

New England District Meeting

Annual Congress

June 8, 2018 at 7:00am

Freemont Room

Attendees: Ray St Pierre, Maurice Rosales, Tom Regan, Richard Oliver, Jarry Rasmussen, Mike Hickey, Nate Isham, Dr Alan Asher, Roger Gillies , Keith Barrett, Bobby Rodrigue, Mike Keaney, Larry Rocha, Bill Leidt, Mary Turner, Cheri Bonawitz, Charlie Fortier, Barry Zalcman, Paul Comeau, Ken Charlnoff, Kim Gaines, Jessica Leclerc, Katie Guay, Mike McCullough

Meeting minutes

Motion to accept minutes from April annual meeting by Paul Comeau, second by Jarry Rasmussen.
Approved by all.

RIC

Maurice started the meeting with the Introduction of Barry Zalcman, as the new RIC for New England District.

Safety

Dr Alan Asher, from the Safety and Protective Equipment section requested time to speak to the group. Dr Asher is looking for a program safety director in the NED. Their job would be to continue to promote the Heads Up Don't Duck program. He added that anyone should be able to obtain decals that go on the glass at their rinks. Dr . Asher also requested that we tell our coaches to do a few drills of heads up don't duck during a regular practice – as a reminder. The third request was to pay attention to concussions. As we heard during the Town Hall session, the Pacific District has a program that we can utilize. Teach players how to recognize symptoms of concussion, so they can let the coach know, in case they did not see it happen. Dr Asher did mention that while USA Hockey did not promote the look up line, he believed it was a good idea and would encourage rinks to use it.

Dr Asher thanked the members for their time and asked if we had any questions of him. Jarry Rasmussen asked about neck guards. Dr Asher advised that USA Hockey still has not made them mandatory, and the device is still being designed. None currently on the market are perfect, but better than nothing. New helmets are being designed to have an attenuator in the helmet, to help determine severity of impact, and help to detect concussions.

Development Camps

Bobby Rodrigue, NED Boys Camp Director, reported that numbers for 16/17 camps was strong – 96 players in one group and 97 players in the other camp. His budget projection is for a NET profit of about \$22,000.00 The Select 15 Camp is full, everyone accepted invitation. The Select 14 camp is at 85 already, and should fill. On-line store is doing well with the apparel. We will clear about \$1000.00 to date. Overall, Bobby feels that we will net about \$2000.00.

Bobby advised that the goaltender camp is coming along. He apologized for how it was presented initially. 18 invites sent, 12 agreed to attend (9 boys and 3 girls). Bobby does believe this camp is important for goaltending development. Long term the format will likely change.

Bill Leidt reported on the Girls Development Camps – Select 14/15 - June 24-28 St Anslem 110 players registered - Full. True development camp – with 2 on-ice training a day. Goalies are getting 3 goalie specific sections. Bill reported that this camp is truly dedicated to skill development. With the current budget, Bill anticipates that we should NET about \$9000.00 He added that it is an all-female staff, except for Bill and Bob (goalie instructor).

Tom Regan asked who would be liable for payroll questions for the camps? Bobby Rodrigue advised that it would be his bosses' company.

New England Futures Development Camp

Maurice started the conversation about the mini festival to be held in March 29-31, 2019 to be held in Vermont. The camp would be for Girls 12/13 and Boys 12/13 – 6 teams per age group. Maurice handed out a bare bones budget that showed we could possibly net \$31,000. Players will be rank by state will be divided into 6 teams.

Motion by Jarry Rasmussen and second by Paul Comeau, to move forward with the Select 12/13 camp. Keith Barrett and Ray came up with the agreed upon name: New England Futures Development Camp.

Bill Leidt advised that we should discuss having high end coaches at the camp - we will investigate. The final format is a work in progress

The motion passed with a unanimous vote

Multi-District Girls Camp

Maurice brought up a multi-district girls camp that NED has been involved in for 4 years. Last year, we had to run it and but it turned out to be a financial loss. This year Massachusetts is running it, but they are using our website for registration. This development camp also includes Southeast, New York, and Atlantic. 72 players are invited from the 5 districts. Massachusetts will be running the camp and bills will be running thru them. The camp will be at St Anslem. Bill confirmed that NED is not hosting the camp, we were just helping them out.

Mike Keaney recommended that we go back to last year and prorate the portion of the loss that they were responsible for. Tom Regan believes that Massachusetts and New York will do so.

Coaching Director – Larry Rocha – emailed his annual congress report

The New England District's Coaching Education Program (CEP) continues to strive for improved credibility and performance at clinics. To this end, there were several events that enhanced our clinic:

- District CEP Training in Portsmouth, NH in July 2017. The focus was on Off-Ice Training and being an effective communicator.
- JR Zavisza and Ryan Shannon were added to an already stellar staff in CT. JR and Ryan bring a great deal of hockey knowledge and experience to our clinics.
- Larry Rocha attended eight clinics (4 Level 1, 2 Level 2 and 2 Level 3) to observe and provide feedback to his staff. He was very impressed with the instructors' ability to articulate the direction of USA Hockey and their ability to make the clinics helpful and informative to the coaches attending the clinics.
- Below is the list of clinics held during the past five clinic seasons.

Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 TOTAL

2017 16 clinics – 667 10 clinics – 400 10 clinics – 362 1,429

2016 15 clinics – 628 11 clinics – 419 10 clinics – 345 1,392

2015 14 clinics – 589 10 clinics – 434 10 clinics – 377 1,400

2014 15 clinics – 643 11 clinics – 400 12 clinics – 351 1,394

2013 19 clinics – 829 13 clinics – 441 14 clinics – 464 1,734

- There were 2 Level 4 Clinics in 2017. One in Concord, NH on June 24 – 25 and the other was in Hartford, CT on August 4 – 5.
- The New England District also hosted a High-Performance Workshop for goaltending on October 22, 2017 in Northford, CT.
- On November 4, 2017 the New England District and the Massachusetts District joined together to do a Coaches Symposium for over 500 coaches with the Boston Bruins.
- Looking forward to the 2018 Clinic season there will be several events to continue to provide coaches with the opportunity to improve their coaching and the ability to help their players improve their skills.
- The dates for the 2018 Level 4 Clinics are June 23 – 24 in Concord, NH and August 4 – 5 in Hartford, CT. Both are posted on the USA Hockey website. As of this date there are 119 coaches registered for the Concord, NH clinic and 75 coaches registered for the Hartford, CT clinic.
- The New England District will have their District CEP Training on July 14 – July 15 in Portland, ME. The focus will be on the Mobil App, Off-Ice Training for Level 2 – Level 3, Body Contact/Body Checking, On-Ice portion of Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 clinics and a review of the Level 1 – Level 3 PowerPoint presentations. During this training the plan is to post several clinics for each of the Affiliates.
- The New England District will also plan to conduct several High-Performance Workshops: Goaltending, Body Contact – Body Checking and Off-Ice Training.

In closing, Larry Rocha would like to thank all his CEP instructors for all their hard work and dedication to USA Hockey and the educating of coaches. He would also like to thank the Presidents and Directors of the New England District for their support.

Tournaments

Jarry brought up discussion about having the Girls regionals, moving the tournament from March to November. CT and VT had brought up issues of having it in November. The NED board agreed it will stay in November, as it is with the boys.

Mike McCullough will open the season on Friday, August 17, 2018, so split season teams can get their games in easily. But affiliate can set a date at each affiliate.

The regional roster is set with who you qualify with to get to regionals. The players that are on the team when the team qualifies for regionals are the final roster. Players cannot be added after that point to go to nationals, per Mike McCullough.

Meeting Schedule

Future meeting schedule will stay with in person meetings in September and April. Maurice will come up with proposed schedule. Presidents and Directors will continue to have Summer phone meetings monthly.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:29am and Executive Session began