seconded the motion and it passed with an abstention from Tim Reckell. A poll of participating teams was taken. It is too early to tell for sure with Tier II and girls. COVID may affect the date deadlines of fielding teams. Affiliate tournaments must be complete by Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

Player Development Camps

There is one more year planned to hold the camp in Dallas, Texas and then the venue can change. Arizona State has talked about building a facility that would be a good place to hold the camp. Will have to wait to see if it happens. It was requested that a different Stars facility be used. Tim Reckell made a **MOTION** to have the 2021 camp in Dallas, TX. Mark Serveas seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Other Business

High School National Tournament meeting to be held to determine how teams get into the tournament. Right now, it is first-come, first-serve. Tim Reckell, who sits on the committee, doesn't agree with that. He will let Affiliate Presidents know when he knows.

Geoff Pashkowski made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:24 pm CST. Mark Serveas seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day, Secretary/Treasurer
Rocky Mountain District Hockey