

Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council

Meeting Minutes, Spring 2014

April 12, 2014

Wawonowin Golf Course, Ishpeming, Michigan

Submitted by Walt Milligan, MAHA District 8 Secretary, April 13, 2014. Revised May 8, 2014.

Attendance:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| MAHA | Perry Wooden, D8 Chair/Director Dan Giachino, D8 Director Frank Sliva, D8 Director Cathy Starrett, D8 Treasurer/Director, MAHA STAR Chair Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary Bob Yohe, MAHA Registrar Eric Froberg, D8 Referee Supervisor Jeff Cornock, D8 Coaching Director Tim McIntosh, D8 Registrar Michele LaCourt, D8 Registrar Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officiating |
| USA Hockey | Kevin Erlenbach, Director of Membership Development |
| Calumet | Dan Zubiena |
| Copper Country | Al Wakeham |
| Dickinson | Ken Wood |
| Escanaba | Mike Borman |
| Iron Range | Jayne Mattias |
| Iron River | Chris Thompson |
| Ironwood | Brian Anderson |
| Keweenaw Bay | Amy Lake |
| Manistique | Eric Oas, Phil Berger |
| Marquette | Scott Ely |
| Munising | Joe McInnis |
| Ontonagon | Shannon Clinesmith |
| Tahquamenon | <i>No Representative</i> |

Chair Perry Wooden called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Introductions were made.

Motion (Zubiena/Oas): Approve minutes from the Fall 2013 meeting. Approved unanimously.

Wooden presented the Chairperson's report:

- Most of the items that he wanted to cover are on the Agenda and will be discussed later.

- Wooden noted that District teams did extremely well at State and National tournaments this spring, including:
 - Marquette 16U Tier 2 Girls: State Champs, National Runners-up
 - Keweenaw Storm 19U Tier 2 Girls: State Champs, National Runners-up
 - Keweenaw Bay Squirt B: State Champs
 - Marquette 10U House/Rec Girls: State Champs
 - Iron River Pee Wee B: State Champs
 - DAHA Bantam B: State Runners-up
 - Marquette 19U House/Rec Girls: State Champs

Starrett presented the Treasurer's Report:

- She is having some issues with the online Quickbooks. In particular, communications from her to associations appear to be coming from Grant Helms at MAHA, and sometimes checks end up being mailed to the wrong place because of this. Also, since it is a state wide system, there is no flexibility to change expense or income categories.
- This year's grant money was used to purchase stickhandling aids for all the associations.
- The budget looks good and stable; no major changes are anticipated.
- A discussion of what to request with grant money occurred.

Motion (Sliva/Zubiena): Request MAHA Grant Funding to purchase credential books for teams in the District, and Shooter Tutors. Approved unanimously.

Milligan presented the Secretary's Report:

- The District Directory was circulated for updates.
- The new District website hosted by Sport NGIN worked well. Selected website analytics are attached to the end of the minutes.

Kevin Erlenbach, the Director of Membership Development for USA Hockey, flew in from Colorado Springs to present on Membership Development issues. The highlights are as follows:

- The focus of USA Hockey for membership development is the recruitment and retention of 4-8 year old players.
 - If a player makes it to age 9, there is a 91% chance that they will be retained. For 8U, the retention rates were around 52% and they have recently been improved to around 64%.
- There are 3 pillars of this initiative for 8U players:
 - Fun
 - Guidance, Instruction, Attention
 - Achievement

- USA Hockey has started a program called the “2 and 2 Challenge” that helps associations in this recruitment process. The “2 and 2” means if we recruit 2 new players and retain 2 existing players, participation will grow.
- Associations that sign up for the challenge get lots of help and resources from USA Hockey, including:
 - E-mails and phone calls to lists of players
 - Jerseys, promotional items, goodie bags
 - Free USA Hockey memberships for players that come to the “play hockey for free” days.
 - 4 starter sets of equipment.
- More goodies are available at higher levels of participation. See the USA Hockey website for more information.
 - <http://www.2and2challenge.com/>
 - <http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/908010-membership-development>

Yohe presented the Registrar’s Report.

- Numbers are down from last year by 228 in the District (47 adults) and 5,500 in the State (1,800 adults). Speculation around the high state numbers centers around AAU JV leagues downstate
- All Registrars have been invited to the Summer Meeting in Traverse City, July 11-13. MAHA is paying their mileage, rooms and banquet fees.
- A new online registration system is almost ready, and will be rolled out in the next few months. It is completely web-based and easy to use. The ultimate goal, in addition to having a good registration system, would be for coaches to have their team credentials books available on an iPad or similar device.
- USA Hockey has a new parent handbook online, and it looks good.
- Adults can benefit from USA Hockey registration, especially for insurance purposes.

Cornock presented the Coaching Report:

- A Level 4 Clinic has been scheduled in Marquette for May 17-18, but it is in danger of being canceled if more people do not register. Only 11 are signed up, and they need at least 30.

Froberg presented the Referee Report:

- He thanked the hosts of the District Tournaments, who all did a very good job.
- He requested that the District adopt the MAHA State rates for officiating regional and district tournaments.

Motion (Starrett/Zubiena): Pay officials the approved MAHA State Rates for all regional and district tournaments. Approved unanimously.

District Directors presented their reports:

- Sliva attended the Winter MAHA Meeting and the Bantam Districts at Manistique. He stated that after the first game or two, it became evident that a flood was needed in-game, so they flooded every other period. This is not consistent with the new MAHA State Tournament guidelines for B level hockey, which now specify a flood only once per game.
- Starrett attended two disciplinary hearings, the Winter MAHA Meeting, the Chairperson's Meeting, the Regional Tournament in Munising, and the Pee Wee Districts in Iron Mountain. All went well. She will attend the MAHA Executive Committee Meeting in May. She mentioned that she heard a lot of complaints from parents about the high cost of the District Tournament fees.
- Wooden attended the Squirt Districts in Ironwood, which went well. They did a really good job with fun activities off the ice. He reminded District Council that any National-Bound team that needs exceptions must get the approval of both MAHA and USA Hockey.
- Giachino attended the MAHA Winter Meeting and several disciplinary hearings, as well as the Squirt AA District tournament in Calumet, which was very competitive. He also reported that parents were complaining about the high fees. He also noted that the pre-checks of credential books made the process go much more smoothly.
- Association Representatives presented their reports to District Council. Mike Borman from Escanaba reported that they invested in a new ice plant, and it saved them \$40,000 this year in power bills. Between the power cost savings and some "green" incentives, it will pay for itself in under 3 years.

McIntosh reported on the Bantam and Midget Festival. He thanked Micah Stipech for stepping in when Tim was not available because of family obligations. They had an excellent turnout.

McInnis and Milligan presented the CUP League report. The new website worked very well. Teams entered their own game results. About 2/3 of the teams participated, and in the end, there were only 13% of the games that did not have scores reported, and no one pressed very hard to get people to do it. It should get better every year.

Starrett presented the Rules Report. Among the proposed rule changes that will affect the District if they are passed were the following:

- There is a proposal to stagger the terms of District Directors. In the current system, they all expire in the same year.
- There is a proposal to eliminate the recently imposed ban on girls moving up more than 2 age levels at the House/Rec level. Cornock stated vehemently that this should be amended to include all levels of Girls hockey, since there is no such ban in youth hockey.
- There is a proposal that if an association only has 1 team in a division, they must present proof to MAHA that registration dates and tryouts were publicly posted on a website or newspaper. This is in response to perceived "secret" registrations and tryouts by some teams, who try to stack a team with players of their choosing.

- There is a proposal that AAA Hockey can only be offered by a so-called Tier 1 Association. A Tier 1 Association would need to have AAA teams at every level from Pee Wee AAA minor through Midget AAA Major. This would kill AAA hockey in the UP and most of non-Detroit Michigan, including the Marquette Electricians and the Soo AAA Midget team.

Starrett presented the STAR Report. MAHA would like to combine the STAR Program with the SafeSport Program. It appears likely to happen, but perhaps not right away.

Starrett also encouraged associations to apply for One Goal grants. The application deadline is June 15, and grants are typically given for up to \$2,500, with successful applications targeting program growth.

Old Business:

- USA Hockey requires every association to have a SafeSport Representative who has taken the online training. The proof of this training must be e-mailed to Perry Wooden. Associations who do not do this may have their participation in District Tournaments revoked.
- Associations need to know what is required to maintain Association status, especially regarding smaller associations with few teams. District personnel are available and very willing to help, including personal visits to the associations.

New Business:

- The District has bantam state tournaments next year. It became apparent that the new system for selecting District Tournament sites did not anticipate the State process. Therefore, associations bid to host the State Tournaments, and hosting privileges were awarded by a secret ballot vote of District Council.
 - CCJHA will host the Bantam AA State Tournament. Based on MAHA requirements and referee availability, this will probably need to be on the weekend of February 27, 28 and March 1.
 - Marquette will host the Bantam B State Tournament, tentatively on the weekend of March 6-8.
 - It was agreed that a proposal for how to handle this in the future should be brought for a vote by District Council.
- Regional and District Tournament sites were selected via the new procedures, and are attached to the end of this document, along with the bidding priorities for next year.
- The blind draw to establish Team Numbers for regional and district tournaments was held, and the results are attached to the end of this document.
- Wooden proposed the formation of a committee for playoff tournaments. The committee will recommend policies and procedures for tournament brackets, as well as administrative guidelines for hosting the tournaments. (For example, the deadline dates for communicating with the entered teams, etc.) All this should be posted on the D8 website by Thanksgiving 2014. Committee volunteers were solicited and the committee

tentatively consists of Wooden, Milligan, McInnis, Giachino, and McIntosh. Other volunteers are welcome.

- ***Deadline Reminders:*** Affiliate agreements are due August 1, Rules proposals and single-entry team requests are due August 15, Intent to Enter States is due November 1, and exemption requests are due November 15.
- There were no new trophy bids. Starrett stated that trophy costs have really gone up, and with the higher district tournament entry fees and gate fees, we probably want to keep an eye on this and discuss cost control at some point.

The Fall District 8 Meeting time and location was agreed upon:

- Saturday, October 18, 2014
- 10:00 am
- Wawanowin Country Club, Ishpeming, MI

Motion (Starrett/Sliva): Adjourn. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm.

Tentative MAHA District 8 tournament sites and dates.

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| East Region Playdowns (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam B) | Iron Mountain | January 16-18, 2015 |
| West Region Playdowns (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam B) | Ironwood | January 16-18, 2015 |
| | | |
| Squirt B Districts | Calumet | TBA |
| Squirt AA Districts | TBA | TBA |
| | | |
| Pee Wee B Districts | Escanaba | February 13-15, 2015 |
| Pee Wee AA Districts | TBA | TBA |
| | | |
| Bantam B Districts | Iron River | February 13-15, 2015 |
| Bantam AA Districts | TBA | TBA |
| | | |
| Midget BB Districts | Marquette | February 6-8, 2015 |
| | | |
| Bantam B States | Marquette | March 6-8, 2015 |
| Bantam A States | Contingent on having a Bantam A team in the District | |
| Bantam AA States | Copper Country | February 27-March 1, 2015 |

Regional and district tournament dates will be finalized at the Fall District 8 Council Meeting on October 18, 2014. State tournament locations and dates are subject to approval by MAHA.

Bidding for B District Tournaments, April 12, 2014

| Association | Decision |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Calumet | Squirt B |
| Copper Country | Pass |
| Iron River | Bantam B |
| Escanaba | Pee Wee B |
| Tahquamenon | Not Present |
| Munising | Pass |
| Ontonagon | Pass |
| Keweenaw Bay | Pass |
| Marquette | Midget BB |
| Iron Range | |
| Ironwood | |
| DAHA | |
| Manistique | |

Priority List for 2015-2016 District Tournaments

| Association | Decision |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Copper Country | |
| Tahquamenon | |
| Munising | |
| Ontonagon | |
| Keweenaw Bay | |
| Iron Range | |
| Ironwood | |
| DAHA | |
| Manistique | |
| Marquette | |
| Escanaba | |
| Iron River | |
| Calumet | |

Blind Draw for 2014-2015 Regional and District Seeding

Held at MAHA District 8 Spring Meeting, April 12, 2014

Keweenaw Bay

Manistique

Calumet

Escanaba

Ironwood

Tahquamenon

Munising

DAHA

Iron River

Ontonagon

Copper Country

Iron Range

Marquette

CUP League and D8 Website Analytics: 10/15/2013 – 4/1/2014

Walt Milligan, April 8, 2014

| | |
|--|--------|
| Page Views | 53,150 |
| Unique Page Views | 37,975 |
| Most page views in one day (Monday, Feb 3) | 1,200 |



| Page ? | Pageviews ? ↓ | Unique Pageviews ? | Avg. Time on Page ? |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 53,150 % of Total: 100.00% (53,150) | 37,975 % of Total: 100.00% (37,975) | 00:00:46 Site Avg: 00:00:46 (0.00%) |
| 1. / | 6,576 (12.37%) | 4,929 (12.98%) | 00:00:34 |
| 2. /page/show/809964-maha-district-8 | 3,312 (6.23%) | 1,945 (5.12%) | 00:00:50 |
| 3. /page/show/810931-cup-league-teams-and-divisions | 2,338 (4.40%) | 1,484 (3.91%) | 00:00:22 |
| 4. /page/show/811118-squirt | 1,955 (3.68%) | 1,353 (3.56%) | 00:00:55 |
| 5. /page/show/807684-welcome | 1,889 (3.55%) | 1,158 (3.05%) | 00:00:40 |
| 6. /page/show/813414-pee-wee | 1,767 (3.32%) | 1,297 (3.42%) | 00:00:55 |
| 7. /page/show/813416-bantam | 1,707 (3.21%) | 1,146 (3.02%) | 00:00:40 |
| 8. /page/show/811353-league-member-associations | 1,231 (2.32%) | 1,042 (2.74%) | 00:03:16 |
| 9. /page/show/813417-midget | 808 (1.52%) | 593 (1.56%) | 00:00:35 |
| 10. /page/show/809967-overview-of-regional-and-district-tournaments | 725 (1.36%) | 529 (1.39%) | 00:00:48 |
| 11. /page/show/814199-district-tournament-procedures | 654 (1.23%) | 450 (1.18%) | 00:00:25 |
| 12. /page/show/1007212-munising-squirts | 496 (0.93%) | 302 (0.80%) | 00:01:12 |
| 13. /page/show/1007309-keweenaw-bay-bantams | 449 (0.84%) | 297 (0.78%) | 00:00:55 |
| 14. /page/show/810938-pee-wee-2013-2014- | 422 (0.79%) | 291 (0.77%) | 00:00:28 |
| 15. /schedule/team_instance/585932?subseason=110180 | 400 (0.75%) | 138 (0.36%) | 00:01:21 |
| 16. /page/show/810934-squirt-2013-2014- | 399 (0.75%) | 276 (0.73%) | 00:00:25 |
| 17. /page/show/1007348-cc-al-telcom | 398 (0.75%) | 292 (0.77%) | 00:01:07 |
| 18. /page/show/808865-calendar | 398 (0.75%) | 266 (0.70%) | 00:00:48 |
| 19. /page/show/812840-bantam-2013-2014- | 396 (0.75%) | 289 (0.76%) | 00:00:30 |
| 20. /page/show/813418-girls | 382 (0.72%) | 297 (0.78%) | 00:00:31 |
| 21. /page/show/1007296-daha-hall-orthodontist | 278 (0.52%) | 217 (0.57%) | 00:00:49 |
| 22. /page/show/814192-regional-playdown-procedures | 275 (0.52%) | 207 (0.55%) | 00:00:13 |
| 23. /page/show/1007293-iron-river-pee-wees | 258 (0.49%) | 197 (0.52%) | 00:00:55 |
| 24. /page/show/1007308-iwd-irv-bantams | 249 (0.47%) | 182 (0.48%) | 00:01:08 |
| 25. /schedule/team_instance/585920?subseason=110180 | 241 (0.45%) | 152 (0.40%) | 00:01:05 |