

Minutes of Midwest Amateur Hockey Association
Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 24 2023

Call to Order. Pursuant to notice distributed by electronic mail and posting on the affiliate web site, the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Shawn Spencer at 11:15 am.

Agenda. President Spencer presented the agenda, previously distributed electronically. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

Roll Call.

Secretary Westendorf confirmed attendance by the Directors:

Iowa

IAD1001 Quad City Sled	Will Rebman*
IADnnnn Siouxland Sled	Duane Duden*
IAH0117 Mason City	Brandon Keeling*
IAH0118 Sioux Center	Brent Suing*
IAH0119 Cedar Rapids	Dustin Timm*
IAH0120 Lakes Area	Scott Braddum*
IAH0126 Dubuque	Eric Trausch*, 2 nd director not present
IAH0136 Des Moines Youth	Monica Hoff*, Lacey Schiesl*, Erin Finke*
IAH0138 Waterloo	Mike Wirtjes*, Justin Metcalf*
IAH0139 Siouxland (S. City)	Honore Pittenger*, Jody McCormick*
IAH0143 Ames	Tim Lillwitz*
IAH0144 Iowa Wild AAA	Ryan Bennett*
IAH0160 Iowa City Youth	Molly Rose*
IAH0162 Quad Cities	Michelle Arndt*, Rich Oswald*

Kansas/Missouri

KSH0128 KC Youth	Curt Jacey*, Jason Wood*, Dan Carier*
KSH0132 Wichita Youth	Michelle Gifford*
KS0133 Independence Adult	No Director Present.
NoNmbr Nebraska Warriors	No Director Present
KS0134 Northland (Adult)	No Director Present
KSH0135 Wichita Adult	No Director Present
KSH0139 KC Womens Hockey League	No Director Present
KSH0138 KCIC Adult	Mary Helmick*, Carolyn Maddox*, Rick Murcek*

Nebraska

NEH0002 Lincoln
NEH0013 Lincoln Stars AAA
NEH0004 Tri City Youth
NEH0005 Fremont
NEH0133 Omaha AAA
NEH0134 Omaha

Eric Alexander*, Nathan Henke*, Mike Todd
Nate Weossner*
Amy Nelson*
Warren Peters*
David Wilke*.
Matt Moragues*, Bryan Knaus*, Spencer
Volzke*

Notes:

**= Director

Officers & Staff

Voting (The Executive Committee):

President	Shawn Spencer
VP Compliance	Todd Larsen
VP SafeSport	Doug Dorley
VP National Bound	Mike Dudzinski
Treasurer	Not Present
Secretary	Melody Westendorf
MHSHL President	Todd Scebold

The President noted that a quorum of 43 directors is present.

Non Voting:

Past President	Les Teplicky
Past President	Ted Ohmart
Registrar	Jason Sheehy
Web	Mary Helmick
Player Development	Doug Dietz

President Shawn advised for the record that all youth associations are compliant and thus eligible to vote. He also attested that all youth association Directors present and answering the call are certified in accordance with the MWAHA Bylaws.

President's Comments. President Shawn expressed appreciation and emphasized the need for time management given the lengthy agenda and number of proposals to be voted on.

Minutes.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held June 23, 2022 were reviewed.

Motion by VP Scebold, 2nd Dan Carier (KCYHA)

That the minutes be approved as distributed.

Passed by acclamation.

Elections.

President Shawn opened the election of 'odd year officers'. In the normal rotation of Executive Committee positions, Vice President-Compliance, Vice President-Growth and the Treasurer were up for election. Mary Helmick served as clerk of the election. The Incumbents Mike Dudzinski and Mike Hurd noted their desire to continue to serve. Vice President-Compliance had no candidates from the floor, with Todd Scebold put forth as the Executive Council candidate. No other nominations being forthcoming, President Spencer asked for any opposition. Voting commenced.

Motion by Les Teplicky, 2nd by Eric Trausch (DYHA)
Mike Dudzinski, Mike Hurd, and Todd Scebold be elected
Approved by acclamation

Positions begin July 1st, 2023

President's State of the Association and USAH Summer Congress President Spencer reported the USAH Summer congress occurred two weeks prior in Denver, Colorado. Additionally, in 2022 disabled hockey has been another area identified as a growth initiative, with the move to referencing it as "Adaptive Hockey" in the future. Directors were notified that several volunteer positions need to be filled and advised he has candidates for RIC, Girls Director, Adult Director, and Adaptive Hockey. Many will be run as committees to lessen the burden on the individuals.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mike Hurd submitted the financial report, which was distributed prior to the meeting.

Motion by Todd Scebold to approve, 2nd by Todd Larsen
Approved with no dissention. Budget attached.

1st Proposal-Ratification of Residency Definition

Ratification to determine residency within the affiliate as youth players with at least 1 parent or 1 legal guardian residing within the boundaries of the Affiliate.

Motion to Ratify by Dustin Timm (Cedar Rapids), 2nd Mike Todd (Lincoln)

Discussion: Friendly amendment proposal to add the criteria of brick and mortar school attendance. The language would read "*...or attendance at an accredited brick and mortar school, not online, within the affiliate through the 2024-2025 playing season.*"

Motion to add amendment to the proposal by Dave Wilke (Omaha AAA), 2nd by Eric Weossner (Lincoln AAA).

Discussion was lively, lasting approximately 20 minutes.

Motion to Add Amendment-Approved

Discussion: Friendly amendment proposal to add the criteria to include accredited online school. The language would read "*...or attendance at an accredited brick and mortar school, including online, within the affiliate through the 2024-2025 playing season.*"

Motion to add 2nd amendment to the proposal by Eric Weossner (Lincoln AAA), 2nd by Dave Wilke (Omaha AAA)

Discussion with several comments related to the change taking us back to what exists currently.

Motion to Add 2nd Amendment-Failed

**Call for Vote on Proposal with First Friendly Amendment
Motion-Approved As Amended**

2nd Proposal-Ratification of 40% affiliate policy for 2023-2024 playing year

Affiliate rule that each Tier 1 team must consist of 40% of affiliate residents for the 2023-2024 playing year. The proposal was submitted by the Tier 1 committee and came from working with the Tier 1 associations.

Motion to approve Dave Wilke (Omaha AAA), 2nd by VP Larsen

Discussion

Motion-Approved

3rd Proposal-Officer Residency Requirement

Provide clarification and specific language that anyone serving on the Executive Council or the Board of Directors must live within the Affiliate. This has been the regular practice but has not been specified. Approval requires a Super Majority vote.

Motion to approve VP Larsen, 2nd VP Scebold

Discussion None

Motion-Approved with Super Majority

4th Proposal-Kansas City Hockey Club Request for Association Status (Youth)

Youth association seeks USA Hockey association status in the Kansas City area. The rink is in the process of being built and the development is called BluHawk and is expected to be available in August 2024. This association is intending to serve the Southern portion of the Kansas City metro area and is approximately 20 miles from KCIC, the next closest rink. They intend to serve those not currently involved in hockey due to driving distances. Presentation was provided.

Motion to approve Dustin Timm (Cedar Rapids), 2nd Eric Trausch (Dubuque)

Discussion KCYHA did not support the addition and felt they could serve the needs of the area. Several other comments and opinions were shared with reference to the first presentation at the annual meeting of 2019, which did NOT include any requests for an association.

Motion-Failed

5th Proposal-Mid-American Hockey Association Request for Association Status

Association in Independence, MO seeks USA Hockey association status within the affiliate, which would be a reinstatement of independent status from KCYHA. Previously the association was stand alone, but

with the consolidation of all youth hockey under the KCYHA banner 2016, the association was folded into the larger collection. This was presented by the MAHA board President and another interested party.

Motion to approve Dustin Timm (Cedar Rapids), 2nd VP Scebold

Discussion KCYHA President stated the desire to keep the association within KCYHA (denying the request for association status) and work over the next 6 months to correct the issues that exist between MAHA and KCYHA. MWAHA VP Larsen and President Spencer spent many months working toward the split as the KCYHA board was initially in support of the change. A vote less than 7 days prior to the Annual Meeting by the KCYHA voted down supporting the split. KCYHA President was clear that the board was split and that they would support whatever decision was made. Many questions were posed and answered.

Motion-Approved

6th Proposal-Iowa Renegades Hockey Association Request for Association Status

Proposal to receive USA Hockey association status based on the difficulty of getting AAU games beyond the mite level. Renegades presented information about the approach to success and skills-based learning models. Several players were involved in the Bricks series as a show of development. The proposal had been in front of the board at the annual meeting in 2022.

Motion to approve Matt Moragues (Omaha), 2nd Scott Braddum (Lakes)

Discussion Much spirited debate including skills-based development, full ice mite hockey, Illinois/Michigan models of success, AAU programs and limitations,

Motion-Fails

7th Proposal-Declaration of Des Moines Area as the home of all Affiliate State Tournaments

Declare Des Moines area as the home of affiliate championships/state tournaments for the MHL including Travel, Select and Girls. Based on the geographic spread of the affiliate, Des Moines serves as the most centralized location with all associations able to reach it in under 6 hours. The intention is to increase participation.

Motion to approve Secretary Westendorf, 2nd VP Larsen

Discussion Concerns about not having the girls tournament in Kansas City and not offering other rinks the opportunity to host tournaments.

Motion-Approved by Hand Count

8th Proposal-Require MHL Participation

Proposal would require any association with more than 2 teams at an age level to have at least one of the teams declare/participate in the MHL. The participation may be at any level or in any division for the corresponding age group. Those with only 1 team at an age group would be optional for participation.

Motion to approve Scott Braddum (Lakes), 2nd Tim Lillwitz (Ames)

Discussion Clarification sought on house league and how it would apply. House league teams would not be included in the team count. However select and travel (A, B, or C) would all be subject to the team count.

Motion-Approved

9th Proposal-Kansas City Adult League Association Request for Association

Status

Not originally on the electronically sent agenda, the association had submitted their request in time but it was caught up in VP Larsen's email due to travel and work commitments. This proposal was supported by the other adult league in Kansas City and is offering a drop in style of league play versus rostered teams.

Motion to approve Dan Carier (KCYHA), 2nd Matt Moragues (Omaha)

Discussion None

Motion-Approved

Midwest High School Hockey League Report

Todd Scebold reported the JV and Varsity state champions and advised the new high school league president would be taking over July 1st, 2023.

Goaltending Report

Written report

MHL Report

Mary Helmick reported on behalf of Scott Long. Participation was strong and growing.

SafeSport Report

Doug Dorley encouraged associations to reach out to him as soon as there are potential issues for notification purposes to the USCSS and USA Hockey.

Girls Hockey Report

Jade Pospeshil provide written report which will be sent to directors after the meeting. New Director candidate will likely be placed soon with one person interested.

Player Safety Report

Burke Lake referenced training and reporting concussions for the upcoming season.

Website Report

Mary Helmick reported the need for updating the website with new association board members.

Referee in Chief

No report but a candidate is being considered.

Showcase Team

Written report

Player Development

Doug Dietz reported on the MWAHA tryouts for the Central District Bantam camp. Advised everyone of the coaches clinic for Continuing Education Credit held later that day and into Sunday. If successful, hope to repeat it annually. Looking for Coaching Directors (CD's) to help with clinics and an Affiliate Coaching Director to lead the effort.

Registrar

Provided information in breakout session

New Business

Melody Westendorf is serving on the newly formed USA Hockey Membership Council as the representative for the Central District. She provided a verbal report on affiliate growth. All associations were advised of the goal to grow by 1% each year. Offer to help any associations struggling with numbers for players, volunteers, and coaches.

Change in Directors for the 2023-2024 annual meeting were announced. Association with changes are Cedar Rapids-2 directors (+1), Waterloo-1 director (-1), Siouxland youth-1 director (-1), Northland Hockey League-2 directors (+1), Wichita Adult League-1 director (-1), Fremont-2 directors (+1). Number in parenthesis indicates the number lost or gained. The total affiliate stands at 45 directors with 7 executive council board members for a total of 52 voting Directors for the 2023-2024 playing season and annual meeting June 2024.

Next Meeting. In accordance with Bylaws, President Spencer announced the next annual meetings will likely be held after Summer Congress 2024 on June 22, 2024.

Closing Remarks

President Spencer expressed gratitude for all volunteers.

Adjournment. Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melody Westendorf 563-676-9395