

AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION ILLINOIS, Inc.

*"Dedicated to the development of today's youth
through Athletic and Academic excellence."*

Visit Us on the Web: www.ahai.org



AHAI Annual Meeting June 2, 2002 (Revised as Amended)

The following were present at the meeting: Rich Becker, Dick Glass, Mike Lebarre, Fred Lopez, Bob Mathson, Ken Michel, Mike Mullally, Lisa Olsen, Maddy Rossobillo, Bob Saliba, Mark Shutan, Jim Smith, Norm Spiegel and Sarah Tueting.

The following were not present at the meeting: Don Allord, Jay Cohen, Cindy Fujii, Pete Humann, Jim McGlynn and Dennis O'Malley.

The meeting was called to order at 9:25am by President Bob Mathson.

President's Report – Bob Mathson

A moment of silence in remembrance of all those we have lost this past year. It was announced that Jim Smith is the ONLY AHAI Compensated Vendor and Holly Spiegel is the ONLY AHAI Compensated Employee. Newly appointed AHAI Director Sarah Tueting was introduced and Holly Spiegel was thanked for her diligent work as AHAI Registrar. Congratulations to "Sully" for receiving the 2002 Terry Beacom Award, Coaching Achievement Award winners Chuck Linkenheld (Youth) and Kyle Kotrba (High School) and to Nancy Schachman for receiving the first Annual "Gloria Swan Builders Award" presented by Girls'/Women's Director Lisa Olsen. Bob Mathson publicly thanked the Chicago Blackhawks Organization for their generous contribution to our amateur hockey community of \$150,000 - by far the most of ANY professional sports organization! The "Johnny's/Chicago Chill" lawsuit settlement is very close to being finalized. This year saw the introduction of the first Girls' High School Showcase Division with great success and the electronic registration process and statistical updates via our *ahai.org* website that will be used at all future tournaments in Illinois. An increase in AHAI Registration Fees starting with the 2003-2004 Season due to a required Affirmative Action Program can be expected. The Board urges support for By-Law Proposal #3 regarding Dispute Resolutions.

Registrar's Report - Norm Spiegel

Illinois had 2097 registered teams this past season, down only 15 (mostly at the Squirt level). The voting requirements at this Annual Meeting are as follows: 1496 voting teams with 1038 present (40% Quorum = 571); the 2/3 requirement for By-Law passage is 693 and the simple majority is 520. The Central District had another good year but was down slightly, mostly from the Tri-State Affiliates.

Youth House League Committee – Mike Mullally

A new "1st Experience" program is being developed to help the House League player to "Stay & Enjoy"

Tier II Committee - Bob Saliba

The main activity of the Tier II Committee is still to monitor the "Two-Choice Policy". Substitute Choice requests usually start to show up in August and with this year's proposed By-Law Changes #4 and #5 the committee feels it has addressed membership concerns. Organization Presidents should consider volunteering their time as members of this committee.



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Treasurer's Report - Jim Smith

Committee and AHAI Financial Reports (6/1/01 - 5/15/02) were distributed, reviewed and approved. Our newly redesigned ahai.org website is going great under the guidance of J.J.O'Connor and Ken Michel with our site being ranked #1 by USA Hockey for hits (170,000 last February alone!) The first website training seminar for our local organizations is coming up June 29th. USA Hockey has raised registration fees by \$3 starting with the 2002-2003 Season. Some ideas that are being considered for the future include new title sponsors for both our AHAI/Blackhawk Cup State Championships and our Chicago Showcase High School event that are held at The AHAI Hockey Center in Bensenville and a totally redesigned newsletter that will be electronically distributed. Additional funds will be needed for some new programs including the new USA Hockey mandated "Parent Education Program". The cost of our Screening Program may also have to increase. Once again our Annual Stadium Day will take place in March 2003 at the United Center with the High School State Championship Game and The Chicago Blackhawk Alumni Association will continue to help High School Seniors by providing their annual scholarships. Finally, Illinois should be especially proud of all our young men and women for their generous \$20,000 donation to the September 11th "Todd Beimer Foundation".

Tier II Youth Blackhawk Cup Committee – Maddy Rossobillo

The 2002 Blackhawk Cup was a great success due to all the help from our dedicated volunteers! A total of 246 teams participated in the four Youth Divisions as well as Girl's, Women's and High School. "Super Weekend" – featuring Youth AAA, AA, A, B and Girl's Championship Games followed by 2 weeks of High School action resulted in a great atmosphere for all.

Junior Committee

Four Junior A teams are currently playing in Illinois; 3 from the USHL and 1 from the NAHL. Our annual "College Night" will be held on Monday, October 14, 2002 at the Marriott O'Hare Hotel. We must continue to show and stress the "Heads Up - Don't Duck" videotape at the beginning of every season!

Coaching Committee – Rich Becker

7 Clinics ran this past season. The complete schedule of clinics was distributed - please enroll early and check the ahai.org website for updates and online registration!. This year's Re-Certification Rules are: NO Associate Level Re-Certification, you must go to Intermediate Level; ALL Midget and High School Associate Level Coaches last year must be Intermediate Level this year; ALL Midget Intermediate Level Coaches last year must be Advanced Level this year.

Player Development Committee - Norm Spiegel

The 15 and 17 Camps will be in St. Cloud, Minnesota and the 14 and 16 Camps will be in Rochester, New York; Illinois has very good representation at all the camps! 5 Illinois players participated in the USA Hockey National Team Development Program (NTDP) in Ann Arbor, Michigan this past season. Greg Rallo from Illinois received the USA Hockey National Junior Player of the Year Award.



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Girls' / Women's Committee – Lisa Olsen

This past season again saw an increase over the previous year. More support is needed at the youngest levels if increases are to be expected every year! Very good participation with the introduction of the new format State Tournament held at Lake Forest Academy. Illinois continues to have good representation at all of the Girls' National and District Development Camps. The makeup of the AHAI Girl's / Women's Committee will be expanding and information will be forthcoming.

Open (Tier I) Committee - Norm Spiegel

With 4 organizations currently operating in Illinois, more players than ever are getting the opportunity to compete at the highest level of Youth Hockey. A new Tier I league called Mid American Hockey League (MAHL) will begin play this fall 2002 and will include teams from the Chicago Mission and the Chicago Chill. All Tier I tryouts will be completed by the end of June; very good cooperation was arranged so that the four AAA Open Organizations (TI, CYA, CC, CM) had non-conflicting tryout dates.

Suspension Review Committee – Mark Shutan

The process regarding how the ASRC works was explained including meeting dates, attendance requirements and the "summary suspension" aspect of ALL Match Misconduct Penalties. From 6/10/01 through 5/31/02, the ASRC heard 88 Match Penalties. Latest Suspension List on AHAI website.

Diversity Task Force / Sled Hockey - Mike Lebarre

The 5th season was just completed with an ever increasing number of players. Generous donations of equipment and great volunteers keep this program going. Our Sled Hockey Program contributed 9 players to the Gold Medal winning team from the 2002 ParaOlympics.

Special Hockey – Mike Lebarre

The "Tomahawks" program is very rewarding and wonderfully fulfilling working with the challenged players from our area; volunteers welcome. Thanks to all who help with this great program.

High School Committee – Dick Glass

The State Tournament culminating at the United Center for another great Stadium Day went very well; Electronic Registration made obtaining the necessary information much easier but ALL Presidents and Coaches must be more diligent in following the due dates as required. Our Chicago Showcase event is providing great exposure for all the participants. Starting this upcoming season ALL High School Coaches will only be required to have reached the INTERMEDIATE level not Advanced.

Supervisor of Officials - Bill Green (IHOA President)

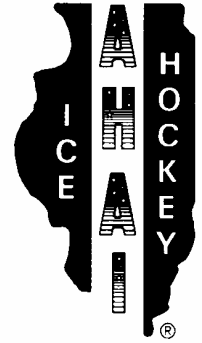
Last season ~1100 total officials registered with ~600 under the age of 18. This year saw the introduction of the IHOA Hall of Fame and its first inductees. The complete list of 2002-2003 Officiating Seminars was distributed including some new evening sessions.



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USA Hockey Update

This year the new Age Classification Change to December 31 is effective with the 2002-2003 season.

By-Law Proposals (5)

By-Law Proposal #1 (New Nominating Procedure): Passed **947** - 75 - 13

By-Law Proposal #2 (Director Term Limits): Passed **845** - 177 - 13

By-Law Proposal #3 (Dispute Resolution): Passed **910** - 112 - 13

By-Law Proposal #4 (Two-Choice Section 3): Passed **902** - 120 - 13

By-Law Proposal #5 (Two-Choice Section 1): Defeated 346 - **639** - 46

Election of Directors (5)

The 13 Nominees in alphabetical order with their results;

(5 Highest Vote Totals are Elected for their FIRST 3 year term)

[Bold = 5 incumbents running for re-election and endorsed by the AHAI Board of Directors]

Katherine Sharp Belle (0), Tom Croke (48), BarbaraGail Dancewicz (0), **Dick Glass (907)**, Joseph Johnson (9), James Knight (9), **Mike Lebarre (985)**, Christopher Leng (0), **Fred Lopez (939)**, **Ken Michel (908)**, **Mike Mullally (874)**, Larry Pedrie (113) and Ron Tash (11).

New Business

New TENTATIVE Calendar of Events was distributed - Please check the website often for changes.

Mike Lebarre and David LaBuda will be the chairpersons for the new Illinois "Adult Education Program" that will be formulated in the coming months. This program will be funded with help from the Chicago Blackhawks and the YMCA and will be required of ALL registered organizations.

The Annual Election of the AHAI Officers by the Board of Directors was held immediately following this Annual Meeting with these results: President - Bob Mathson, Vice-President (Operations) - Rich Becker Vice-President (Player Development) - Jim McGlynn, Treasurer - Jim Smith, Secretary - Mark Shutan.

The next AHAI Board of Directors meeting should be held on Monday, 7/1/02, 7:00pm at the **AHAI Hockey Center**.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded and the meeting concluded at 12:25pm.

Mark Shutan, **AHAI Secretary**

