

## **PNAHA General Winter Meeting**

January 12, 2002

Ellensburg Inn

Ellensburg, Washington

The meeting was called to order by President, Donna Kaufman at 9:10 a.m

### **1. Sign-In**

- Sign-in sheets distributed and on official record with these minutes.

### **2. Introductions**

- Personal introductions made by the PNAHA Board and Directors.

### **3. Minutes of Last Meeting**

- Reading of the September 8, 2001 minutes. Discussion regarding the motion made by Gord Whitaker at the September meeting, which stated: *[allow Evergreen to operate as an independent team for the 2001-2002 season based upon the conditions stated and completion of the letter agreeing to those conditions]*. Rick Ellison (SJR) commented that it was his understanding as well as that of others that one of the conditions Gord is referring to in his motion was the understanding that Evergreen would not be participating in the State Tournament. Cathy Greenwell (SPO) stated that this was not her understanding and upon approval of Evergreen's status at the September meeting that she forwarded the requested letter indicating their intent to participate at the Tier I level. Ed Imes stated that he felt there might be some confusion over discussion held at the June and September meetings where the applications were presented. Focus was directed back to the motion as stated by the maker. The maker did not state the specific conditions as a part of his motion. Discussion. Brian Humphreys motion to approve, Mike Martin second. Motion passed with 3 opposed.
- Lee Bull (SNO) requested that a recording device be purchased to record meetings and that tapes from the meeting be held on record for the duration of two meetings. Discussion as to previous direction provided by legal counsel regarding objections by some members to be recorded. The secretary/treasurer will contact legal counsel for guidance on recording of public meetings.

### **4. Treasurer Report – Dru Hammond**

- A copy of the Amended Proposed Budget from the September meeting as approved by the Board of Directors was distributed as well as a copy of the January 12 Treasurer Report. Balance as of January 12, 2002 is \$17,046.37. Motion by Kevin Schroeder (PNAHA 2<sup>nd</sup> VP) to accept, seconded by Cathy Greenwell (SPO). Motion passed.

### **5. Director's Reports**

#### **A. Coaching Director – Rob Kaufman**

- **ACE Coordinators:** Rob requested that each association provide him a list of their ACE Coordinators.
- **Player Development:** Rob stated that the 2001-2002 Player Development Camp would be held in the Tri-Cities upon final confirmation of ice availability March 23/24, 2002. Mark Hinchee (TRI) stated that the ice was blocked out for this event. A hotel site has been secured and transportation negotiations are currently underway. Coaches will be contacted in the near future for information on 86, 87, and 88 birth years. Coaches are reminded that they also need to provide a list of seventeen (17) year olds for the USA Select Camp consideration despite the fact they do not participate in the PNAHA Development Camp. The information needed for each player is: name, date of birth, current address and phone number. When providing phone numbers please include an alternate number such as a work or cell phone. The request for the alternate number is to assist in contacting any potential alternates. When it is necessary to contact an alternate the turn around time is very short and Rob wants to ensure that as many players as possible are provided an opportunity to participate in the Development Program.  
Jeff Urness (Tri-Cities Ambassadors) inquired if registered High School players were eligible for consideration. Rob stated if they were Tier I/Tier II caliber that they would qualify.  
Rob concluded that in addition to players being evaluated throughout the year, that evaluations continue during the State Tournaments.

**B. IP Program – Chuck Easton**

- No report.

**C. Supervisor of Officials – Steve Stevens**

- Steve shared that since he is now doing the job alone that he is discovering that this is a big state. He is pleased to announce that with the implementation of the Nor-Pac League that 4 officials have come back into the fold, many of those with former Western Hockey League experience. This influx of experienced officials is helping in the development of our younger officials.
- Steve stated in his role as the Supervisor of Officials that he can assist local officiating organizations to organize and coordinate their officials. However, he does not have the ability to set local officiating rates. He can certainly come assist in mediating and negotiating rates if his help is requested. He is pleased to report that the rates around the state are beginning to standardize.
- Steve will be in Vancouver the second week of February to meet with Don Perry.
- An Officials camp/clinic sponsored by Bellingham will be held this year. The camp/clinic will be designed to facilitate the training for beginning and second year officials.
- Rick Ellison (SJR) wanted to extend compliments to Steve Boyce. He commended Steve for holding similar camps/clinics and for getting his officials paid on time. Steve's strong point is that he listens and then leads. This approach has reduced the number of "no shows" this season. Steve Stevens shared that he had heard many positive comments also.
- Darin Wales (Walla Walla) stated that without the ability to hold local camps/clinics that Walla Walla finds officials in short supply. They have attempted to work with the Officials Association in Tri-Cities but it is hard to get officials to travel their way. Steve will meet with Darin after the meeting to explore some possible solutions and to give him guidance in acquiring officials outside his local jurisdiction. Steve commented that the problems around the state won't be cleared up over night, but there is significant progress occurring.
- Steve was questioned regarding the failure of officials to show up for a game, and what should be done. It was pointed out that directions for handling a situation of his nature is addressed in the Official Rules of Ice Hockey under Rule 502, sections I, J and K.
- Steve also announced that Lisa Osadchuk will be the first PNAHA female official to referee a Junior B game. Steve is confident that she will do a great job.

**D. USA Hockey Associate Registrar/Risk Manager – Ed Imes**

- As of today (1/12/02) PNAHA has a total of 4,153 players and coaches registered and 350 teams. These figures do not include "no charges" such as team managers. Ed shared that 31 tournaments have been advertised and that he has only received 19 Tournament Applications to date.
- Ed has provided Donna with a list of qualified teams that had their paperwork in by December 31, 2001 and are eligible to participate in the State Tournaments.
- Tier I and II credential packets for Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget will be submitted to Ed and Donna prior to their tournaments. They will not be prescreening Squirrels or "B" team credentials. The "B" credential checks will be conducted the night before the "B" State Tournament. Tier II packets need to be in Donna's hands at least two weeks prior to the tournament to allow her sufficient time to contact teams that have errors in their paperwork.
- Ed stated that extra USA Guidebooks and Rule Books were available at this meeting. Everyone was encouraged to take what they need.

**E. League Commissioner – Dru Hammond**

- The season has appeared to be moving along smoothly since October 1. Dru feels that coaches and managers are becoming more accustomed as to what to expect and that contributes to the reduction in problems that we have seen in previous years. She also indicated that it has been a pleasure having Portland back in the League. They have worked hard to remain in compliance with PNAHA League Rules. She commented that Joe Pulito and Ron Woodbridge have represented Portland well. She also indicated that due to some communication breakdowns on PNAHA's part that it appears a representative from Portland would not be able to attend this meeting. Steve Stevens shared that the addition of Portland has helped add to the existing pool of available officials.
- There was some difficulty in the new procedure that was voted in at the June 2001 meeting allowing for teams to withdraw from the league due to non-sufficient numbers up until October 1. The constant rework of the schedule contributed to minor errors that had not occurred in the past. This June it will

be proposed that if we wish to keep the October 1 withdrawal date, we implement pushing the beginning of League play back to at least mid-October in order to allow sufficient time to rework the schedules. If we push back play we will also need to extend play into mid-March. It is realized that this means league play will extend beyond the State play-offs, however, a league champion is declared and recognized so this should not be an issue. Consideration for Tier II issues due to District advancement will need to be looked at though.

The new procedure was implemented to encourage teams to play in the League and not be penalized due to low or non-existent player numbers that occur after the August 31 League commitment date. It was stressed that you could not add teams after the August 31 declaration date. However, if after your registration you did not have the numbers to form a team at the level your association declared on August 31, you could without penalty withdraw the declaration since there was a non-existent team. You are not allowed to pull an existing team of that level without incurring a fine for every game that team would have been scheduled to play.

One association did communicate that they didn't have numbers to field a team and withdrew their declaration prior to the October 1 deadline. However, after commencement of League play it was later discovered that the association did have a team at this level. Dru indicated that it is the PNAHA Representatives responsibility to ensure that the local association understands the requirements that allow for pulling of a team without the consequence of a fine. Please review the League section in the PNAHA Guidebook prior to declaration for next season.

It was questioned whether this team should be allowed to participate in the State Tournament. Donna Kaufman (PNAHA President) explained that the two activities are non-related, that the team will be allowed to participate in the State Tournament.

- Dru stated that she has received a copy of the PNAHA Squirt Proposal that was discussed at the June meeting re-examining the philosophy of Squirt hockey. The proposal was not received in time to provide the committee time to meet and consider a recommendation to the PNAHA Board. Those that indicated a desire to work on this committee will be contacted and the committee will attempt to draft a proposal for consideration at the June 2002 meeting. Prior to Rick Ellison's departure later in the day he suggested that PNAHA expand this proposal to consider a tiering process at all levels.
- League game status and standings can now be accessed on the Internet at [dynamicstats.com](http://dynamicstats.com). Dru did caution everyone that scores were all entered but that the standings were not correct. Computer technicians were currently working on the problem and hope to have the issue resolved by next week. This is a new service she is providing for League participants and hopes they will enjoy having access to this data in real-time. She just requests that members have patience while we work through some of the bugs.

#### **F. Women's Hockey**

- No report.

#### **G. Adult Hockey**

- No report.

#### **H. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Jon Danks**

- Jon Danks was not present at the meeting but requested that Dru brief the Board on Chicago Showcase activities. She reported that Jon had requested a list from each association of their Junior and Senior players that they felt should be considered for tryouts for the Chicago Showcase team. To date Jon has only heard back from Seattle Juniors, Sno-King, Tri-Cities, Vancouver and Tacoma. He would appreciate communications from the other associations even if they wish to respond they have no candidates. Junior B players are also eligible and are being evaluated separately. Invite letters have been sent out to those players submitted to date.

Tryouts for Team Washington will be held February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in Seattle. The tournament will be held April 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Jamie Huscroft was introduced as the coach for Team Washington.

- It was requested that the Guidebook section on Gross/Match be looked at again and at a minimum that we perform housekeeping measures on the terminology.
- It was also reported that Jon and Dave Bittenbender have dealt with 3 abuse of Official suspensions on the West side of the state.

#### **I. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Kevin Schroeder**

- Kevin reported that he is in the process of developing a Tournament Bid Application to be utilized when bidding for State Tournaments next season. PNAHA used to have such a form, and he will

reactivate it to allow for some standardization when hosting PNAHA State Tournaments. He will have the form available at the June meeting to assist those wishing to submit bids next September.

- The Board was reminded to submit player movement and release information to Donna.

#### **J. President's Report – Donna Kaufman**

- Donna stated she would be attending National next week and the District meeting in two weeks. She extended an invitation to members to attend the January 26 District meeting in Reno. Donna is a member of the 7-10 committee. Right now they are focusing on adult education and violence that is occurring in this sport. The Saint Barnabas Health Care System will be conducting a presentation at this meeting and each association is encouraged to send a representative. It is hoped that these representatives will become the teacher that goes back and teaches at their local association.
- A draft copy of the Membership Qualifications for PNAHA was distributed. Membership requests in the future should require sixty (60) days notice of membership intent and all proposals submitted 30 days in advance of Board voting. Please get your comments back to Donna so that a final proposal can be drafted and submitted for approval at the June meeting.
- Associations should have in place current Director and Officers Insurance. Please check with your local association to verify that this insurance is in place. Note that PNAHA is to be listed as a co-insured entity on that insurance.
- Associations were reminded that they need to bring an updated copy of their Constitution & By-Laws, Rules & Regulations and list of current officers to the June meeting.

### **6. Association Applications**

#### **A. Kent Valley Ice Centre**

- Art Baldwin represented the Kent Valley Ice Centre that recently opened on December 11, 1001, in Kent, Washington. Kent submitted a letter requesting full association status. Art indicated that they are committed to “growing a program” and have no plans to recruit players from other associations, nor dilute numbers from existing association player pools. They have a 26,000 population base to solicit membership from. They already have programs in place for players 4-10 years old as well as an adult program. They have purchase 200 sets of rental equipment and currently are partnering with the Kent Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Kent School District to develop their program. Although it is not their intent to start a Rep program at this time, should the numbers exist to support this development they would like to have the flexibility to move forward. It is their hopes that they will grow to eventually develop into the Kent Valley Hockey Association. Vocal support for this application came from both Seattle Junior and Tacoma. Kent has done their homework, secured a 51 year lease and is developing a sound pyramid base for the continued growth of their program. Lee Bull (SNO) motion to [*accept the Kent Valley Ice Center application for full membership status within PNAHA*], seconded by Cora Friedrich (TAC). Discussion. Rick Ellison (SJR) eloquently stated that it was refreshing that Kent intends to “grow their own trees, on their own lot” verses “taking the trees from the other lot” as we have seen happen in other communities with multiple rinks and associations. In closing, Art once again stated his desire for full association status. Brian Humphreys (Whatcom) called for the question. Motion passed unanimously. It was requested that a copy of the Kent Valley proposal be attached to these minutes.

***Break at 11:15 a.m. to allow for members to check out of their rooms. Agenda items will be moved around in the afternoon segment to allow for members that must depart early. PNAHA extends condolences to the Scott Pettibone family. Many members will be departing early to attend memorial services for Scott who passed away recently. Re-adjourned 11:30 a.m.***

#### **B. Desert Ice**

- Mike Martin owner and representative for Desert Ice distributed a copy of a letter from Gary Dunford of the Mid-Columbia Small Business Council supporting his bid for full association status. Additionally, a letter from Arthur D. Klym, Attorney At Law was submitted defining the basis for the request to be granted full association status. Mike recapped the justification for full association status as laid out in his handouts. He further elaborated that he is currently in partnering negotiations with the Pasco Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Pasco School District to develop programs at his facility. Mike stated that as a for-profit business competing with municipal owned businesses

that the existing constraints on membership currently in place make it impossible for him to run a successful program. He needs the ability to bring in all age groups.

Brian Humphreys (Whatcom) requested that Mike explain the timing of construction of his rink as well as the other existing rinks in the Tri-Cities. Rick Ellison (SJR) asked Mike what his business plan objectives were. He also was asked to describe his relationship with the Tri-Cities Amateur Hockey Association (TCAHA). Rick additionally inquired if Mike had put anything in place to prevent movement from TCAHA. Mike responded that he did not wish to limit his growth potential. Brian Humphreys (Whatcom) motioned to *[extend full association status in accordance with PNAHA Guidelines]*, seconded by Rob Kaufman (PSR). Discussion. Mark Hinchee (TRI) stated concerns regarding lack of demonstration by Desert Ice to “grow a program”. Have they made any efforts to start a beginning program? He stated that currently the ice fees at Desert Ice are the highest in the Tri-Cities and that the rink still has not completed the dressing rooms. Cathy Greenwell (SPO) stated that you can not build a program from the top down. They have experienced that philosophy in the Spokane area and have first hand knowledge that it just doesn’t work. She also went on to state that the Spokane area will possibly see two of its new rinks close. In closing, she did wish him luck. Jeff Urness (Tri-Cities Ambassadors) stated that he had a different perspective regarding this application. He felt efforts should move forward to assist Mr. Martin in becoming successful, instead of tying his hands where he is unable to compete with the municipal owned facilities. He also stated that his operation shouldn’t harm the existing TCAHA, but competition should encourage TCAHA to work harder to make itself more attractive to retain and attract other customers. Mark Hinchee (TRI) welcomed his application and stated he would not disapprove of the application. Rick Ellison called for the question. Motion approved.

#### **7. State of Washington Female Hockey Team Proposal**

- Rick Ellison (SJR) submitted a proposal to the Board for consideration of approaching female hockey as a state run program. It is hoped that female numbers will increase this season due to the Olympics, but for female hockey to remain strong and to continue to develop it needs the direction of a PNAHA Female Hockey Executive Committee. A timeline of activities is essential and should be put in place prior to April 1, 2002. Failure to do so will result in a fractured program. Donna is currently working with Jack Chaney (SJR) and has volunteered to develop a business plan for this program. A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes and includes the proposed timeline.

#### **8. Association Reports**

- Jamie Huscroft (SNO) approached the Board of Directors to reconsider allowing Sno-King to enter two squirt teams in the State “B” tournament. This would reverse the decision that was voted on at the September 2001 meeting. Thirty days notice was not provided to bring this issue to the floor, so Donna indicated that the Board would have to vote to allow a motion on the floor with 100% acceptance. This procedure is utilized by USA Hockey at their meetings in addressing items with less than the required notice. Rick Ellison (SJR) motioned *[that a motion be allowed to come to the floor to discuss the Sno-King Tier II Squirt issue]*, seconded by Lee Bull (SNO). 1 abstention (Whatcom), 1 opposed (TAC). Motion failed.

#### **9. Tournaments**

- Greg Galeski representing the Mavericks distributed a contacts letter for the upcoming Tier II State Tournament to be held in Vancouver, February 28 – March 3, 2002. Attached was a Commitment Form for associations to complete requesting from each participating team a contact name, phone, e-mail address and the number of rooms needed by the team at this event. The completed form is due January 21, 2002. Please FAX this information to (360) 735-0077.
- There will be three teams participating in the Tier I Tournament, SNO, SJR and Evergreen. One team will advance to District. Discussion held on why only one team is eligible to advance. Representatives were reminded that this issue was presented to the Board at the September meeting by Jon Danks (September 8, 2001 Minutes, Page 2). Motion to send one team at the Tier I level and two at the Tier II level passed with one opposed vote and one abstention.  
Spokane and Seattle both were interested in hosting the event, with Seattle’s preference to host the Bantam Division. Motion by Brian Humphreys *[that Sno-King host the Bantam Tier I Tournament and that Spokane host the Pee Wee Tier I Tournament]*, second by Kevin Schroeder. Discussion. Motion passed.
- Donna indicated the winner will advance to Districts in Anchorage. Tournament fee will be \$750.00.

- There will be 30 teams participating in the Tier II Tournament in Vancouver. This will be a huge tournament with over 60 games. The Pee Wee and Midget winners will advance to Valencia, California, and the Bantams will advance to play in Fairbanks, Alaska. The tournament fee will be \$850.00 per team playing in Valencia, and \$750.00 for the bantam teams playing in Fairbanks. Squirt teams: INL, MAV, SJR, SNO, SPO, TAC and TRI; Pee Wee teams: INL, MAV, PSR, SJR, SNO, SPO, TRI, WEN and WHATCOM; Bantam teams: MAV, PSR, SJR, SNO, SPO and TRI; Midget teams: MAV, PSR, SJR, SNO, SPO, TAC, TRI and WEN.
- There will be 24 teams participating in the “B” State Tournament to be held in the Tri-Cities, February 15 – 18. “B” teams do not advance beyond the local State Tournament. The tournament entry fee is \$750.00. Those associations not submitting their checks at this meeting need to forward their entry fee now to Tri-Cities in care of Linda Walker, Tournament Chairperson. Participating Squirt teams: INL, MTV, PSR, SJR, SNO, SPO, TRI and WEN; Pee Wee teams: MTV, SNO, SPO, TAC, and TRI; Bantam teams: MTV, PSR, SNO, SPO, TRI, and WEN; Midget teams: PSR, SJR, SNO, TRI and YAK.
- Mark Hinchee (TRI) stated that Tri-Cities would like to hold a “skills competition” during the State Tournament. Donna Kaufman stated that there would be no individual awards such as “MVP” or “Skills Competition” held at this event. Tri-Cities had also requested to include an "Opening Ceremonies" during the tournament. She indicated that after discussions with the Board it would be approved, however, it was to be communicated to teams that it was not a “requirement” to participate in this event.
- All tournament hosts were reminded that they are to cover the expense of hotels and mileage for officials. Officials are also paid per game. The rates are: Squirt \$42 (\$18/\$12), Pee Wee \$52 (\$25/\$13.50), Bantam \$68 (\$34/\$17) and Midget \$106 (\$50/\$28). These rates apply to “B”, Tier II and Tier I teams at all PNAHA State Tournaments.

#### **10. Old Business**

- None

#### **11. New Business**

- Dru reported that she recently attended class in Chicago to learn how to operate the new USA Hockey Web Site. She stated that she is currently building our site. You can access it at [pnaha.com](http://pnaha.com). She has researched the best approach to teach others in the state and will be offering a hands-on course targeted for some time in March. This will allow for her to complete the State site before training others. She will then be able to better communicate lessons she has learned. She encouraged others to go back to their association and identify a Webmaster, forwarding that information back to her prior to March 1.
- Donna asked the group if they had any issues that they would like her to address when she attended the District or Regional meetings. She stated that some of the subject areas included the 40-month midget division, violence and parents, and the Olympics. She also reminded everyone of the upcoming USA Women’s team competition against China that will be held in Spokane.
- Donna once again encouraged associations to send a representative to the District meeting in Reno. She also stated that the Annual Congress would be held June 5 – 9, 2002 in Colorado Springs.

#### **12. Spring/Summer Meeting**

- The Spring/Summer meeting will be held on June 15 in Ellensburg at the Ellensburg Inn. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

#### **13. Adjournment**

- Brian Humphreys motioned [*to adjourn*], seconded by Kevin Schroeder. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.