

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**

Friday, January 16, 2009
Wyndham Orlando Resort, Orlando, FL

In attendance:

Irey, Bryan	District	Director
Kenney, Chris	District	Director
	District	Director
Lewis, TC	District	Asst Coach-in Chief
Power, Tom	District	Director
Davern, Paul	District	Coach-in-Chief
Day, Jill	District	Secretary
Karinen, Bruce	District	Registrar
McMann, Bob	District	Referee-in-Chief
Cole, George	District	Webmaster
Stewart, Mary	AZ	Vice President
Rogers, Jim	AZ	CEP Coordinator
Paolilli, Phil	CO	President
Brandstetter, Dean	ID	President
Peterson, Melissa	NM	President
Donovan, Larry	OK	President
Skinner, Ted	TX	President
Fawks, Gary	TX	Vice President
Lewis, Debra	TX	Registrar
Fisher, Geoff	UT	President
Wilner, Fred	UT	Vice President
Bloomer, Al	USA Hockey	
Stoleman, TK	USA Hockey	

Absent: Kelly Grover, District Risk Manager, Michael Schwarz, District ACE Administrator, Jon Brooks, AZ President, Anne Hetrick, OK Registrar, Tom Lampl, Player Development

Chris Kenney, Chairman of the District Council, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 16, 2008 meeting were reviewed. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as written. Geoff Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District and Affiliate Reports

Chris Kenney, Bryan Irey, T C Lewis, and Tom Power submitted written District Director reports. Chris Kenney will be attending the Junior Council and Finance Council meetings. TC Lewis will be attending the Youth Council meeting. Bryan Irey will be attending the Legal Council meeting. Tom Power hasn't been assigned yet.

There are written reports from the ACE and CEP representatives. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah submitted written reports.

Colorado – Phil Paolilli talked about their very successful One Goal event. They have shared their template with the local associations and encouraged them to have their own event. Growth in the state is flat except for girls.

Utah – Geoff Fisher reported that they have changed volunteer screening to a state controlled program due to a problem in a local association. It's taken all year to work out the kinks.

New Mexico – Melissa Peterson reported that they are always in transition. There are 2 associations with all new board members. Albuquerque is going strong with a new learn to skate program. Taos is organizing tournaments

and drawing participation. They will be losing the CHL team in the state to bankruptcy which impacts the associations with increased ice costs.

Texas – Ted Skinner reported they have one new association and 5 disbanded associations. The rink cancelled ice for the association in Lubbock. Background screening expiration dates are listed on the TAHA web page. They are having the registrars return team rosters crossing out staff members that haven't passed screening and returning to the team. Then supplemental rosters have to be processed to add them when screening is complete. Another problem is increasing match penalties. They are going to post those on the web site also.

Oklahoma – Larry Donovan reported on new ice sheets being built. Online registration has been made mandatory and is successful. There is a rumor of professional hockey coming to Oklahoma. The first year of their Kids First beginner hockey program has been extremely successful.

Idaho - Tom Power reported that the Coeur d'Alene ice rink collapsed under heavy snow and is closed. Displaced teams and players are struggling to find replacement ice. Plans are to rebuild from the ground up. They have two new probationary associations. They use Intelicorp for background screening at \$1.50 per person.

Arizona – Jon Brooks was absent but the highlights of his report were reviewed by Chris Kenney. Polar Ice in Gilbert is a new two rink facility. CHL team now in second full year of play in Prescott, is helping growth of youth and High School hockey. Tucson does not have full time ice. They will host their first adult state championship this year.

DISTRICT REGISTRAR

Bruce Karinen reported that the district is at 99% online registrations, and insists that it will be 100% now. Invitational tournaments don't want birth certificates at credentials due to privacy issues.

District Director Elections

Bruce Karinen reported that Tom Power is the winner of the Special District Director election. Tom was the only person nominated for this special election. There were no write in candidates; therefore, Tom has been elected by accumulation. This position is for the remaining term of the late Wayne Lehto with term of office starting 18 September 2008 and ending at the close of the USA Hockey Congress in June 2011.

The 3-year term of Bryan Irey is expiring. Bryan has expressed an interest in continuing to serve. Bruce presented the procedure for the elections. Nominations are open until March 15, 2009 and Bruce would like them in writing along with an acceptance by the nominated person. Ballots will be mailed to affiliates in April. Votes are based on last year's player count.

2009 District Volunteer Award

Chris Kenney announced that nominations are due April 1, 2009. He would like to get at least one nomination from each affiliate. It is suggested that affiliates put an announcement on local web pages requesting nominations. Al Bloomer suggested that USA Hockey be contacted about having this person recognized in the service award meeting in June in Colorado Springs.

Review of District Policy & Procedure Manual

Melissa Peterson presented the final changes to the manual for review. Changes included simplifying voting, using generic language on tournaments, the girls recreation tournament was left in, and grammatical changes. Ted Skinner made a **MOTION** to approve the proposed changes. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

RMD Player Development Camp

Tom Lampl was absent so TC Lewis reported on player development concerns. Team Leaders are needed, preferably coaches but not professional coaches from the District. The schedule is being revised a bit to increase skills development. The camp wants to involve more ACHA coaches because a lot of our players will be going that way. It looks like there will be a 14 national camp this year but there is a proposal for a Regional Select camp in 2010. This would include the Rocky Mountain, Northern Plains and Pacific Districts. We would proceed with this concept only if the National Boys Select 14 Camp was discontinued. Camps will probably reduce from 12 to 8 teams and age groups could be combined for cost savings. Regional camps are being investigated to replace national camps. Al Bloomer would like Northern Plains, Pacific, and Rocky Mountain Districts to combine to host camps. Pacific has begun this same concept for an elite 15-16 girls' camp in Las Vegas and wants us involved. Al Bloomer talked about the player classification open forum USA Hockey is having tomorrow. Under the

proposed qualifications, there could be clubs in Arizona, Colorado and Texas that could apply and have a good chance of meeting the criteria of "high performance".

Coaching Education

Paul Davern submitted a written report. There is a new online reporting system for coaching education. There were several problems affecting certification of 236 Rocky Mountain District coaches. A Level 4 coaching clinic was held in Phoenix, AZ last September. The next level 4 clinic is proposed for Denver the second weekend in August.

RMD Grants for Recruitment and Player Development

Chris Kenney reported ID AZ and UT remain to be processed. The remaining affiliates have received their money.

2009 District Tournaments

The following game formats were determined:

Tier I 12-15 March 2009 Salt Lake City, Utah

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
Midget Major	1	2	2	0	0	0	1		6	6	
Midget Minor	1	2	2	0	0	0	1		6	6	
Bantam		2	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4	
Peewee	1	1	1	0	0	0	0		3	3	

Girls/Women 6-8 March 2009 Metro Denver, Colorado

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
Women A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0		
Women B	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		1	No	Tournament
Women C	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		2	No	Tournament
over 30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	No	Tournament
19U	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1	No	Tournament
16U	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		2		2
14U	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		2		2
12U	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		2		2

Tier II 12-15 March 2009 Metro Phoenix, Arizona

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	Total	Team	Format
Midget Minor	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	6	6	
Bantam		2	1	1	0	0	0	4	4	

Tier II 12-15 March 2009 Boise, Idaho

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	Total	Team	Format
Midget Major	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	6	6	
Peewee	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	3	

High School 27-29 March 2009 Arizona

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
HS	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	8	8	

Girls/Women House/Rec 20-22 March 2009 New Mexico

	AZ	CO	TX	ID	NM	OK	UT	HOST	Total	Team	Format
19U	0	1	0	1	1	0	1		4	4	
16U	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1	No	Tournament
14U	0	2	0	0	1	0	1		4	4	
12U	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1	No	Tournament

Tournament Banners and Trophies

Kelly Grover was absent. He had talked to TC Lewis about increasing the grant for tournament banners and trophies by \$1,000.00. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to add \$1,000.00 for a total of \$8,000.00 for the 2009 tournament banners and trophies. Bryan Irey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Legislative Issues

Al Bloomer stated that surveys on games played under the "no-short handed icing pilot" compiled in Alaska & Mass suggested that there was not a significant increase in the number of whistles. The games were not longer due to the no-icing pilot. The Coaching section does not want the proposed change to Rule 109 Player's Bench to delete item (b) which would allow someone other than a Team Official to fill in on the bench. The proposed amendment to Rule 403 Major Penalties of not requiring a replacement on the penalty bench for a player receiving a major penalty and is ejected from the game (not involving coincidental penalties) will be voted on. Some expressed the feeling that playing rules should be changed to improve the game and not to improve the player.

Other Business

Ted Skinner reported that the Dallas Stars Care Newsletter and the Ice Times Magazine are really contributing to parent education in their area.

Web Master

George Cole made the suggestion to switch from Network Solutions to GoDaddy for the District's web hosting and email. There would be a significant cost saving. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to transfer from Network Solutions to GoDaddy. Geoff Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Next Meetings

The next meeting is the lunch meeting June 4, 2009 in Colorado Springs. The Annual meeting will be in Arizona August 14-16, 2009.

Bryan Irey made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 4:07 p.m. Phil Paolilli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day
RMD Secretary



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
WINTER MEETING
Orlando, Florida
January 16, 2009**

Written Reports

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
Mid Winter Meeting
Orlando, FL
January 16 -18, 2009**

2008 District Director's Report

During 2008, I was involved in the following tasks:

- January 2008 - attended the USA Hockey Winter Meeting in Orlando, FL
- March 2008 - helped supervised and supported the execution of the RMD Tier II Tournaments in Oklahoma City, OK
- March 2008 – Helped supervised and supported the execution of the RMD Girls/ Women Tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona
- June 2008 - attended the USA Hockey Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- August 2008 – attended the RMD Meeting in Denver, Colorado
- Chaired the Council of Presidents for the Rocky Mountain District
- Headed up the Rocky Mountain District - Volunteer Award – search committee
- Working with the New Mexico Affiliate on Affiliate and association issues
- Involved in numerous calls with USA Hockey on the finance committee issues
- Involved in calls with USA Hockey and the RMD Directors regarding District issues
- Involved in monthly RMD conference calls focused on assisting the growth of the game within the District
- Involved in numerous calls with USA Hockey and the RMD Directors regarding District issues
- Attended State and Affiliate meetings throughout the year (Arizona and Oklahoma)

Respectfully Submitted by: Chris Kenney - RMD Director 12/15/08



**USA Hockey
Winter Meeting
Orlando, Florida
January, 2009
District Director's Report**

Since our Summer Meeting in Colorado I have done the following -

I. As the RMD representative on the Youth Council I attended the Youth Council Meeting in Chicago in September. Items discussed included:

1. Definition of Tier I hockey.
2. Chair the House/Rec Committee
3. Player Development Camps
4. National Tournaments, locations and format, particularly the Tier II.
5. I am a Tournament Director with AI at the Nationals in Dallas this April

II. I attended all of the Youth Council Conference calls. Our last conference call was cancelled but we did have one on Wednesday, December 19th and one in November.

III. I was the Head Team Leader for the Select 14's in Rochester, New York. We had a good district presence from both the players' side and the coach/team leader side. It was nice to see. We need to find more team leaders and intern coaches for future select camps.

IV. I have participated in all the conference calls for the 2009 National tournaments. Dallas is hosting the Bantam Tier I and Tier II's. Rick Hall and Bob Smith appear to be doing a fantastic job with the preparation.

V. Attended most of the RMD conference calls for normal district meetings and TAHA conference calls. All the conference calls seem to be quite valuable and worthwhile.

VI. Attended the RMD Annual Meeting in August.

I will go into more at the meeting.

Submitted by,

T.C. Lewis

Bryan Ireys
Rocky Mountain District Director Report

Since the August Meeting in Denver I have –
Attended a Playing Rules Committee in Chicago in November.
Participated in a Legal Council conference call.
Participated in RMD Conference Calls.
Conducted a RMD Tournament organization conference call.

Respectfully,

Bryan Ireys



Tom Power
Director
Rocky Mountain District
USA Hockey

Directors Report
January 2009

Since my election in September, my District responsibilities and involvement have been limited to our monthly teleconferences, which I have unfortunately missed due to my travel schedule. I am looking forward to increasing my involvement with the district this spring with the district tournaments and camps.

Respectfully,

Tom Power

Arizona Affiliate Written Report for Rocky Mountain District Winter Meeting 2009

Registration is up over 10% from last year and it looks like we will continue with positive growth. We are also struggling with over 500 unclaimed registered players that we are working with the local associations to claim and would be interested if other affiliates are also having the same issue with unclaimed players. We are trying to remedy this going forward with more education and training of local registrars teaching them to claim these players even if they are not putting them on teams.

Arizona had several teams and players advance to Nationals and this year as the development of players in the state continues to excel. Phoenix associations continue to grow their programs with the additions of several new Tier 1 and Tier 2 programs.

We also took a major initiative with the NHL One Goal and the Coyotes Kids First program to provide equipment, sticks, skates and ice at no cost to the participant. The Phoenix Coyotes are working with every rink in the state promoting learn to skate and learn to play hockey programs. The state purchased 500 sets of equipment and sticks this past year. We have already had hundreds of players go through this program and our intent is to make this available on an even more aggressive basis this spring and summer. This is potentially one of the most aggressive programs we have ever hosted to grow hockey in the state.

Our state player development camp had record attendance and the level of play and quality of the players that advance to the district player development camp and national player development camps continue to improve. We are looking to expand our Player Development camp this year to include more age groups and to host guest coaches from out of state.

We want to express our thanks to the Rocky Mountain and USA Hockey for allowing Arizona to host a level 4 Coaches Clinic this past year. This was an outstanding program and allowed many Arizona coaches the opportunity to gain their Level 4 Certification as well as expose the coaches to some high quality presentations and enable interactions with many top level coaches and instructors.

The Polar Ice Gilbert facility opening this past fall with two sheets of ice and is home to a new association, Arizona Heat. The Polar facilities across the state also moved forward to create a new Team, Phoenix Union which has players from all three facilities. The Gilbert rink will be the host to the Bantam and Midget Rocky Mountain Championships this spring.

The Alltel Ice Den in Scottsdale is in the process of getting the approval to add another ice rink to the current facility which would make this the first 3 rink facility in the state. This is scheduled to go before the Scottsdale City Council this month with a projected opening 9 months after breaking ground.

The Arizona Sun Dogs (CHL) who began play in November 2007 in a new 4000 seat multi use Event Center in Prescott Valley have helped grow the Prescott Valley Youth Hockey Association which has several teams playing in the Statewide Sonoran League this year. In addition, Prescott has both a Varsity and a JV High School Hockey Teams this year. The CHL is also looking at potential team and facility additions in Phoenix/ Mesa, Tucson and Yuma, but nothing is firm at this time.

Tucson teams continue to use the Tucson Convention Center this year which is the home of the University of Arizona Ice Cats. This is a temporary solution until a new rink can be built. There are several groups in Tucson trying to mobilize the hockey community, with plans to build a new facility.

Flagstaff also continues to grow their program with a new board taking over this year with new teams and new coaches revitalizing the organization.

The Phoenix Coyotes are committed to help the growth of amateur hockey and have placed a stronger emphasis on working with the state board with a full time Youth coordinator to work with each association around the state. They added a 60 team jersey display at the arena with jerseys from every association and high school team in the state. The High School program has committed to play 20 games at the arena this season and Jobing.com will host the state high school championships.

The Phoenix Coyotes, My Team Cares and AAHA sponsored the Phoenix Coyotes Cares website that is hosting a parent education awareness program as well as making great information available to parents and players through the state.

The Phoenix Roadrunners continue to be very supportive of youth hockey with several new initiatives and staffing to help grow the sport and attract new parents, players and fans to the game.

ASU, NAU, and the University of Arizona continue their ACHA Club programs.

PF Chang has moved their Tier 1 hockey program to include Bantam and Midget levels at the Ice Den and is skating under the Coyote Amateur Hockey program this year. Several other facilities are planning to compete at the Tier 1 level and we are looking at state playdown in several Tier 1 age groups.

The first Arizona Adult state championships are scheduled for April this year. We are working with the rinks that register their adult players with USA hockey to host this state Adult championship and hope that this will encourage more adult program to join USA hockey. We will be forming a statewide adult committee to run this event and are asking Labats for their sponsorship and support.

State Board continues to meet on a regular basis and has finally energized support from all associations. We changed our fiscal year to match up with USA hockey and will be having our annual meeting in September and should fill all our board seats for the first time in several years.

We are focused on implementing the ACE program statewide and are in the process of identifying ACE coordinators at each association. We have plans for coaching meetings and ACE program development this year. We are asking all associations to implement the parent awareness seminars with all teams this season.

We are working with Axiom on a Statewide Screening Initiative which is mandatory for all coaches, managers, board members and officials in the state. We post coaches and officials who pass screening to the state website. Our State Website has been providing more information than ever as well as a state wide calendar of events and has become a great resource for hockey in the state.

AZ Rubber magazine continues as a great hockey publication for the state which should continue to help get out information on hockey programs and opportunities in the state. We are looking for more ways to partner with them.

Colorado Amateur Hockey Association



Post Office Box 63568

www.ColoradoAmateurHockey.org

Colorado Springs, CO 80920

December 28, 2008

Affiliate recap;

Registered Players

Youth: 11,327

Girls: 886

Adults (Men & Women): 2,129

Juniors: 171

Largest Association: Arapahoe, 1,185 registered player

Smallest Association: Craig, 75 registered players

Registered Coaches: 1,121

Number of Rinks: 56 facilities

Professional Teams: Colorado Avalanche, Colorado Rage, Colorado Eagles

Div 1 College Programs: Colorado College, Denver University, USAFA

Junior Programs: Colorado Outlaws

Programs of Note: One Goal, One Goal Girls

After the success of our first One Goal event we decided that we would encourage our local associations to use our template and develop their own grow-the-game programs. The first association to host one of these regional "One Goal" events is the Colorado Select. This is the first event under the One Banner to be directed to girls only. CAHA is the main sponsor and the Select is the host association. I have attached the event details and a PDF of the poster that has been distributed. I believe that the program filled to capacity within a week's time. I will follow up with a recap upon its completion.

Colorado Girls One Goal Program

Sponsored by:

Colorado Amateur Hockey Association

One Goal Program

Aquafina/Pepsi

Hosted by Colorado Select Girls Hockey Association

Purpose- The purpose of this program is to provide an avenue for girls in the State of Colorado to try ice hockey for free. All equipment, skates, ice and coaching will be provided by the sponsors.

Goal- Our goal is to attract 40 players through flyers, email and advertising in local newspapers.

When:

1. Sat, Jan 3, 9:30am
2. Sat, Jan 10, 9:30am
3. Sat, Jan 17, 9:30am
4. Sat, Jan 24, 9:30am
5. Sat, Jan 31, 9:30am
6. Sat, Feb 7, 9:30am

Where- The Edge Ice Arena

Sponsors Contributions:

Colorado Amateur Hockey- We are requesting \$2090 for six ice sheets and \$500 for marketing, flyers, posters and small area newspapers. We are also asking for support for email marketing to members, online registration tool to be managed by CAHA, a link on CAHA's website and 15 sets of gear to be loaned.

Aquafina/Pepsi along with the Colorado Select will sponsor the remaining items-\$2790 for T-shirts and jerseys (players get to keep) Event supplies (food, water etc) skate rentals. This six week program will be free and no profits will be generated.

Colorado Select- Providing on ice certified USA Hockey coaches, off ice help, organization, and 25 sets of gear. We will be soliciting help from all the other associations in the area.

CAHA is using one half of its RMD Adult tournament grant to promote a Colorado State Womens' Hockey Championship tournament.

We are still in the process of selecting a corresponding Adult tournament.

Philip Paolilli

President, Colorado Amateur Hockey Association

January 10, 2009

Idaho Amateur Hockey Interim Report

Initial reports indicate that registration is flat to slightly down from 2008 for the 10 youth associations in Idaho. Preparations are underway for the State tournament to be held February 20-22nd in Boise. Participation is up slightly from last year and we will have 28 teams from 5 divisions participating. Tier II declarations this year have been increased to 4 teams; Midget U18, U16, Bantam and Pee Wee.

We are also preparing the Idaho State High School Tournament that will be held February 27-March 1 in Idaho Falls. Of the eight teams participating, 3 have made declarations for intent to participate in the RMD High School tournament.

The Idaho State development camp is scheduled to be held in McCall from April 3-5, 2009.

Our biggest issue in the state has been the loss of one of our main rinks in North Idaho. The KYRO rink facility in Coeur d'Alene succumbed to the 100" of snow that Mother Nature dumped on them in 18 days and the roof collapsed, displacing 2 Youth associations as well as a Nor-Pac Junior A team, as well as multiple Adult teams and figure skaters. This has caused us to move our Development camp this year, and we are hoping that the facility will be built in time for the 2009 – 2010 season.

Tom Power

LOEAHA Report on Rocky Mountain District Grant for Recruitment and Player Retention

Part 1. Association Grants Allocated: \$3000.00 Spent to date: \$1500, with \$300 more due upon submittal of reports by Associations.

Despite reminders and prodding, only 3 of the 5 associations in New Mexico took advantage of the \$600 Grants offered. Taos Youth Hockey and New Mexico Ice in Albuquerque did not apply for the grants – presumably out of lack of volunteer time. Taos has a very small volunteer base and NMICE has an entirely new board.

Santa Fe Youth Hockey applied for and used their \$600 grant to purchase bumper stickers promoting Hockey and their website address for more information. These bumper stickers were distributed at registration and over the summer by various volunteers. No final report has been received by SFYH so payment at this point is only \$500. It will be very difficult for SFYH to gage effectiveness of this program at this point. Although registration is down at SFYH this year, they have attracted new players into the program.

Los Alamos Hockey Association submitted the following report:

Our opening weekend events were very successful. We employed about 3 hours of ice and attracted about 150-170 participants and roughly 15-20 volunteers. We signed up several new coaches and new players since the event which can be directly attributed to the events. Great job by everyone.

Friday night's open skate fun night followed a great opening home game for the varsity Toppers - which they won. The event was extremely well attended with about 110 visitors. Our Association hosted the event and we provided prizes and got our name and contact info out at least 12-15 times. I had 9 inquiries about LA hockey from interested kids or parents.

Saturday's afternoon events concluded the festivities. We had 2 hours of open ice for new and existing skaters to come out and 'play' hockey. We were able to outfit about 25 new prospects from mini-nite to HS age. We even hosted a woman goalie and her husband who are from Santa Fe. The events went off w/o incident and everyone had a blast. Our volunteers were gracious hosts and kept the event well in hand. We had about 40-60 prospects (depending on how you counted - our coupon system failed us) and existing players come and go over the 2-hour period. It was tons of fun. Our volunteers were all great ambassadors for both our hockey programs and the facility/County.

No accounting has been submitted by LAHA so the remaining \$100 has yet to be paid.

New Mexico Amateur Hockey Association used its grant to purchase polo shirts for volunteers to wear while making presentations in local elementary schools, print ads in media and flyers recruiting new players for a new high school team. NMAHA matched the grant with \$1200 in order to accomplish its goal. While the efforts to form a new high school team were not fruitful, the elementary school project paid off resulting in an additional Mite team being formed at NMAHA. No accounting has been submitted as of yet so only \$500 has been paid.

Part 2. Coaching Seminar \$2000 Allocated \$300 Spent

The Coaching seminar that I hoped to hold in conjunction with Paul Davern's plans did not materialize. Paul Davern held a one-day How to Coach Goalies Clinic that was well-received by those who attended, but not well-attended. Only 10 coaches participated. Part of the problem was the change in the schedule, but the other part of the problem was that coaches only wanted to attend a seminar that fulfilled certification requirements. Some felt that they had heard all of this before (at a Level 4 clinic).

LOEAHA spent \$300 in connection with Paul Davern's clinic. It has been suggested that the remaining funds be used to purchase Skills and Drills videos for distribution to coaches. In addition, there are plans to offer a one-hour seminar prior to our Player Development Camps for on-ice coaches and evaluators to teach the coaches how to run the drills for higher-level players and to better the PDC program. The PDC will be held in February (for boys) and March (for girls).

Part 3 Adult Hockey \$1000 Allocated \$0 Spent

The LOEAHA Board voted in September to award the Adult State Championships to Santa Fe to be held at the beginning of April 2009. At the request of the tournament host, the \$1000 would be used to subsidize hospitality (food, no alcohol), prizes for the champions, and referees for the tournament. In November, it was uncovered that the Santa Fe adult hockey program had announced as a USA Hockey program, but had then changed its mind in order to allow High School Age players to register for its league. LOEAHA will now propose to host the tournament itself in cooperation with the USAH-registered adult programs in Albuquerque. This tournament will be open to all USAH-registered teams so that Santa Fe will be encouraged to register players/teams in order to participate in the tournament. No monies have been spent at this point.

To: Directors, RMD

From: Oklahoma

Re: Report on use of funds for "Growing the Game"

Oklahoma distributed the funds equally between the two Associations, Oklahoma City Youth Hockey Association and Tulsa Youth Hockey Association. The following is a brief description of how the funds were used.

Tulsa submitted an accounting of their use of grant money and their funds as follows:

USAH One Goal Equipment	\$2400
Tulsa Kids Magazine advertisement	\$1160
TYHA Brochures	\$ 277
Hockey Banners	\$ 175
COX Media Commercial	\$1000

Retention rates and new member counts resulting in these expenses were not provided, however, I will request that information.

Oklahoma City has secured the membership of 126 new participants in their "Kids First" program, and spent the majority of their funds on One Goal Equipment for them. Flyers were taken to elementary schools in Edmond and Yukon and were distributed to children to take home. Two years ago there were 11 Mite skaters in the OKCYHA program and this year there are four Mite in-house teams and one Mite Travel team, as well as four Squirt in-house teams and one Squirt Travel team, showing tremendous growth in the younger age groups. OKCYHA did not provide specific financial information, however, I will be glad to provide a breakdown if requested.

Efforts to grow ice hockey in Oklahoma have been successful this year with attention given specifically to the younger age groups. I have requested that continued attention be given to not only to the younger ages, but also to the in-house and high school programs and specifically getting back to the District guidelines in establishing High School rosters.

Respectfully,

Anne Hetrick

KIDS FIRST BEGINNER HOCKEY PROGRAM

THE FIRST YEAR, 2006-07

The KIDS FIRST Beginner Hockey Program in Oklahoma City started as a joint effort between the local pro team, the Oklahoma City Blazers of the CHL, the two local ice rinks, Arctic Edge and Blazers Ice Center and the Oklahoma City Youth Hockey Association.

The Blazers agreed to buy 75 sets of starter equipment, the ice rinks agreed to rent ice for 40% of normal rate and the OKCYHA provided the manpower and coaches to run the program. All three would benefit, the Blazers by selling more tickets, and promoting goodwill in the community, the rinks by being able to sell more ice to youth hockey and players, and the OKCYHA by growing its numbers to have a more vibrant hockey program in Oklahoma City.

KIDS FIRST is a program designed to save parents the upfront cost of equipment and ice time to see if their kid wants to play hockey. The first six weeks are free in new equipment, if your kid likes it, then for \$250.00 you buy the equipment and sign on for 10 more weeks of the Beginner Program. It is a year of hockey and new equipment for \$250.00.

KIDS FIRST put out 50,000 flyers at the start of the 2006-07 into the city area schools, K-5th Grade and had 450 responses from parents whose kids wanted to try hockey. We have four 16-Week sessions a year with 40 kids, 5-11 years old in each session. The program was immediately full for the first two years. Last year, 2006-07, we had 160 kids participate, 104 bought equipment and 64 joined the OKCYHA house leagues which is 40% return of participants who play hockey the second year in 2007-08. We will run 4 more full sessions in 2007-08 and hope to have the same success.

The KIDS FIRST Program is operated by Michael McEwen, a 3 time Stanley Cup Champion with the New York Islanders who has been involved in Oklahoma City Youth Hockey for the last 10 years as a rink manager, Director of Hockey Operations, coach, summer camps, youth and adult beginner programs and currently is President of the OKCYHA.

KIDS FIRST has reversed the downturn in kids participating in youth hockey from a low of 158 in 2006-07 season to 210 kids in 2007-08. We hope to add approximately 60 kids every year to build our numbers back up to our high of 450 kids playing the great sport of hockey in Oklahoma City.

As a member organization in USA Hockey, the OKCYHA would appreciate any support the Rocky Mountain District could give to ensure the future success of KIDS FIRST and our ability to promote and grow hockey in Oklahoma City.

2007-2008 KIDS FIRST SUCCESS

The first year success of KIDS FIRST has been repeated for 2007-2008. We had 160 kids participate, 110 bought equipment and 64 are playing in the OKCYHA House Leagues for the 2008-2009 season. This is the same number of kids who play hockey the second year, a 40% graduation rate. 6 more kids bought equipment than last year. The OKCYHA registration numbers are now at approximately 275, an increase of 65 kids from last year.

Our KIDS FIRST Sessions of 40 kids were the two fall/winter sessions starting in September, 2007 at Arctic Edge and November, 2007 at Blazers Ice Center. The spring/summer sessions started in April, 2008 at Arctic Edge and June, 2008 at Blazers Ice Center.

KIDS FIRST received a \$2,250.00 grant from Rocky Mountain Hockey which went to the purchase of equipment.

We look forward to the continued success of the program in the future and see every reason for hockey in Oklahoma City to continue its current rate of growth.



RMD Winter Meeting

TAHA Affiliate Report

January 16, 2009

Orlando, Florida

- I. **Member Associations** – Only one new association was added this season (NDYHA), while five associations have ceased to exist this season (e.g. Attack, Blaze, CAHA, DHHA, DMHA). Efforts continue to bring other Dallas rinks (e.g. ITC, Addison) under

USA Hockey for all youth and adult programs. The Lubbock youth association was forced to end its season early when the City Council voted to close the Coliseum after Texas Tech defaulted on its lease payments.

To date, a total of 35 associations have executed the Member Association Agreement rolled out last June, while another 10 associations remain outstanding. Efforts to secure unsigned agreements will resume after the 2008-09 season.

- II. **Hockey Weekend Across America** – Efforts continue on planning and promotion of USA Hockey’s “**Hockey Weekend Across America**” on **Feb. 13-15**. Magazine advertising, email blasts, and event planning by certain associations have been the focus so far to help create public awareness of our great game and provide opportunities to those who haven’t played before.
- III. **OneGoal Program** – TAHA received delivery of 200 sets of YL OneGoal hockey equipment in October and is in the process of making distribution to remote associations and rinks to bolster their learn-to-skate programs.
- IV. **U-14 Nationals** – Alliance Youth Hockey Association continues plans to host the 2009 U14 Bantam Nationals for Tier I and II at the DPSC Plano. Rick Hall and Bob Smith participate on monthly calls with other host site reps while working hard on logistics and securing the necessary resources to result in a successful and memorable experience for all. On a related matter, it has been determined that the National host team shall be the Rocky Mountain District Tournament Runner-up at Tier I and the Texas State Champion at Tier II.
- V. **State Adult Tournament** – Plans for an A and B level State Adult Tournament to be held in May are underway. Since 2009 will be the inaugural year, plans include 8 teams on an invitation only basis with teams selected from across the state. A small entry fee will be assessed to cover some of the expense (i.e. ice, refs, scorekeeper, T-shirts, food, beverages, etc).
- VI. **Background Screenings** – Names of 1206 coaches and volunteers with approved background screenings are currently posted on the TAHA website at www.tahahockey.org along with their screening expiration date. Over 85% of those listed were screened by one of the four vendors recommended by USA Hockey (Acxiom & NCSI favorites), while others were screened by reputable service providers (i.e. local police depts., agencies, ISD's, etc) according to a written procedure approved by TAHA. Rosters with unscreened coaches were returned as approved and the coach deleted. Interestingly, no background screenings have been performed by local officials associations in Texas.
- VII. **Match Penalty Committees** – The cumulative match penalty for this season stands at 22 compared to 25 at this time last year. Trends on penalties called to date this season include: a) 86% are in Dallas, b) 59% are Adult, c) 50% of penalties called in last half of 3rd period, d) 41% for abuse of officials, and e) 86% of the 22 matches were upheld with sanctions ranging from 1 game to 3 years. As an aside, the match penalty count for all of 2007-08 season totaled 54. Names of all offenders with outstanding match suspensions are posted on the TAHA website.

- VIII. **Chicago Showcase** – An application has been submitted for Team Texas/Oklahoma to play in the 25th Annual Chicago Showcase planned for April 15-19 in Bensenville, Illinois. We continue to receive positive reports from parents and players who believe they have received opportunities to play beyond high school as a result of exposure from the Showcase.
- IX. **ACHA Hockey** – A total of 9 college hockey clubs from Texas play in ACHA Div-2. To date, poor organization, scheduling, discipline, and lack of accountability has attributed to much disappointment the past two seasons. Local officials association leaders have refused to schedule on-ice officials for the ACHA this season. TAHA officials continue to discuss opportunities where we may become more involved with the goal of strengthening area programs and improving the experience for teams and players. Growth will be stymied if changes aren't made.
- X. **Officials Shortage** – Shortages of on-ice officials continue in Dallas and other areas on holiday tournament weekends, especially those that begin on a Thursday or end on Monday. A 35% attrition of officials in the area is similar to statistics published by USA Hockey. Meanwhile, complaints come in on costs of officials for games and quality of officiating. Some new ideas are being employed for this “supply vs. demand” challenge, but the process to date has been slow.
- XI. **2009 Event Schedule** – TAHA’s planned event schedule is provided below:
- Feb 6-8 States: Tier II (Houston)
 - **Feb 13-15 Hockey Weekend Across America**
 - Feb 20-22 States: Tier I (Dallas)
 - Mar 6-8 Districts: Girls/Women’s (CO host)
 - Mar 12-15 Districts: Tier I (UT host)
 - Mar 12-15 Districts: Tier II (U14/16 in AZ, U12/18 in ID)
 - Mar 20-22 Districts: Girls Rec (NM host)
 - Mar 20-22 Districts: High School (AZ host)
 - Mar 20-22 TAC Boys & Girls (Dallas)
 - Mar 27-29 Nationals Women’s (Rochester, NY)
 - Apr 1-5 Nationals Girls (Rochester, NY)
 - Apr 1-5 Nationals Youth Tier I/II U12 (Indian Trail, NC)
 - Apr 1-5 Nationals Youth Tier I/II U14 (Plano, TX)
 - Apr 1-5 Nationals Youth Tier I/II U16 (Chesterfield, MO)
 - Apr 1-5 Nationals Youth Tier I/II U18 (Pittsburgh, PA)
 - Apr 15-19 Chicago Showcase (Chicago, IL)
 - Apr 17-19 Texas Cup HS Championship, Gold/Silver (Austin, TX)
 - Apr30-May3 Rocky Mountain Player Dev Camp (Salt Lake City, UT)
 - May 15-17 Texas State Adult Tournament (Dallas)

Submitted by: Ted Skinner, President
teskinner@marathonoil.com
(713) 201-9150 (c)
www.tahahockey.org

Utah Affiliate Report

Winter Meeting Jan 2009

Activities:

The Utah Affiliate has been involved in multiple activities this year including: Hockey Weekend Across America, 24 Hour game, Hosted the Tier 2 Playoffs for the RMD, Utah festival teams/evaluation camp, Hosted the RMD Developmental Camp, Handled Suspension of Player and Coach for 601 (g) 1 offense, RMD grant to grow the game, the Ace Summit, and changed the screening process for volunteers to a state run program through Spectrum, and Special Needs Hockey. Our Women's C team won Nationals.

Growth:

The affiliate has increased in Special Needs Hockey players now with two teams. One based in Utah Co, and one based in Salt Lake Co. This organization is run by Mike Holmes. He was awarded grant monies of \$3200 in 2007 and \$3800 in 2008 by the State. This has been money well spent. The spirit of the kids, parents, and volunteers involved has been amazing. This is a program that is truly what hockey is all about, pure love of the game. This can even be enjoyed by Mike Holmes and his little Grinch Heart. We added a new Sub Affiliate with Salt Lake County Youth Hockey which is booming in numbers, but also controls most of the ice in the State, which must continue to be monitored.

Contraction:

We have two programs that have been taken over by government entities. The Greater Salt Lake Amateur Hockey Association based out of the Olympic Oval, and the Peaks Amateur Hockey Association in Provo, Utah. GSL transitioned to the Oval entity, and the Peaks was bought out of their lease by the Ice Sheet Authority and Provo City Parks and Rec. They both are lacking in numbers as a result and require support of the Youth Council and the State Board.

Ace Summit:

An Ace Summit was held in Sept in Idaho Falls, which was an excellent event that I attended. Michael Schwarz addressed us, Al Bloomer was a keynote speaker, and a ton of information was presented. I hope it happens again in some form, it was excellent. This has helped our Affiliate spread the information and programming of Ace to our Sub-Affiliates.

Grants:

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:
NW Regulators \$3200 Special Needs program, Utah High School Hockey \$4000 Playoffs, Park City \$500 bumper pads, Davis Co Youth Hockey Assoc \$500 bumper pads, Utah Youth Council URL \$1200 Playoffs.



**Rocky Mountain District – Coaching Education Report
USA Hockey Winter Meeting
Orlando, FL – 16-18 January 2008**

- As of December 17, 2008 we have completed and closed 80 clinics; total attendees were 1639. There are an additional 9 clinics that have been completed but have not been closed and we are working to get these finished. RMD has experienced some problems in getting 9 of the clinics closed correctly. The problem seems to be two-fold: (1) lack of on-hands training for some of the Clinic Coordinators and (2) the IntraLearn system requires a multi-step process to verify/assign CEP numbers identify attendees and to close the clinic. Following is a recap of the number of clinics and their status per state:

State	Closed	Open	Closed Wrong	Total
Arizona	6	1		7
Colorado	24		3	27
Idaho	7		2	9
New Mexico		4		4
Oklahoma	4	1		5
Texas	16	3	1	20
Utah	14		3	17
Totals	71	9	9	89

- All clinics used online registration. We completed 36 Level 1, 29 Level 2, and 24 Level 3 clinics in the RMD from September through December 2008. Following is a recap of the levels held per state:

State	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Arizona	3	2	2	7
Colorado	9	9	9	27
Idaho	4	3	2	9
New Mexico	2	1	1	4
Oklahoma	2	2	1	5
Texas	7	7	6	20
Utah	9	5	3	17
Totals	36	29	24	89

- In some situations we were forced to process some attendees as walk-ins as the IntraLearn system would not allow online registrations the day of the clinic. We also processed some attendees as ‘pre-paid’ walk-ins if they were unable to attend a clinic and it was ‘closed’ before the attendee realized they could make a clinic at a later date. As previously mentioned, some of the clinics were not closed out correctly. Since we are unable to modify a clinic once it has been ‘closed’, the

CEP staff in the National Office will have to manually enter the information to give those attendees the proper credit. Additionally, attendees' certifications are not updated until a clinic has been closed. As a result of the open clinics along with those that were not closed correctly we have approximately RMD 236 coaches that have attended a clinic and have not received credit.

Following is a recap of the certified attendees per level per state:

State	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Arizona	79	50	22	151
Colorado	314	217	240	771
Idaho	40	29	23	92
New Mexico	38	0	17	55
Oklahoma	15	5	6	26
Texas	141	94	93	328
Utah	54	36	14	104
Totals	681	431	415	1527

Following is a recap of the uncertified attendees due to open clinics:

State	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Arizona				0
Colorado				0
Idaho				0
New Mexico	39	22	17	78
Oklahoma		4		4
Texas	22	14	7	43
Utah				0
Totals	61	40	24	125

Following is a recap of the uncertified attendees due to clinics not being closed correctly:

State	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Arizona				0
Colorado		48	23	71
Idaho	6	5		11
New Mexico				0
Oklahoma				0
Texas			11	11
Utah		1	18	19
Totals	6	54	52	112

- We are planning to schedule an Instructor Seminar early- August 2009 in Colorado to help address the problems we have experienced due to lack of on-hands training with IntraLearn.
- 18 Temporary Cards have been processed to date. We expect additional applications will be submitted prior to District Playoffs. No Temporary Cards will be granted during the District Playoffs. USAH has granted 18 Level 3 Waivers and denied 3 within RMD. Following is a recap of the Temporary Cards and Waivers processed by state:

State	Total Temp	Waivers Granted	Waivers Denied

	Cards		
Arizona	0	1	
Colorado	10	10	1
Idaho	3	1	2
New Mexico			
Oklahoma	1		
Texas		6	
Utah	1		
Totals	15	18	3

- We have a total 55 certified instructors in the district covering seven states. However, approximately 25 instructors are currently active in the CEP program.
- Michael Schwarz, the District ACE Director continues to work towards full compliance within the District.
- We are planning to schedule an Advanced Clinic mid-September 2009 in Denver, CO. We have submitted a Request for Proposal to 4 event centers in the Denver metro area. Tom Lampl has taken the lead in organizing the Advanced Clinic.

We continue to strive for CEP credibility. Without the experience and effort of Associate Coach in Chiefs Tom Lampl, T.C. Lewis and Michael Schwarz this would not have been the successful CEP year that it was.

Submitted by:
Paul Davern
RMD Coach in Chief

**October 14, 2008
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report**

Good morning, thanks for everyone's time and input for our monthly call. The following list is the items from last month's call on Tuesday September 9th, Phil Paolilli and TC helped lead the call, and the new items we covered on October 14th, with Tom Power leading the call.

Call Agenda from September & October:

- **2009 RMD Annual Meeting – determining the location, Arizona or Idaho –**
 - Decision to hold the August 2009 meeting in Arizona, location to be finalized by the winter meeting in Florida, the meeting dates are August 14-16, 2009
- **Officials – concern on growing the ranks of officials and state organizations**
 - Bryan, TC, Tom and Chris to draft a letter to Bob McMann and Matt Leaf regarding the concerns within the RMD, about the lack Officials within the District, requesting information on what are the action plans to help grow the number and what can each of the Affiliates and the District do to help. The desire to develop a workable action plan to attack some of the Officiating needs within each Affiliate.
- **RMD – District Director Special election –**
 - Congratulations to Tom Power being elected as the new Rocky Mountain District Director
- **District Grants for Adult Hockey**
 - Need input from Bruce on the RMD Grants for Adult Hockey within each of the Affiliates, need an update on the dollar amounts available and requirements. Chris to follow up with Bruce when he returns to gather the information.
- **Phil Paolilli – Main Thing – Colorado**
 - Will update with notes from TC
- **Tom Power – Main Thing – Idaho**
 - Idaho is adding two new associations
 - Offering match grant to local association with a focus on growing the game, some of the programs are:
 1. Focus on free programs to introduce to hockey
 2. Programs targeting girls
 3. Some organizations are using the funds for targeted advertising
 4. One organization ran a blood drive as a way to get interest in Hockey – Give Blood, Play Hockey
 5. One organization bought street hockey equipment for the local school for both PE class and after school programs with a tie to being able to promote their hockey program
- **Tier I tournament in Salt Lake City – Bryan**
 - Ted Skinner made a motion to accept 6 teams at both the U16 & U18 Tier I District Tournament in Salt Lake City, second by Phi Paolilli, after much discussion the vote was as follows: 6 yes, 1 no, 1 abstained

Yes – Phil -Colorado, Melissa -New Mexico, Ted -Texas, Geoff -Utah, Tom - Idaho, Chris –RMD Director

No – Jon –Arizona

Abstained – Bryan –RMD Director

- It was also agreed that the Affiliate Presidents would not support moving the U12 Tier from Salt Lake City
- **Affiliate annual audits – Chris**
 - The focus on each Affiliate to have a external audit to be conducted each year. Chris to follow up with Jim Smith and Robert Weldon on final directions, regarding Affiliate audits and is there an outline of the audit instructions.
- **Reminder of the Grow the Game grant recap by 12/10/08 - Chris**
 - Again, just a reminder that a written recap of the Grow the Game grants are due on December 12th to Chris
- **High School National Tournament –**
 - In the High School Section conference call last week, it was determined that the inaugural USA Hockey High School National Championship will be held April 15-18, 2010 in Chicago. – Again, a special thank you to Kelly for making a dream come true, congratulations on all of your efforts
- **Youth Council recap** - Attached is the report TC Lewis, presented at the Youth Council Meeting on September 26-27 on behalf of the RMD. The Youth Council meeting recap
 - We have set up 4 sub-committees:
 1. Open Hockey
 2. Tier I Hockey
 3. House/Rec (I am the chairperson for this one)
 4. Tier II Hockey
 - We discussed that Pat Kelleher is now in charge of Membership Development, a new division at the National Office.
 - Hockey Weekend Across America is Feb. 13-15, 2009
 - The 2010 National Championship sites were selected. Utah had two bids in but neither one this time around. I think they need to keep trying.
 - The 50 state Tier II concept is still in place for 2010.
 - They are still working on the details for a Tier I definition. It will be presented at the winter meeting.
 - Player Development was discussed and they may tweak things a bit but no firm details yet.

District Conference Call

Next : District Conference Call

When: Tuesday November 11th 2008

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to either Melissa or Chris any items you would like added to the call agenda.

Please remember we added a key item to this call “the Main Thing – Growing the Game”, we committed that we would spend 10 to 15 minutes talking about how each state is growing the game.

November 11th

December 9th

January 13th

Melissa Peterson

Anne Hetrick

Canceled due to RMD Meeting in Florida

February 10 th	Ted Skinner
March 10 th	Geoff Fisher
April 14 th	Jon Brooks
May 12 th	Phil Paolilli
June 9 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 14 th	Tom Power

**November 11, 2008
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report**

Good afternoon, thanks for everyone's time and input for our monthly call and thanks to Melissa for help lead the call. Attached are three of the documents that we talked about, the adult tournament and Tier I Hockey. Anne will help lead the December call.

Please remember we added a key item to this call “the Main Thing – Growing the Game”, we committed that we would spend 10 to 15 minutes talking about how each state is growing the game.

Call Agenda from September:

- Growing the Ranks of Officials Action Plan report (TC)
 - In Texas, they have started targeting the adult players
 - Trying a clinic for girls & women
 - Have developed a Mentoring program/ Shadow program
 - Need to focus on youth players to become Officials
 - Look to bring each of the Affiliate's Referee- in-Chief together to work with Bob McMann on developing a targeted action plan
- District Grants for Adult Hockey (Bruce)
 - This is a matching Grant of up to \$2,000 to each State is to be used as seed monies to initiate an Adult State Tournament in each state in the Rocky Mountain District. The monies are to be spent during the 2008/2009 hockey season.
 - Grants are to be used for Ice and Officials expense, any exceptions will be made by Bruce
 - Must recap of the Adult tournament with information about the tournament
 - The request for the matching funds are to be directed to Bruce
- Affiliate Audit requirement
 - The audit process is still on hold, need to get a definition from USA Hockey on what the Audit is to cover and other details
 - Chris Kenney to reach out to Bob Weldon to follow up on the process
- Grow the Game – the Main Thing (Melissa)
 - Melissa, talked about the challenges in NM, and that the goal right now is limit the decline, part of the issues is the financial related but not all of it.
 - They are focused on bringing fun back to all parts of the game
 - Advertising to targeted groups to increase interest
 - Special promotion at CHL games
 - Have actually grown the ranks of Officials
- Agenda Items and Time for Winter Meeting (Bruce)

- Bruce has set our meeting up for Friday January 16th from 11am to 4pm, please forward to him any agenda items by December 1st, he will forward an agenda to all of us by late December.
- RMD Grant Reports due December 12, 2008 (Chris)
 - Just another reminder to submit your grant recap, we will compile them for the winter meeting in Florida. If I receive it by December 12th, we will have the remain portion of the grant for you at the meeting.
- Tier I update by TC & AI
 - Attached is the **4th** draft of the proposed ***Tier 1 Organization Criteria***. This document was prepared by the Tier 1 Subcommittee of the Youth Council. The committee has discussed this document with the full council.
 - During the Affiliate President's meeting at the 2007 Winter Meeting, the Youth Council was asked to come up with a criteria for youth player classification. The Youth Council took on the Tier 1 classification as it first target. There are other subcommittees currently working on Recreational, Open, Tier II and Hockey 101. These subcommittees are just beginning their work
 - The Tier 1 Subcommittee will be presenting this information in some form at the 2009 Winter Meeting.
 - Please take the time to review the Tier I document and forward to AI and all of us your thoughts, comments, suggestions and concerns, as AI said this proposal may have a larger impact to a District like the RMD because of our diversity
 - Would suggest that you reach out to your local Associations and Organizations to get their thoughts and feedback, as they are going to the ones having to work with the new definition of Tier I
 - Attached is the document that AI walked us through, a special thank you to AI for making the time for us

District Conference Call

Next : District Conference Call

When: Tuesday December 9th 2008

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to either Melissa or Chris any items you would like added to the call agenda.

December 9 th	Anne Hetrick
January 13 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida
February 10 th	Ted Skinner
March 10 th	Geoff Fisher
April 14 th	Jon Brooks
May 12 th	Phil Paolilli
June 9 th	Cancelled due to the National Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 14 th	Tom Power

TIER I HOCKEY
As of 10/17/08

4th Draft

General Intent

The general intent of Tier I Hockey is to provide an opportunity for the best youth players to develop and compete at the highest level of hockey available in the United States, at (does not include 10&U or 8&U) 12 & Under, 14 & Under, 16 & Under and 18 & Under by and through USA HOCKEY and the Affiliate. Tier I Hockey is not intended to pressure any Youth Player to play Tier I Hockey.

Definition of Tier I

A Tier I organization is any organization that registers Tier I teams. They advertise themselves as such for tryouts, to recruit, entice or in any way to give the appearance of being a Tier I program.

Players must be properly registered with USA Hockey as per the USA Hockey Annual Guide. Non US citizens must comply with all IIHF transfer regulations and provide proof of legal residency: Players who are citizens of another country and residing with a parent shall be considered eligible if the parent(s) holds one of the following: Alien Registration Receipt Card or Permanent Resident Card, or one of the following visas: A. Government Official; E. Treaty Trader or Investor; G. Representative to International Organization; H. Temporary Worker; I. Foreign Information Media Representative; J. Exchange Alien; L. Intra-Company Transferee; M. Non-Academic Student; O. Aliens of Extraordinary Ability; P. Athletes and Entertainers; Q. Cultural Exchange; R. Religious Workers; or TN. Professional.) Players, who are citizens of another country and are in the US without a parent, must hold an F or J. Academic Student classification visa, Alien Registration Receipt Card or Permanent Resident Card.

Tier 1 coaches:

Because this is the highest level of play for each age division, the Head coaches and all Assistant coaches must have at least the Level 4 USA Hockey coaching certification, by December 31st of the playing season **or receive a Temporary Level 4 Card from the District Coach-in-Chief.**

Tier I coaches are required to participate and mentor with their entry level programs

Tier I teams:

can recruit players

must have open tryouts for USAH registered players

each Tier I organization may field a maximum of six (6) teams with no more than one team at each level, Major and Minor (i.e. 18U Midget Major, 19U girls, 16 & Under Midget Minor,

14 & Under Bantam Major, 14 & Under Bantam Minor, 12 & Under Pee Wee Major and 12 & Under Pee Wee Minor).

rosters are limited by USA Hockey to a maximum of 3 out-of-District players for 18&U **Youth and 19&U Girls**, 2 for 16&U (*Major and Minor*), 1 for 14&U (*Major and Minor*) and 1 for 12&U (*Major and Minor*). **The Affiliate may restrict this further.** Additionally, players and/or teams may appeal this restriction to the Affiliate where the team is registered. Any player not registered in that District during the previous playing season, whose family legitimately relocates their permanent residence, may also appeal their status as an "out-of-District" player to the District.

An "out-of-District player" is defined as any non-US citizen or any player registered in a different District during the previous playing season. (See D.3. above).

have the intent to play at the highest competitive level possible
Are supportive of academic pursuits of their individual players.

To include as a minimum: strength & conditioning, on-ice skills, tactics & habits, nutrition, hydration and recovery, mental preparation, training elite athletes, training and opportunity for **upward mobility**.

Steering Committee / Oversight Authority

The USA Hockey National Tier I Committee shall be chaired by the Youth Council Vice President. The remainder of the Committee shall be comprised of the Player Development Chair, the Youth National Championship Chair and the Youth Council staff liaison.

The Tier I Committee shall have responsibility for all matters pertaining to Tier I Organizations, Tier I Teams and Tier I Hockey subject to the Youth Council review and approval.

Affiliate Tier I Committee

The Affiliate shall establish a Tier I Committee that must include a fair representation of the Tier I organization's in their Affiliate and appoint a Tier I Committee and Chairperson ("Tier I Chairperson") if there is Tier I hockey in that affiliate.

The Affiliate Tier I Committee shall have the responsibility (with their Affiliate Board approval) for overseeing the Affiliate Tier I teams within their individual area. This shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Granting or terminating of authority to organize and/or operate a Tier I organization, club or association ("Tier I Organization")
- Establishing guidelines which shall be used to carry out the purpose of the Committee.

Tier I Organizations

General: A Tier I Organization is an organization duly organized and operating in accordance with the By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Policies of the Affiliate and authorized annually by the Affiliate to field, govern and

control Tier I Teams organized by that Tier I Organization in the Affiliate on a season by season term and which authorization expires annually at the end of the authorized season.

Guidelines for Determining the Number of Teams

Guidelines for determining the number of Tier I teams shall include, but not be limited to the following:

Not more than 10% of the total registered Players, in the Affiliate, at any Age Level (12 & Under (*Major and Minor*), 14 & Under, (*Major and Minor*), 16 & Under and 18 & Under) should play Tier I Hockey; (this percentage may be decreased by the Affiliate or District if deemed appropriate).

Each Tier I organization must field at least two Tier I teams; (e.g. 12 & Under, 14 & Under, 16 & Under; 18 & Under) at a minimum **in at least two different Division classifications – Pee Wee (Major/Minor), Bantam (Major/Minor), or Midget (18U or 16U).**

Tier I teams are required to have a minimum practice to game ratio of 2:1. USA Hockey highly recommends a 3:1 ratio. For this purpose, a practice must average at least 60 minutes or more, of on-ice participation.

Tier I teams may play a maximum of 75 total games.

Tier I Season: The Tier I Organization season shall commence on August 15th of each year and end on the last day of the Nationals Tournament of each year unless otherwise unanimously approved by the Tier I Committee.

Tier I Team Authorization Procedure

Application: All Tier I associations must submit their Tier I application to their Affiliate and Tier I Committee no later than February 15th, or as extended by the Affiliate Tier I Committee, but at least 30 days prior to any Tier I organization scheduled Tier I Team tryout. Each Application shall comply fully with the requirements set forth by the Affiliate. Tier I associations may not have more than one team per birth year.

Notification: Beginning with the 2009-2010 Season, Tier I Organizations will be notified by April 1st in writing of the acceptance or denial of its application by the Tier I Chairperson, or his/her designee.

Minimum Requirements: Every authorized new or existing Tier I Organization shall comply with the minimum requirements set forth in this Article, the Affiliate and USA HOCKEY By-laws, Policies, Rules and Regulations. **Each organization may not have more than (1) team at each age level permitted.**

Addendum 1:

(The following information is for Affiliates to implement)

I. Team Selection Process

A. Procedures: Each Tier I Organization shall institute procedures to select the best Players available. Guidelines for team selection process shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Each Tier I organization shall institute procedures to select the best available players under the guidelines of the affiliate.
2. Tier I organizations should hold open tryouts. Commencing with the 2008-2009 season, tryouts may not be announced or advertised until the Tier I Organization has received written notification of acceptance of its application for the ensuing season by the Affiliate Tier I Committee.
3. Personal invitations for tryouts are permissible but tryouts must be announced publicly through a general publication or individual mailing to all players at each level, inviting any player who wishes to tryout. This announcement shall take place at least thirty (30) days prior to any tryouts. The announcement shall also be posted at the rink the tryouts will be held at for the 30 days prior to the tryout.
4. The announcement must contain a minimum of at least the following information:
 - a. Organization name
 - b. Levels of tryouts and Coaches name, if known
 - c. Contacts with phone numbers
 - d. Dates, Location, Times and Cost of tryouts
 - e. Brief statement about the program
 - f. The date contact is permitted
5. Each Tier I Organization shall provide a Fact Sheet that shall be provided to anyone who makes an inquiry. (see D. Player Card information below).
6. No player, Coach or Manager shall be solicited nor shall the possibility of playing Tier I hockey be discussed with any Player, Coach or Manager, prior to the conclusion of the USA HOCKEY National Tournaments, except for an existing Tier I Player for the particular Tier I Organization for which that Player played during the existing season and then only by that Tier I Organization. (see paragraph below on Tampering and Recruiting of any Player, Coach or Manager).
7. If a Tier I Player, **coach, official or manager** initiates contact with another Tier I Organization, the Tier I Organization will advise it cannot discuss the matter and will advise the individual/individuals of the date after which contact is permitted.

B. Tampering and Recruiting of Players, Coaches and Managers

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Rule is to ensure that all Tier I Organizations have a clear understanding of the Rules and

Guidelines governing Tampering and the Recruitment of Players, Coaches and Managers. Failure to follow this Rule shall subject the offending individuals organization, its parents and anyone over whom the Affiliate has jurisdiction, to disciplinary action including suspension, fine and/or revocation of the parties and/or the organization.

C. Rule: The Tampering or recruitment of Players, Coaches and Managers Rule shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. This Rule shall be in addition to all applicable rules, guidelines and codes of ethics issued by USA HOCKEY and/or the Affiliate.
2. Recruiting/ Tampering is defined as ANY communication prior to the conclusion of the National Championships to or from a current Tier I Player, Parent, Guardian, Coach or Manager, or any communication violating the spirit of this Rule, to attempt to persuade ANY Tier I Player, Coach or Manager to become affiliated with any other Tier I Organization team or club for the current or future playing seasons. This definition does not, however, include communications between any Player, Coach or Manager in their existing Tier I Organization.
3. Claimed violations of this Rule shall first be submitted in writing by the complainant along with a statement of facts to the Affiliate Tier I Committee who shall convene a meeting within 30 days to discuss the alleged violation. If the Committee finds that an alleged violation has occurred, the matter will be presented and referred to the Affiliate Rules & Ethics Committees for investigation and hearing, along with the Tier I Committee's and its recommended disciplinary action. The Affiliate Rules & Ethics Committee shall render its decision after the hearing. Additionally, refer to USA Hockey Annual Guide Bylaw 10 Resolution of Disputes, Arbitration and Suspensions.

D. Player Card - Parental Consent: Players must sign a "Player Card" (provided by the Youth Council Tier I Committee) and the Player's parents [or guardian] must sign an Acknowledgment Form (see the attached sample form) that they have received a Fact Sheet and have been fully informed of all terms and conditions, including financial, required for play on that Tier I Team.

1. **Submission to Affiliate Tier I Chairperson:** The signed Player Card and Parental Acknowledgement form must be submitted to the Tier I Chairperson by the dates set out in these Rules or as designated by the Tier I Chairperson.
2. **Rosters:** USA HOCKEY Rosters must be submitted to the USA Hockey Registrar and the Affiliate Tier I Chairperson by the dates set out in these Rules or designated by the Tier I Chairperson. The final roster is due to the District Registrar by December 31.
3. **Number of Players Cards:** Each Tier I Organization shall be permitted twenty (20) Player Cards per Team.
4. **Issuance of Player Cards:** Player Cards (which must be signed completely and returned to the Tier I Committee Chairperson) will

be issued to all Tier I Organizations on the last day of tryouts for each level of the upcoming Playing Season.

- 5. Player Commitment:** Any player who signs a Player Card is committed to that Tier I Organization and Tier I Team for the ensuing playing season and cannot play for another team, Tier I or otherwise, except Girls, High School, House League, Juniors, Junior College, College or University. Any player who signs a Player Card for any Tier I Organization shall not be recruited by on behalf of any other Tier I Team or Organization and cannot be removed from that Tier I Organization Team's roster without the approval of the Affiliate Board of Directors.
- 6. All Player Cards Return:** All "Player Cards" and parental acknowledgement forms shall be returned to the Tier I Team Chairperson August 15th by 5:00 p.m. EST of the current playing season for PeeWees and Bantams and November 15th by 5:00 p.m. EST of the current playing season for Midgets, after which date NO PLAYER may be signed or deleted from a Tier I Team [roster] except by approval of the Affiliate Board of Directors.
- 7. Commitment Date:** No Player shall be required to commit to play on a Tier I Team or sign a roster or pay monies in excess of actual ice time cost prior to August 15th of the ensuing Playing Season.
- 8. Fact Sheet:** Tier I Teams and Tier I Organizations shall furnish each Player and his/her parent[s] or guardian, in writing, before any tryout and prior to the signing a Player Card, a Fact Sheet, providing full disclosure about Tier I Hockey by the Tier I Organization indicating all costs, (which shall, at a minimum, include coaches' salaries, fund raising requirements, any additional funds or money due from the player) number of games and practices, amount and extent of travel, any "rules" of the Tier I Organization/Team, and the actual costs of playing for the Tier I Team and Tier I Organization.

II. Competition Among Tier I Organization

- A.** The authorized Tier I Organization's in the Affiliate have agreed that competition among the Tier I Organizations and Teams will improve the standards and conduct of hockey in the Affiliate and further develop Tier I Players in the Affiliate. The authorized Tier I Organizations in the Affiliate shall play each other a minimum of two (2) games (not counting tournament) at every level each year within the Affiliate in a home and home series. All "intrastate" [may want to change the wording here to something with a specific mileage due to the vastly different size of states] games shall be played unless an individual team petitions and receives an exemption from the Tier I Chairperson. Scheduling of these ""intrastate" [may want to change the wording here to something with a specific mileage due to the vastly different size of states] games shall take place prior to the league scheduling meetings of the Tier I Organizations' respective leagues and must be played prior to the day of the Tier I State/Affiliate Tournament.

26 May 2008

Rocky Mountain District Adult State Tournament Grant

Scope: This is a matching Grant of up to \$2,000 to each State is to be used as seed monies to initiate an Adult State Tournament in each state in the Rocky Mountain District. The monies are to be spent during the 2008/2009 hockey season. Grant total is \$14,000.

Rules and Restrictions:

1. The monies from the District Grant are to be used only for ice and referee costs.
2. Age and group classifications for the Tournament/s are to be decided by the Affiliate/State.
3. All teams and players playing the Tournament/s **must** be registered with USA hockey prior to playing in the Tournament/s.
4. All teams/players must be registered in the host Affiliate/state where the tournament is held.
5. Date/s and location/s and host/s are to be decided by the Affiliate/state.
6. A brief written report must be written about the successes and problems encountered and submitted to the District Directors and Affiliate Presidents prior the District June meeting.

08May26

December 9, 2008
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report

Please remember we added a key item to this call “the Main Thing – Growing the Game”, we committed that we would spend 10 to 15 minutes talking about how each state is growing the game.

Call Agenda - December:

- USA Hockey – Membership Development - update by Pat Kelleher _Assistant Executive Director, Membership Development
 - There is an opening page that explains all the research, but it is basically a look at the last 10 years of 4 - 8 year old male participation in hockey in each state in the RMD. We tracked acquisition of new players, retention of players from 1st year to 2nd year, and then the rate of retention for each year. We are sharing this information with each Affiliate and will discuss it at Winter Meetings in Florida. Through this research we hope to share information and best practices and track numbers to know where are issues/problems are with membership.
 - OneGoal – you will be able to order new equipment through www.OneGoal.com , orders must be completed by the end of February with delivery on July
 - Please review each of your own Affiliate information so we can further discuss at the mid-winter meeting in Florida
 - Special thanks to Pat for making the time to join our call, Pat has agree to join our meeting in Florida to discuss the Issues within the Rocky Mountain District, let’s be prepared to make the most of the time together

- Grow the Game - the Main Thing (Anne)
 - Anne talked about some of the positive growth in OKC as well as the efforts in Tulsa. They are focusing on continuing to lift the numbers of youth players

- District Grants for Adult Hockey (Bruce)
 - This is a matching Grant of up to \$2,000 to each State is to be used as seed monies to initiate an Adult State Tournament in each state in the Rocky Mountain District. The monies are to be spent during the 2008/2009 hockey season.
 - Grants are to be used for Ice and Officials expense, any exceptions will be made by Bruce
 - Must recap of the Adult tournament with information about the tournament
 - The request for the matching funds are to be directed to Bruce

- Agenda Items and Time for Winter Meeting (Bruce)
 - Bruce has set our meeting up for Friday January 16th from 11am to 4pm. Bruce has finalized the agenda, he will forward it to all of us by late December.

- Rocky Mountain District meeting at the USA Hockey mid winter meeting -

- Please remember to send your RMD District and Affiliates written reports to Jill Day as soon as possible so she can compile them for our meeting. As one of the agenda items is a brief discussion of both the District and Affiliates activities. You can email your reports to Jill at jillv8@comcast.net
- RMD Grant Reports due December 12, 2008
 - To date I have received Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. If I have not received your yet please try to get it to me prior to the end of the year.
Thanks
- Tier I final update by TC
 - TC did a great job out lining the issues and plans regarding the goal of defining Tier I hockey, while it has been put on the back burner, it is very important for each of our Affiliate President be prepared to talk about Tier I and any issues or concerned that you have for your members during the Affiliate Presidents meeting. This is one of our opportunities to be heard
- Helmet recall – we reviewed the information on the Helmet recall and it appears that most rinks and shops have already reacted
- Coach training – Paul spoke about some of the changes with Instructor training which had in the past been hosted in Lake Placid
 - Paul would like to look at doing the training in Colorado
 - He will have the rough costs at the January meeting, but it would include flight, hotel and F&B
 - Dates to be in either August or early September
 - Paul will outline the requirements to attend the training

Look forward to seeing everyone in Florida, until then I hope that you have a wonderful Holidays.

District Conference Call

Next : District Conference Call

When: Tuesday February 10th 2009

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to either Anne or Chris any items you would like added to the call agenda.

January 13 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida
February 10 th	Ted Skinner
March 10 th	Geoff Fisher
April 14 th	Jon Brooks
May 12 th	Phil Paolilli
June 9 th	Cancelled due to the National Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 14 th	Tom Power
August 11 th	Cancelled due to the Annual Meeting in Arizona
September 8 th	Melissa Peterson
October 13 th	Anne Hetrick