

## **Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council**

Meeting Minutes, Spring 2018

April 14, 2018

River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center, Ishpeming, Michigan

Submitted by Walt Milligan, MAHA District 8 Secretary, May 6, 2018. Revised May 16, 2018 (concerning trophy bids).

### ***Attendance:***

MAHA	Cathy Starrett, D8 Chair Scott Cambensy, D8 Director Al Wakeham, D8 Director Perry Wooden, D8 Director Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officials Michele LaCourt, D8 Registrar Tim McIntosh, D8 Registrar Bob Yohe, MAHA/USA Hockey Registrar
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Calumet	Dan Zubiena
Copper Country	Steve LaCourt
Dickinson	Ben Ryan
Escanaba	Kim Milligan
Iron Range	Mark Menhennick
Iron River	Kaycee Johnson, Tina Brunswick
Ironwood	Jason White
Keweenaw Bay	<b><i>No Representative</i></b>
Manistique	Phil Berger, Nick Bosanic
Marquette	Amanda Beerman, George Belkowski
Munising	John Maki
Ontonagon	Stacey Somero
Sled Hockey UP	Allen Beauchamp
Tahquamenon	<b><i>No Representative</i></b>

Chair Cathy Starrett called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Introductions were made.

**Motion (Zubiena/K. Milligan): Approve minutes from the Fall 2017 meeting. Approved unanimously after corrections to the attendance.**

Starrett presented the Chairperson's Report:

- It was an interesting year. The credentials books were much slimmer due to all the improvements in online procedures, which worked very well, including Intent to Enter, Association Contacts, exceptions, etc. **Only one person per association should declare intent to enter.**

- We hosted 4 state tournaments in a year that we were not on the schedule, due to give-backs by other districts. These tournaments went very well and we got many compliments.
- Several District teams did very well:
  - Team Copper Country are State and National Champions in 18U Tier 2 Division 3A, which is the highest level of competition in 18U AA. This is the second year in a row that they are National Champions. They had several players from the UP outside of the Copper Country this year.
  - Iron Range is State Champion in 18U BB.
  - Marquette Girls 19U mBank is State Champion in Girls 19U Tier 3.
  - Calumet Auto Pro is State Champion in 14U B.
  - Marquette Main Street Pizza is State Runner-Up in 16U B.

Starrett presented the Treasurer's Report:

- No report, several issues with QuickBooks that should be resolved soon. Accounts are in good shape. The Budget Report was submitted to MAHA in January.
- District still needs a Treasurer.

W. Milligan presented the Secretary's Report:

- New electronic procedures for entering District Association Contacts worked extremely well.
- Attendance sheets were circulated.

Yohe and Niemi presented the MAHA and USA Hockey reports:

- A moment of silence was held to honor the victims of the youth hockey team bus crash in Humboldt, SK, Canada.
- Registration numbers were up in the District by 38 players, but down in MAHA by over 2,000 compared to last year.
- Reminder that USA Hockey benefits only cover USA Hockey sponsored events. So, for example, players attending youth development camps at NMU or MTU are not covered by USA Hockey at those events.
- Bob Yohe worked the 18U Tier 2 National Championship in Green Bay and said it was a great event.
- Coaches on Spring and Summer season teams who move up a level must take the appropriate module before any team activities.
- Online registration for next year is already open and is good through 8/31/2019.
- "Quick Change" goalie equipment is available from MAHA in limited quantities.

- Judy Niemi reported that MAHA started a program this year of having officials (referees) make presentations at coaching clinics, and it went very well. USA Hockey noticed this and is considering adding this.

Starrett presented the Coaching Report on behalf of Mike Sands, who was unable to attend.

- Thanks to the associations, there were very few issues this year.
- In addition to the usual coaching clinics, there will be a Level 4 clinic in Marquette on May 19-20, 2018.
- There will be a Level 5 National Symposium in Lake Placid, August 23-26, 2018.
- Age-specific modules must be completed before participating in any team functions or being added to a roster. This includes Spring and Summer teams.
- SafeSport training has been updated. It takes significantly longer to complete.
- Mike requests that associations send him the name, phone and e-mail addresses of their coaching directors.
- Mike is also a MAHA Associate Risk Director, and he can be contacted for help with risk issues (along with Grant Helms at MAHA).

Niemi presented the Official Report on behalf of Eric Froberg, who was unable to attend.

- A big thanks are due to Froberg for a great job at all the State tournaments held in the District this year. Most of the officials were from the District, and there were very few complaints.
- Cambensy noted that 3 officials from Marquette worked National Tournaments this year.

Director-at-Large: No report, Peterson was unable to attend due to winter weather.

Directors and Association District Representatives gave their reports. The following topics of interest were discussed:

- The new electronic procedures seemed to work extremely well. This included registration, volunteering, Intent to Enter, Association Contact info, Exception Requests, etc.
- Participation numbers seem to be stable, but are slightly down for a few associations.
- There were a lot of issues this year with teams having trouble getting the 20 game minimum before February 1 or Districts, whichever comes first. Games against Wisconsin teams do not count. Games against Michigan teams only count if the teams are in the exact same levels. Exception requests are not automatic.
- It came up that associations must have 30% of their players at the 10U or younger levels in order to qualify for MAHA.
- There was an extended discussion of how associations handle concession stand duties and other volunteer activities.

McIntosh discussed the Player Development Camps (formerly Bantam/Midget Festivals). There have been a lot of changes and a lot of new people involved. There was a qualifier scheduled in Marquette April 20-22, 2018 for all of District 8 and the north side of District 7. Numbers were a bit down.

District and State Playoff report:

- Some teams that participated in Districts did not come to credentials check day. Every book that comes to Regionals or Districts must come to credentials check. If they are unable to attend, the book can be sent by mail.

**Motion (S. LaCourt/K. Milligan): A team shall not be eligible to participate in Regional or District tournaments unless the team credentials book has been approved in advance by an authorized representative of District 8 Council. Approved 14-1.**

Wakeham presented the Girls/Women report. We were down to 3 teams in District 8. Numbers are down state-wide.

W. Milligan presented the CUP League report. Season went well. Spring meeting to follow directly after this one.

Wooden presented the Rules Report. Potential rules changes of interest to the District include:

- There is a proposal to reduce the game requirements by February 1 from 20 to 17. This may be voted on at the MAHA Summer Meeting.
- There are 71 other rules changes on the books, either in committee or in proposal form.

Starrett presented the STAR/SafeSport Report.

- STAR program is in flux.
- SafeSport is being run by the Center for SafeSport (USOC).
- The new online SafeSport training is good. It is the same program used by all other sports. It takes longer to complete.
- Reminder that District Council Members must complete a background check, register with USA Hockey as a volunteer, and complete SafeSport training.

Next, a 90 minute discussion occurred, attempting to finalize the procedures for selecting tournament sites. For the last few years, the District Tournament sites have been chosen by new procedures that ensure that each association that wants to host Districts has that chance. These procedures were working very well. However, there was still some controversy and hard feelings concerning selecting sites for MAHA State Tournaments when they are in the District. There were also issues with Regional Tournament sites, and AA tournament sites.

W. Milligan had prepared a proposal that was circulated before the meeting. It is attached to this document at the end. The basic ideas were:

- Start separate priority lists for States and Regionals.
- Award States first. Associations that are awarded States automatically are moved to the bottom of the priority lists for Districts and Regionals for that year. (They do not lose their place in line for future years.) Then award Districts, and again the hosts move to the bottom of the priority list for Regionals for just that year.

The proposal was explained and discussed at length.

**Motion (Menhennick/Wooden): Accept changes proposed in 9/28/17 document (attached). Approved unanimously.**

The proposal had some open issues that were worked through for completeness. A contentious issue was how to construct the first priority list for States.

**Motion (K. Milligan/Maki): Start from scratch. Construct the first States priority list by a blind draw. Approved, 12 yes and 1 abstention.**

The blind draw was held and is attached to this document.

For Regionals, there was a discussion of whether we need two priority lists (for each region) or just one. It was decided that one list would suffice, so the blind draw was held and is attached to this document.

Next, the AA Districts were addressed and discussed at length.

**Motion (Beerman/Zubiena): Hold a 3 association rotation (Calumet, Copper Country, Marquette), with all AA levels together in the same city. Association goes to the bottom of the priority list for the year if it is awarded an AA State Tournament. Approved unanimously.**

Obviously, this required yet another blind draw, which is attached to this document.

**Two important points were agreed upon at the end of the discussion:**

- District Council must approve State Tournament sites; they are not “automatic” based on the priority list. The site must have proper facilities and hotels nearby, for example.
- If an association hosts a state tournament “out of sequence”, by bidding on tournaments that are given back to MAHA by other districts, this is considered a service. Thus, hosting this tournament will not affect the association’s standing in any priority list.

With all the procedures agreed upon, tentative tournament sites were selected for the 2018-2019 season, and these are attached to this document.

Trophy bids were received from American Nameplate, who has been our supplier for many years. No other bids were received. Since we have not received any bids in a number of years and have been happy with American Nameplate, it was agreed that we would stick with them for our trophy business as long as costs remain reasonable and service remains good.

Credentials check day will be January 6 at the Dee in Houghton and Lakeview in Marquette,

The Fall 2018 District Council meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2018, at the River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center in Ishpeming.

**Motion (Wooden/Menhennick): Adjourn. Approved unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm.

**TENTATIVE MAHA 2019 District 8 tournament sites and dates.**

East Region Playdowns (10U, 12U, 14U B)	Manistique	January 11-13, 2019
West Region Playdowns (10U, 12U, 14U B)	Iron River	January 11-13, 2019
10U B Districts	Munising	February 8-10, 2019
10U AA Districts	Marquette	February 1-3, 2019
12U B Districts	Copper Country	February 1-3, 2019
12U AA Districts	Marquette	February 1-3, 2019
14U Districts	Ironwood	February 8-10, 2019
14U AA Districts	Marquette	February 1-3, 2019
18U B and BB Districts	Marquette	February 1-3, 2019
10U B States	Iron Range	TBA
10U AA States	Calumet	TBA

Dates and locations for Regionals and Districts will be finalized at the Fall 2018 District Council meeting on October 20, 2018.

State tournament dates are set by MAHA. Check the MAHA website for updates.

**Bidding for State Tournaments, April 14, 2018**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Iron Range	10U B
Keweenaw Bay	
Ontonagon	
Calumet	10U AA
Manistique	
Tahquamenon	
Copper Country	
Ironwood	
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Marquette	

**Priority List for Next Time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
Ontonagon	
Manistique	
Tahquamenon	
Copper Country	
Ironwood	
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Marquette	
Calumet	
Iron Range	

**Bidding for B/BB District Tournaments, April 14, 2018**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Copper Country	12U
Ontonagon	
Calumet	Got states
Munising	10U
Tahquamenon	
Iron River	
DAHA	
Ironwood	14U
Keweenaw Bay	
Marquette	18U
Escanaba	
Iron Range	Got States
Manistique	

**Priority List for Next Time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Ontonagon	
Calumet	
Tahquamenon	
Iron River	
DAHA	
Keweenaw Bay	
Escanaba	
Iron Range	
Manistique	
Marquette	
Ironwood	
Munising	
Copper Country	

**Rotation for AA District Tournament, April 14, 2018**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Copper Country	Pass
Calumet	Got States
Marquette	Host AA Districts

**Priority List for Next Time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Marquette	

**Bidding for B/BB Regional Tournaments, April 14, 2018**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Iron River	West
DAHA	
Manistique	East
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Keweenaw Bay	
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	

**Priority List for Next Time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Keweenaw Bay	
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Manistique	
Iron River	

## ***Blind Draw for 2018-2019 Regional and District Seeding***

Held at MAHA District 8 Spring Meeting, April 14, 2018

Manistique

Calumet

Marquette

DAHA

Munising

Iron River

Ontonagon

Copper Country

Ironwood

Keweenaw Bay

Tahquamenon

Iron Range

Escanaba

## Proposal to amend the District 8 Tournament Handbook

Walt Milligan  
9/28/2017

The procedures for awarding District Playoff sites based on the priority list seem to be working well. This probably needs to be expanded to include States and Regionals, based on some confusion the last few Spring District meetings. As far as I am concerned, the more procedures we can put publicly on the website for transparency, the happier we will all be.

### Proposal:

Keep 4 priority lists. Associations go to the bottom of the lists after they host a tournament on each list, just as they do now for Districts.

- States
- Districts
- Regionals (West)
- Regionals (East)

### Procedures:

1. Award States first. If District 8 is hosting some state tournaments, award them based on the priority list, association interest, and ability of the city/rink(s) to host a state tournament.
  2. Award Districts second. **Associations that are awarded a state tournament are automatically moved to the bottom of the district priority list for that year only.** This means that they do not lose their spot for next year, but they can only host a State **and** District tournament in the same year if all the other associations pass on Districts.
  3. Award Regionals last. **Associations that are awarded a state or district tournament are automatically moved to the bottom of the regionals priority list for that year only.**
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### Discussion points for District Directors:

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1. I don't know that #3 is necessary, I just threw it in there for consistency. We have 4-6 associations that regularly host regionals and 7-9 that never do. It would not bother me if Iron Mountain, for example, hosted a regional and district.
2. How do we come up with the initial list for states and regionals? Blind draw? Go back X number of years and put people on the bottom based on those years? If so, how many years should X be?
3. Should we open the "can of worms" of who is actually capable of hosting a state tournament?