

**MINNESOTA HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
FALL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2000 BEMIDJI, MN.**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35a.m.

Meeting Roll Call

Present

President	Skip Trumble
Treasurer	Tim Przybylski
TC District	Dennis Alm
District 2	Jim Partlow
District 3	Darrell Gedney
District 5 - Secretary	Roger Stephens
District 6	Dave Kemp
District 8	Scott Geib (Present for Paul Moen)
District 10 - South Vice President	Eric Olson
District 11 - North Vice President	Steve Tatro
District IR	Jeff Walters
District 15	Howard Breikreutz
District 16	Buzz Olson
Immediate Past President	Ted Olson
Minnkota Referee-in-Chief	Bill Leslie
Minnkota Evaluation Coordinator	Bruce Carlson
Minnkota Seminar Coordinator	Corky Jechorek

Secretary's Report - Roger Stephens

A motion was made to accept the Secretary's Report by Jim Partlow, and seconded by Steve Tatro. Motion unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report - Tim Przybylski

Tim reviewed the reimbursement fees for instructors working the USA Hockey Seminars, and reminded everyone there was no minimum travel required. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Jeff Walters, and seconded by Jim Partlow. The motion was unanimously approved.

President's Report - Skip Trumble

Jr. League is having problem with the Kodiak Team, and they are currently under suspension. Everyone should be aware of this regarding officiating, if they were to call looking for officials to work there games. Minnesota Hockey will be reviewing the situation at hand and decide what action should be taken.

Skip informed the board, he will be definitely stepping down at the end of his term. Under the by-laws, Ted Olson will be the Chairman on the nomination committee to work on the process of finding a replacement. Skip also appointed Jim Partlow, Steve Tatro, and Corky Jechorek to serve on the nominating committee.

Supervisor's Report

District 2 - Jim has quite a few inquiries regarding becoming an official from persons under the age of 15. He has relayed a message to parents of these prospects, there are no guaranteed game assignments of games for traveling teams, and referred to the possibility of some games available for house league. Jim will be attending the Jr. Gold coaches meeting this fall. Their district has adopted the rule of any player receiving 3 penalties in 1 game would get an automatic game misconduct. Please relay this to your district people regarding this rule for tournaments held in their district. All invitational tournaments with a 1-1/2 hour time limit will only be allowed 12-minute stop time periods with 1 resurface.

District 3 - John Sparling was elected their new president of their referee's association. They now also have an assistant supervisor who is Dave Margenau. Dave will also take over the scheduling of the house leagues in their district. Darrell said they would definitely be stressing the zero tolerance policy to referees at the officials meetings, and seminars. Darrell will be attending their district coaches meeting this fall. They will now start putting evaluators on the ice with their new officials this year. Their district will also start designating a lead referee to handle all situations on the ice regarding rule interpretations, and game calls with the head coaches only, in games with new officials.

TC District - Dennis isn't sure how many officials they will have at this point. Dennis will probably need some help getting referees for a few tournaments scheduled on the weekend of November 15, 16, & 17th this year. They will have about 120 games all going on at the same time. Richfield will be playing in their Bantam A league this year from District 6. It is understood at this time; those games will be worked with officials from the TC District. Their district will be hosting the Pee Wee A State Tournament this year.

District 4 - No Report

District 5 - Zero tolerance has already been stressed this year at their district meetings from their District Director, and Coach-in-Chief. The district will monitor coaches getting game misconduct's, and could face possible suspensions. Has asked their district schedule more games together to keep senior officials on the ice, and to work closer with the newer officials. Will have a little bit of money to compensate evaluators to work with and mentor younger officials. The district has discussed eliminating the gathering of players in front of the net for the 2nd, and 3rd periods to get games to finish on time.

District 6 - Would like to get a final copy of the MHOA paid members from last season. This way Dave can collect dues owed before any officials work any games this year. Dave has asked their grievance committee to look at implementing a minimum guideline for certain penalties this year. Have moved Bantam A games to 1-1/2 hours, Pee Wee A & Bantam B games to 1-1/4 hours. The Richfield Bantam A Team will be included in their district play-offs after concluding their league schedule with the TC District. All of their district business will be conducted by e-mail this year. They will have people appointed to supervise games in their district this year with regards to fans. At this time they will not be having any district crossover league games for their Bantam A teams. Dave has had 23 inquiries from people interested in officiating this year. The web site www.stickstats.com has included information on becoming a hockey official. District 6 has a 5-minute warm-up period for their games, with a courtesy whistle at the 4-minute mark letting teams know they need to be ready to play at the end of 5 minutes. If any team is not ready to play at that time they are assessed a bench minor penalty. This rule was enforced, and worked very well last year. They are working to get their most of their games scheduled back to back to help with scheduling for referees. They will be having only 1 person to schedule all of their league games, scrimmages, and tournaments this year. This is mostly taken care of by the Internet, which posts their games weekly for officials to request, and to look up their schedules. They have had response cards available for coaches to fill out regarding referee problems in the past, and now will also have them available for referees to fill out for problem coaches as well.

District 8 - Scott Geib reported on behalf of Paul Moen, they have lost 9 officials to the St. Paul High School Association. There is a concern regarding MHOA Camp developing officials then losing them to the high school associations. They have set a minimum age of 15 years old for anyone to work traveling games.

District 10 - Their district will have a web site this year. It is, www.district10hockey.org. Eric will be conducting 6 seminars this fall. They have also volunteered to conduct a late seminar this fall, which is not on the schedule. Looking at Dec. 2, 2000 at Blaine, starting at 8:00 a.m., and ending at 2:00 p.m., and will be Classroom only. Have some area's getting close to starting new hockey associations.

District 11 - Number of officials are a concern for Steve at this point. Will be taking an aggressive approach regarding recruiting by handing out information at player registrations. They will also be talking to high school, and college coaches about asking their players to become officials as well. Discussed using e-mail to get game reports to supervisors involving players, and coaches outside their respective districts. They have a game report form available on their District 11 web site. Going to www.nehoa.com can access it. They will also be conducting 1 combined seminar for level 3 & 4 referees with the Wisconsin Central District. Their local association will be buying insurance for their board members, and schedulers this year. Steve proposed the question, if our MHOA board needs to look into this as well?

District 15 - Morris will be hosting a Bantam B regional. Moorhead will be hosting their district Bantam A Tourney. They will be having 4 seminars. Will need some help getting instructors for their seminars. Their local Hockey Associations are buying liability insurance, and Howard is wondering if their schedulers should be registered as an affiliate official if they are not registered referees, or on-ice officials?

District 1R - Jeff figures there district has about the same number of officials each year, but will average about 30-40 new ones each year. They will allow officials at the age of 12 to start officiating. They seem to retain the older official pretty good as of now. They will work there new official with they older ones when scheduling.

District 16 - Buzz had a concern regarding his seminar being held the same weekend as the Minnesota Hockey, and MHOA State Meetings this fall. Didn't realize they were always held on the same weekend each fall. Buzz will also have 2 more scheduled seminars, and possibly another 2 seminars he hasn't scheduled yet.

OLD BUSINESS

MHOA Camp

Had problem with one official leaving camp early, but otherwise the camp went very well. This was the first camp attended by a women official. The 4 instructors this year were Steve Tatro, Brian Thul, J.B. Olson, and Brett Koslowski. Skip was there to help part time as well. One of the comments made by participants is, having a schedule of events ahead of time. Camp dates for next year will be June 16-22, 2001. Will take the first 12 people approved when applying for this next year. Scott reported for Paul, saying the officials should participate in some way at the dinners for next year.

State Tournaments

Eric proposed the idea of assigning another District Supervisor or Board Member to act as an assistant to each of the Host Supervisors. They would assist with evaluations, and selections of the crews for games on Sunday. This idea was recommended, not mandatory. This was well received by all, and was decided to give it a 1-year trial.

Crews can be split up to work with other district crews for Saturday, and Sunday. This was done at the Bantam A State Tournament last year, and well received by the other visiting Supervisors, and crews. All Supervisors should make sure you prepare your selected officials for this possibility.

This will be 2nd year of a 3-year agreement regarding game fees proposed to Minnesota Hockey last year.

The State Tournament hosts are listed as follows, along with the district on-ice official's rotation:

- **Pewee A** - District TC, District 2, District 8, & District 10
(Host Supervisor - Dennis Alm, Asst. - Jim Partlow)
- **Bantam A** - District 5, District 4, District 15, District 1R
(Host Supervisor - Roger Stephens, Asst. - Jeff Walters)
- **Jr. Gold A** - District 3, District 6, District 11, & District 16)
(Host Supervisor - Darrell Gedney, Asst. - Steve Tatro)
- **Girls 15 & Under** - District 8
(Host Supervisor - Paul Moen, Asst. - Dave Kemp)
- **Girls 12 & Under** - District 10
(Host Supervisor - Eric Olson, Asst. - Ted Olson)

Note - Paul made mention to all other District Supervisors to submit names of women officials qualified to work the Girls 15 & Under State Tournament. They are to give him there names, addresses, and phone numbers so he can reach them.

Motion by Jim Partlow, and seconded by Scott Geib to reimburse officials who turn in their receipts up to the \$40.00 per diem for the weekend, instead of the flat rate of \$40.00. After discussion, Motion for = 3, Motion against = 13.

Select Tournaments

Skip would like to have the names of all officials selected to work the Select Tournaments in by the 15th of February, so he can get schedules worked out as quickly as possible and sent back to the participating districts.

MINNESOTA HOCKEY - Bill Gable & Tim Sweezo

Bill & Tim asked how we could follow-up on the checking of certification of coaches. They asked if we could have the coaches names put on the score sheets along with their certification numbers. In the case of a game misconduct's given to a head coach, the assistant coach would then have to produce their certification card & number or the game would be immediately suspended. Bill & Tim will out checking invitational tournaments at the beginning of the season to check on coaches certificates.

Bill & Tim also asked about the fees for the State Tournaments for this next season. The fees would stay the same as last year.

NEW BUSINESS

New Line of Enforcement

We need to get the word out to all of our officials to get tougher on the penalties regarding stick penalties, holding, zero tolerance, and roughing. This was introduced and endorsed by Minnesota Hockey. **Each District Supervisor needs to make sure this is gone over at all the seminars this fall, make copies of the outline, and handed out to each official attending these seminars.** We should follow-up and get these out to the appropriate people so that the coaches receive this as well. We need to give our linesmen more latitude to inform the referees about these penalties as well.

Stop Sign Patches

All players in the checking classification from Peewee's to the Jr. Gold's will be required to have these patches attached to their hockey jerseys.

Retention of Officials

We need to make a concentrated effort to have senior officials working with our younger officials, and that they take care of on-ice rule interpretations, and discrepancies with the head coaches of the teams playing.

Data Base Coordinator

Steve will start sending out all registration data by computer disk this season. Steve will no longer be running the list of registered officials on paper, as this takes too much time & money. This will be copied as a dbf file and will be able to be run by our PCF7 program or by Microsoft Excel.

Regional Tournaments

Motion by Ted, and seconded by Steve Tatro for all Regional Tournaments not to exceed the State Tournament Fees. Motion passed.

Motion by Ted, and seconded by Dennis to have flowers sent to Lynn Olson (mother), and John Carter (father) in memory of their parents.

Discussion on whether or not we should have liability insurance coverage for our Board Members, Local Associations, and Referee Schedulers. Bill didn't think at this time we would if everyone involved was a USA Registered Official, and we would be covered by USA Hockey's policy.

Minnkota Referee-in-Chief - Bill Leslie

Girls National Tournament - This will be held April 4-8, 2001. There will be 109 games played at all levels of competition. These games will be played at Blaine, and 1 day scheduled for Columbia Arena. Matt Leaf will be bringing in 12 officials to work the tournament, and Bill will select another 12 officials to work this tournament as well. Bill will be looking for some new women officials who would be qualified to work this tournament. These officials will be working all the different levels of competition. These games will be going on at that same time as the World games. The officials will be working 2-3 games a day. Bill would like the names of qualified candidates by January 1, 2001.

Seminar Registration Forms - The blue registration forms are for officials who did not register, or work in the Minnkota District last year. Bill mentioned that he had USA Hockey Seminar Registration Forms, USA Hockey Annual Guides, and Off-Ice Manuals for everyone in his vehicle to pick up after the meeting.

Let your officials know to stay away from the media regarding particular situations, which have occurred during the year involving them and certain incidents. Have them contact an attorney who may be able to inform them of their rights of they should do or talk about.

The IRS will be starting to look at officials who do not report their income from officiating.

Next season there will be a closed book test for level 2 officials to pass to be registered as a level 2 referee.

USA Hockey Seminars - Bill reminded all Supervisors to go over the policies, and guidelines at all of our seminars this fall regarding the breaking up of altercations set forth by USA Hockey.

Chet Stewart Award - This is a new award given annually starting this year. Chet was a pioneer in the field of officiating, and had done allot of good things for the game of hockey.

We had a good year regarding referee camps this year with our people going to these camps. The following is a breakdown on Minnesota Referees.

Minnesota Referees selected to following camps:

National Camp = 2, Select Camp = 2, Regional Camp = 6, Instructors Camp = 9,
Advance Instructors Camp = 2, Women's Camps = 2

Minnesota Referees - Where are they for this season.

Brian Mock - Received a contract for 72 games in the NHL.

Brian Thul - Assigned to the East Coast League.

Andy Nelson - Assigned to the Central & Western League.

Brad Albers - Assigned to the Central League.

Mike Hiechert - Assigned to the CHL.

Brett Koslowski - Assigned to the United League.

Aaron Lundbohm - Assigned to the East Coast League

Minnkota District Officiating Seminar - Was held September 8-10th at the Plymouth Ice Center. There were 59 officials who were signed up, and there was 5 no shows. Bill said they probably turned away 30-40 officials. Bill was very happy with the facilities at Plymouth for both the on & off-ice sessions. The fee for using the Plymouth Ice Center was \$1400.00 Bill asked if this could be something in which MHOA could offer to our officials. After discussion, it was decided for the amount of fees collected from the participants, and the cost to hold a seminar of this nature, that MHOA did not have the funds to provide this type of a seminar. Skip appointed Bill, Eric, & Steve to a committee to put together a proposal, to apply for grant money for this educational program.

Referee Retention - Last year we registered 25 more officials from last year over the 1998-99 season for a total of 2283 registered officials. 89% of these officials actually completed their registration fully.

USA Hockey Seminars - Corky Jechorek

Corky went over the New Line of Enforcement that should be stressed in detail regarding holding, roughing, and the stick penalties for this upcoming season. Corky also made a point to remind us, to review the procedure outlined by USA Hockey for intervening in a altercation, and the zero tolerance policy. If anyone should have any questions or concerns, they should feel free to call him.

Evaluations - Bruce Carlson

We ended up with 906 total evaluations last season. It was not a good total, and we need to make a better-concentrated effort to improve in this area for the upcoming season. Some districts didn't hand in evaluations at all. This is unacceptable! Bruce will only accept the top copy of the evaluation forms, not copies. He reminded us, it is not necessary to complete every item on the evaluation form, as some games may not allow us to cover those areas, and we should just leave them blank. Bruce would like us to get these evaluations to him by the 20th of each month so he can get his reports into USA Hockey in a timely fashion. His goals set for us all, would be to get 50% of our officials evaluated for the season. Remind your evaluators, they will get a USA Hockey clipboard for doing 25 evaluations. It's is our responsibility as supervisors to set up, and implement this program. Let's all make a concentrated effort to help Bruce meet his goals. Remember it is a requirement to have an evaluation done on the officials you select to work the State Tournaments. If you can't do that, then maybe your district shouldn't be represented!

Skip handed out Minnesota Hockey books, and the Minnesota Hockey Screening Forms to be handed out at the USA Hockey Seminars for this fall. MHOA Camp Letters, and Applications were also handed out. Make sure these applications get out to your officials as soon as possible so we can fill our camp with 12 applicants.

With no further business, Jeff Walters made a motion to adjourn, and was seconded by Dave Kemp. The motion was unanimously accepted. 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roger Stephens
MHOA Secretary