

AHAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 8, 2003

The following were present at the meeting: Bob Mathson, Pete Humann, Fred Lopez, Kevin Bolger, Bill Gomolinski, Rich Becker, Bruce Meckler, Paul Jakubowski, John Dunne, Mark Shutan, Jim McGlynn, Ken Michel, Don Allord, Dave LaBuda.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Mathson at 7:05 pm. The minutes from the June and August meetings were unanimously approved.

We need to get the up to date Blue Puck information on the website as quickly as possible: Any home team not using the Blue Puck will have its coaches written up with an Incident Report and called before the Rules & Ethics committee. If the visiting team has a blue puck it can be used and the game played. The Incident Report is only done if the game is played without the Blue Puck. There was a motion to leave the Blue Puck Rule as is. It was seconded and unanimously passed.

Treasurers Report

Since Mike Mullally was unable to make the meeting President Mathson distributed and went over the Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison as well as grants of \$27,000 from last years G.R.O.W. program. The report was unanimously approved.

Registrars Report

Bob Mathson distributed and discussed Holly Spiegel's report. There are currently 917 teams registered with AHAI and USA for the 2003-2004 season.

Committee Reports

House League

Several house associations have advertised or expressed interest in offering an enhanced program to keep their kids in their house programs. New players are not coming in right now and they need players to have their programs survive. Depending on how this is conducted it might run afoul of AHAI's house league rules. The biggest problem is bringing the cost of house league down to a more affordable level.

High School

There are quite a few applications for combined teams. Many are still not sure they will survive, or how they will be organized if they do survive. Metro Northwest is down and in a position of some concern. The deadline for all this is October 15.

Tier II

There is an unsubstantiated rumor that Pekin has folded and their teams and players are being absorbed by Peoria. This will be investigated by this committee tomorrow. The Committee has corresponded with 21 players to date. Only one has received a substitution (Mig/Maj Goalie).

Women's

The calendar on the website needs to be updated to reflect that the Women's State Championships will be the weekend of March 5-6, 2004 and the Central District Championships for Women need to be changed to March 12-14, 2004. The Women's Committee has already had its first meeting of the year and it has doubled in size from last year.

Girls

There is a GROW application pending now from Glacier. The switch to the August 15 tryout dates was a tremendous success. We may need to look at moving it back a week because there were many complaints about cutting vacations short. The clubs who used to have tryouts in May can no longer tie the girls up at the expense of other organizations. The clubs that are offering a developmental program are keeping their girls due to this important change.

Coaching – John Dunne

The CEP Clinics are filling up and the online registration process is working well. USA has instituted an online recertification for coaches and AHAI is directing coaches in need of recertification to that site. One item noted about the site is that there is no AHAI content and there is no Rule Change video on the site.

Rules & Ethics - Bruce Meckler

Fee collections are the only issues before the committee right now.

Junior – Jim McGlynn

College Night will again be at the Marriott O'Hare Hotel on October 13, 2003. Jeff Sauer, former Head Coach at Wisconsin, Andy Newell, the Head Coach at Choate and Tom Wendlandt, Head Coach at Robert Morris College will be speakers. The NAHL & America West Junior League has merged and they will be on probation this year. The Junior A Showcase will be in Blaine, MN in October this year and the US Junior Team will be selected from this for the Viking Cup to be played at Christmastime.

Suspension – Mark Shutan

There are several pending cases before the committee. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Tier I.

Mark Shutan speaking on behalf of Tier I chairperson Norm Spiegel said that the Tier I Committee recommended the late addition of 3 players to the Chill. This was discussed and a motion to do so was passed.

IHOA – Don Allord

Don went over the rule changes for this season including the instant offside and the 5 second face off rule.

Old Business

The Central District Meeting will be held on September 20, 2003 at the Edge in Bensenville. Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois will be in attendance.

The next meeting will be on Monday, October 6, 2003. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Jakubowski
Recording Secretary