



**Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors
Marriott Minneapolis West
Sunday, June 26th, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 by President Margenau

Those in attendance were:

President David Margenau
Vice-President Scott Gray
Controller Jim Bullard
Director Michelle Brennan
Director Doug Kephart

Past President Dennis Green
Vice President Paul Watzke
Secretary-Treasurer Jerry DeMeo
Director Scott Dornfeld
Colleen Donovan for Director Brad Hewitt

Vice-President Barry Ford
Vice-President David Bakke
Director Tom Mickus
Todd Frankenhoff for Director Mark Jacobs
Tito Elumba for Director Rich Rakness

Director Tom Christensen
Director Steve Oleheiser
Director Ralph Hayne
Director Bitner

Director Tim Timm
Director Dennis Bushy
Director David Swenson
Director O'Brien

Director Pete Hill
Scott Riopelle for Director Mark Elliott
Director Nancy Wefler

Director Emeritus John Carter Director Emeritus Wally Odell

USA Hockey Minnesota District Representatives (In addition to Minnesota Hockey Board Members)

Registrar Carol Carlson Risk Manager Bruce Kruger
Girls/Women Section Representative Tito Elumba

Coach-In-Chief Christian Koelling
High School Representative Chris Lonke

Guests:

Don Mulder, President; Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association
John Hack, Secretary; Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association
Greg Evanson, President; North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association

26 present with voting privileges – simple majority is 14; two-thirds majority is 18.

Minutes from the May 1 regularly Scheduled Board meeting and Minutes from the Special Teleconference Meeting, held on May 22 were distributed and were accepted without any objections.

Agenda Changes/Additions: None

Treasurer's Report: Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo provided copies of the Balance sheet and P&L for the period ending May 31, 2011. Copies are attached herewith and incorporated into these Minutes. While the majority of our income for FY 2011 has been received, the expenses for Advanced Programs have not been processed so our cash balance will be reduced as these bills are paid. The report was accepted as given and referred to audit.

Miller McDonald, our auditors from Bemidji have notified us that, because of the distance between their office and ours, they will not be renewing our agreement to perform our audits. We will search for a replacement.

Our fiscal 2012 Budget is on the agenda later in this meeting.

Carol Carlson, our Recording Secretary for the past three years has resigned. Her resignation was accepted regrettably and she was recognized for year valuable service to the Board and its committees.

President's Report: President Margenau expressed his appreciation to the Board and to all who have worked so diligently to address and implement the initiatives to make the coaching education program and the Peewee Checking rule a smooth transition for our members.

Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Snee provided a written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes.

President Margenau adjourned the meeting at 8:30am so that the Board might meet in Executive session to consider a potential disciplinary matter and to provide an update on current litigation. The Board reconvened at 9:17 AM.

Administrative Management: President Margenau reported that the committee met on May 17 to perform a mid-year review of the goals and objectives for our Executive Director. The Committee was unanimous with its opinion that Executive Director Snee met all expectations for his performance:

Adult Men: Director Swenson provided a written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes. He supplemented that report with information on summer metro area leagues and non-sanctioned Super rink tournaments. The Super rink plans to start sanctioning their tournaments starting the fall. That will result in more registrations we have not been counting on.

Adult Women: Director Wefler provided a written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes. She supplemented her report by informing the Board that there may be some issues with the WHAM elections for officers and directors as they were conducted electronically, possibly without proper notice and verification of a quorum. She continues with her investigation and she has consulted with Lynn Olson, her predecessor, for advice. She believes that WHAM will ignore her advice relative to their elections process. Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo advised Director Wefler that any WHAM member that may be concerned about the electoral process was free to file a grievance with her, as their Director Representative and with the Minnesota Hockey Grievance Committee.

Disabled Hockey: Director O'Brien deferred until her USA report.

District Directors: Director Kephart reported that the Double A/AA league proposal is in the hands of the tournament committee for their input. It is expected to be ready for the 2012-2013 season.

District Directors gave their support to the directors that are working with merging affiliates. Director Dornfeld is working with Southwest and Washburn. Directors Christensen & Jacobs are working with New Ulm and Sleepy Eye. Their recommendations will be brought before the Board during the fall meeting.

The Minnesota Hockey code of conduct was discussed and all are in agreement that Minnesota Hockey needs to have one voice going forward.

The 2/3rds 1/3rd rule regarding team composition was discussed. Director Brennan asked for a clarification on the process to administer to the rule and was referred to the Minnesota Hockey Handbook, page 26 for guidance.

Directors discussed the John Miller proposal for amending the voting process and decided to study it more in depth and will revisit it in the fall.

Director Timm discussed the use of spare goalies for region and state tournaments. And Bob Halverson informed us that the rules committee has addressed this rule and will present to the board for action.

Director Timm instructed the other Directors to bring to their regional coordinators any issues regarding redistricting so that discussions may begin in January.

Director Hill offered to organize hospitality for future meetings. Discussion about the rules from the USA Hockey Annual Congress

The directors prefer that the decision to use the 1½ penalty rule rest with each District for league games only.

Prior to asking for individual district reports, President Margenau asked that each director include his/her term expiration date as a part of the report;

- District 1 - Director Mickus scheduled a special meeting to be held in July to update his district with the new rules. His term expires in 2012
- District 2 - Director Brennan reported that Bill Felt, who was very active in District 2 and was instrumental with starting their "C" program passed away. Her term expires in 2013
- District 3 - Director Dornfeld reported that he was working with both Southwest & Washburn. His term expires in 2012
- District 4 – Todd Frankenhoff, representing Director Jacobs had no report. Director Jacobs term expires in 2013
- District 5 – Director Kephart reported that his district adopted a significant injury tracking program. His term expires in 2014
- District 6- Colleen Donovan representing Director Hewitt had nothing to report. She was unaware of Director Hewitt's term expiration date,
- District 8 – Tito Elumba reported for Director Rakness that District 8 has updated all the associations with Minnesota Hockey/USA Hockey rules changes. They will be hosting an event with the National Balance and Dizziness Center.
- District 9- Director Christensen reported that he is moving forward with Director Jacobs on the New Ulm/ Sleepy Eye proposal. District 9 recently held its Annual Meeting. Members feel their first year was educational and successful. His term expires in 2013
- District 10 – Director Timm reported he has distributed the information out about the checking change and plans to put on 3 clinics for the checking. They have developed an injury tracking report and form, which they will share with the Safety Committee. His term expires in 2014.
- President Margenau reminded all directors that they should share any information they have relative to injuries with the Safety Committee.
- District 11 – Director Hill had no specific reports. His term expires in 2013
- District 12 – Director Oleheiser met with his advisory board regarding the checking proposal and identified their position. He plans to schedule a time when Coach-In-Chief Koelling can address the district on this topic. His term expires in 2014.
- District 15 – Director Bushy reported that District 15 will have a new tournament coordinator. The district advisory board has nearly completed its work on the new District 15 Handbook. His term expires in 2014
- District 16 – Scott Riopelle, representing Director Elliott had nothing to report. Director Elliott's term expires in 2013.

Diversity: Director Mickus reported that the Mighty Kids program has folded because Ramsey County would no longer support the program. President Margenau has asked Publicity & Promotions Committee and Executive Director Snee to work with Director Mickus to see if we can help find alternative funding. The programs in St Paul are actively applying for grants and working with the kids, including picking them up and getting them to school.

Executive Committee: President Margenau reported that the situation with Shattuck St Mary's requires that their teams are registered with the Faribault Youth Hockey Association and are governed by that affiliate. This is consistent with other private schools that have agreements with their local affiliates. Past President Green and Vice President Ford will collect copies of the agreements between these teams and their affiliates.

The Minnesota Junior Hockey League, the NA3HL and the Superior International Junior Hockey League will formalize an understanding with Minnesota Hockey that they will not have high school or youth age eligible kids on their teams, except as may be approved by Minnesota Hockey, based on established criteria. The exact details of this arrangement will be ratified by this board when they are completed. On June 1, the Executive Committee meeting reviewed a request from the Iron Range Steel Tier III Junior team seeking the endorsement of Minnesota Hockey. After due consideration, the Executive Committee provided endorsement for the Iron Range Steel and asked the Board to ratify this decision. **Without objection, the decision was ratified unanimously.**

The Committee also discussed a comment that the Minnesota Hockey standing committees have not been meeting regularly or seemed to have focused objectives. The president indicated that he will take the next month to consider committee objectives and be ready to discuss this subject at the fall meeting.

There is a vacancy to fill for the position of Minnesota District Registrar. President Margenau appointed an ad hoc committee to consider applicants for this position and make their recommendation to the Board. The ad hoc committee will follow up with associate registers to determine their status for next season. There is a need for Associate Registrars for

Districts 2, 6, 10, the Women and Adult section, Off season Associate Registrar and Associate Registrar for Disabled Hockey. Training of the Minnesota District Registrar and associate registrars is planned for early August. USA Hockey has committed to assist in the training. Both Carol Carlson and her predecessor, Gerry Brown, will be available to help with the training. It was deemed to be important to fill these positions as soon as possible. A special board meeting will be called for to ratify the recommendation for the USA Hockey MN District Registrar.

Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo presented a draft of a Whistleblowers policy for review by the Committee prior to placing it on the Board agenda for the next meeting.

Finance/Budget: Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo presented a revised copy of Administrative Management policy MH-FM-05 (rev2) which limits the payments for programs & events to the acceptance of credit cards or other certified funds and also defines the handling of cash receipts. The Committee recommended adoption of this policy. **Without objection, the policy was unanimously approved as submitted.**

Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo presented the proposed FY 2012 Stipend schedule. Those board members who will be receiving stipends are not eligible to vote on this proposal. A roll for this vote was taken, with 19 eligible voters. Simple majority is 10. 2/3rds majority is 13. The new schedule calls for payments of \$227,555 for all programs compared to the 2011 fiscal year \$189,700. The Committee recommends that the Stipend schedule be submitted as presented, with the stipulation that any future stipend schedules be accompanied by a definition of duties for all positions paying more than \$50. **Without objection, the Schedule, with future stipulation, was unanimously approved as submitted.**

Secretary-Treasurer DeMeo presented the proposed FY 2012 operating budget which, after concessions for both revenue increases and expense reductions, afforded excess revenue in the amount of \$583. The budget calls for revenues of \$2,015,070 and expenses of \$2,014,487. **Without objection, the FY 2012 Operating Budget was unanimously approved as submitted.**

Grievance Committee: Nothing to report.

Hockey Operations: Vice President Ford referred to written reports from sub-committee Chairs which are attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes. Chris Lonoke's USA Hockey High School Section report is also included. He offered his gratitude to Carol Carlson for her support as the District Registrar.

Handbook: Committee Chair Halverson reported his largest challenge to prepare last year's handbook was the lack of information that was not being submitted. The Rules Committee discussed the handbook and possible changes thereto. The only change that could be agreed on is the rinks listing pages will be removed from the book. He requested that all changes to be incorporated in the 2011-12 Handbook be submitted to him no later than July 10.

High School Boys: Director Bitner referred to a verbal report given during the Hockey Operations Committee meeting on Saturday. The information given in that report is contained in the Hockey Operations Committee Minutes which are not incorporated herein.

High School Girls: No Report

Juniors: Director Hayne Director Swenson reported on the happenings at the USA Hockey Annual Congress. One change saw the elimination of the A, B & C, designations at the Tier III level.

The MJHL received recertification for 8 teams, with new teams in Maple Grove and in Wisconsin Dells. They have planned a 50 game schedule for 2011 plus 2 show cases. One in Maple Grove and one in Wisconsin Dells.

Also planned is their first coaching clinic, featuring Curt Giles, Lou Nanne and other D1 & D3 coaches.

This year, the league will enact a community action program to encourage its players to take a role in their communities. The MJHL has made a scholarship contribution to Defending the Blue Line.

MIAMA: No report

Planning: Vice President Bakke had nothing to report

Publicity & Promotions: Vice President Gray reported that a survey for 8 & under players was in process. There will be more information on this at the next meeting.

Recreational Hockey: Director Mickus reported that finding ice is still a challenge. He will be getting together soon with other district directors to find more ice times.

Junior Gold – Chair Bruce Kruger reported that the Metro Hockey league continues to be a work in progress. A committee has been established to look at the current structure. One topic is the 16U boys want a different identity. Junior Gold B leagues are also receiving consideration.

Referees: No report

Screening: Chair Scott Gray reported that the screening form is now on the Minnesota Hockey Website Filing may now be done on line. A list will be generated of approved associates and placed on the website.

Tournaments: Vice President Paul Watzke reported that he will be getting together with his committee in the near future and will have a full report at the fall meeting.

Rules: Chair Bob Halverson brought forth several recommended bylaw and rules changes from the committee. He presented Bylaw Change B1 which would amend Article 7, "Elections" so as to resolve a conflict with that rule and the rule in Article 7 "Vacancies". The exact language may be found in the accompanying Rules Committee report. **Without objection, Bylaw change B1 was placed on the table, discussed and approved unanimously**

Mr. Halverson next presented Bylaw change B2 which amended Article 15, providing a vote for the Boys High School Director and the Girls High School Director, despite the fact that these two positions are appointed by the Minnesota High School Coaches Association and not elected by Minnesota Hockey Membership. Action on This proposal was first presented at the January 24 meeting and action was postponed so as to permit a discussion with USA Hockey to be sure that such a rule was in order. The Rules committee discussed this with Peter Lindberg USA Hockey's Vice President, Legal Council, who informed them that such a rule would be out of order; consequently, the rules committee recommended that the proposal to change Article 15 be withdrawn. **Without objection, Bylaw change B2 was withdrawn by unanimous consent.**

Mr. Halverson next presented Youth Rules & Regulations change R1 which would change Section III, Paragraph D regarding the 2/3rds age requirement so that the rule would only apply to Squirts level and above. During discussion, Director Timm wanted to clarify that for teams affected by this rule, the district director could still make a decision to excuse the rule for associations with limited numbers who may have difficulty adhering to the rule. Mr. Halverson responded that the new language would not affect any discretionary powers that district directors now have when administering to this rule. **Without objection, Youth Rules & Regulations change R1 was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Halverson next presented Youth Rules & Regulations change R2 which would change Section VI to allow for the selection and use of spare goaltenders for regional and state tournaments. The protocol for the use of a spare goaltender stipulates that the standard Minnesota Hockey Substitute Goalie form must be used for this process in all cases. **Without objection, Youth Rules & Regulations change R2 was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Halverson next presented Youth Rules & Regulations change R3 which would change Section XVI. This change amends the language of the Locker Room Monitoring Policy, specifically as it deals with appropriate locker room monitor gender and private meetings between a coach or coaches and an individual player. **Without objection, Youth Rules & Regulations change R3 was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Halverson next presented an amendment to the Minnesota Hockey Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol, which adds a statement that exempts Minnesota from this protocol when dealing with player transfers from another USA Hockey affiliate that does not honor the Minnesota Hockey Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol. **Without objection, the amendment to the Minnesota Hockey Inter-Affiliate Player Transfer Protocol was approved unanimously.**

USA Hockey Director/Representative Reports

Director Margenau - referred to his written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes.

He added further discussion regarding the USA Hockey vote to eliminate Pee Wee checking. He informed the Board that he had erred when casting his ballot by use of the wrong button on the electronic ballot unit. He supplied copies of the material that was disseminated by Minnesota Hockey and others on this topic.

He emphasized that Minnesota Hockey is one of 3 that have grown in members during the past 5 years. We have been awarded 61 sets of starter equipment. Team managers can request this equipment which would be furnished on a "need" basis at no cost to the affiliate.

We received the USA Hockey affiliate block grant \$45,020.

One item that we will need to address in the future is Concussion-education. The Minnesota State legislature passed a rule that requires we educate our members with the information.

Director Green – referred to his written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes.

He emphasized that USA Hockey decided to hold a Select U14 camp. We maintained the position that we felt it that sending the U14 around the country was not needed. Player Development and ADM logic is going to be looking and probably setting up the Select U14 as Regional camp. With that Minnesota Hockey may want to reconsider.

USA Hockey's "Come Play Hockey" poster is available with tag lines that can be added for each association.

ADM is recommended smaller rosters for U10/Squirt ages. St Cloud is currently hosting the Girls Select 16 and 17 Development camp through June 30.

Director DeMeo- referred to his written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes.

Registrar Carlson - explained the new roster format and the process for handling the coaching education program costs and modules. She reminded the Board that their new Associate Registrar represents USA Hockey and should not be on any Minnesota Hockey Board. This would cause a conflict of interest.

Kim Folsom at USA Hockey needs the international students, that the paperwork must be filled out for everyone who does not have US citizenship. Cybersport will raise a flag and emails will be sent to the family that special forms need to be filled out. Canadian citizens can and should fill out forms. IAAHF have deadlines that fall before the selection of the Great 8 and U19. They have all the insurance benefits.

Recommendations for changes in Cybersport are to be submitted in the fall for changes to occur for the next season.

President Margenau extended Minnesota Hockey's sincere appreciation to Carol for her 14+ years of service. The Board also expressed its appreciation with a standing ovation.

Coach-In-Chief Koelling – referred to his written report which is attached hereto and is incorporated into these Minutes.

Risk Manager Kruger- No Report

High School Representative Lonke - referred to his written report which is included in the Hockey Operations report.

Women's Section Representative Elumba – reported that the Women's over 30 national tournament falls under the Adults. Also, there is work on growing women's hockey is progressing with the addition of a Starter Equipment program. The Frozen 4 was awarded to Duluth in 2012.

Disabled Section Representative O'Brien – Disabled Minnesota received national media praise for the Disabled Festival held in Minnesota in April, 2011. The 2012 Festival was awarded to Dallas, TX.

Her group is planning a Midwest Disabled Festival for 2012, partnering with Wisconsin. The Warriors program has seen significant growth and will be dividing into 2 teams. Both Special Hockey and the Warriors received grants to help with their program.

Old Business:

The topic of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook was previously discussed in another portion of the meeting. Secretary-Treasurer moved that the topic of the Handbook be withdrawn from the "Old Business" portion of the agenda. **Without objection, the topic of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook was withdrawn by unanimous consent.**

Vice President Watzke moved that the topic of A/AA League formation which was referred to the Tournaments committee be postponed to the fall meeting, so as to allow additional time for the Committee's consideration. Second by Past President Green. **Motion carried unanimously**

Director Timm moved that the proposal to modify Bylaw Article 11 be postponed until the fall meeting so as to allow additional time for consideration by the district directors. Seconded by Director Oleheiser. **Motion carried unanimously**

Director Timm moved that the proposal to modify Minnesota Hockey Board meeting format be postponed until the fall meeting so as to allow additional time for consideration by the district directors. Seconded by Director Oleheiser. **Motion carried unanimously**

New Business:

Vice President Ford introduced a request from Marshall High School, Duluth, MN. to sanction a girl's team they planned to form at the 14U level. He informed the Board that, during his review of the Marshall request, he learned that, unlike Shattuck-St. Mary's and other private schools with teams, Marshall did not have the endorsement from the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association. DAHA opposed the request on the basis that, because the team would be limited to students attending Marshall School, their association would likely not have enough remaining age eligible players to form a 14U team. They withheld their endorsement to protect the opportunity for these stranded players. Based upon his findings, Vice President Ford determined that Marshall School did not meet the criteria to operate a school team independently from the local Minnesota Hockey affiliate and moved that their request that Minnesota Hockey sanction their team be denied. Director Timm seconded the Motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

President Margenau informed the Board the fall meeting will be held Marriott Minneapolis West on Sept 16-18, 2011.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 11:55 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Shari Olson
Recording Secretary

I have reviewed the above Minutes and confirm that they represent the proceedings of this meeting of the Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors, held on the 26th day of June, 2011

**Gerald R. DeMeo, Secretary-Treasurer
Minnesota Hockey**