

Alaska State Hockey Association
Board Meeting
July 25, 2015

Members present: Justin Marcum, Theresa Austin, Barrett Heisten, Annetta Powell, David Cacciolfi, Dima Kulmanovsky, Jack Tragis, Joey Merrick, Michele Nilson, Keith Morris, Jackie Graeber , Travis Frisk and Justin Johnson (alt.)

Members present electronically: Shelly Laukitis, Charles Hamby and Audra Brase.

Officers present: Darryl Thompson, Brenda Luthi, Keith Berrian, Anna Culley, Kirk Payne, Wayne Sawchuk, Carol Hammingh and Matt Shasby.

Members excused: Joe Newhouse, Ted Barton, Keith Armstrong, Merit Waldrop, Rick Trupp, Mike Barth, Destry Lind, Dave Ruiz, Pauline Tise and Mike Steffey.

USA Hockey Official present: Lisa McPheters, Eric Simmons, Joe Barth, Donna Kauffman and Kenny Rausch.

Visitors present: Laura Ramsey.

The meeting was called to order by Darryl Thompson, President.

Seating of Board Members:

Mike Barth – Homer Hockey Association
Pauline Tise – FAHA
Jason Dinneen – AHA
Travis Frisk – SCAHA

Kirk Payne alternate for Keith Armstrong
Justin Johnson alternate for Merit Waldrop
Shelly Laukitis alternate for Mike Barth
Charles Hamby alternate or Mike Steffey
Barrett Heisten alternate for Jason Dinneen
Audra Brase alternate for Pauline Tise

Introductions were made of everyone present.

The agenda was approved with corrections and permission to move the election under reports.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Magazines were the only pieces of correspondence.

Persons to be heard: Kris Knauss introduced Donna Kauffman, USA Hockey Pacific District Director and Kenny Rausch, USA Hockey Youth Manager and thanked them for coming to Alaska for our meeting. Donna reported that the district tournaments will be March 3-8, 2016. Kenny will be doing a presentation following the meeting on the ADM.

Election of VP Comp: Dan Massie has resigned, so there was an election for a new VP of Comp Council. Matt Shasby and Laura Ramsey are running. Both spoke to the board on their behalf. Paper ballots were collected, and Matt Shasby was elected to finish Dan Massie's term.

President's Report: Darryl Thompson reported that he would like the board to consider investing some funds into the USA Hockey Foundation, as it was a proposal presented to all of the affiliate presidents and would lock some money away for a year, but it is understood to be a safe fund with a higher return. He will send more information out soon on this to get a board vote at the next meeting. He thanked Dan Massie for his work as Comp Council VP. He reported that USA Hockey is looking at working on long term goals, as should ASHA and as such, all those interested in participating in an ad hoc committee to work on long terms goal, please contact Darryl Thompson via email. Thanks to all the tireless volunteers as the season is set to start and much work is yet to be done, without the volunteers, there would be no platform for the successful hockey for our youth. He asks that we take a hard look at some small grant programs to encourage growth in the game, and to follow up on the suggestion from Mike Schachle on underwriting the costs for the youth officials to get into the game as officials.

Finance Report: No report

VP Tournaments: Carol Hammingh presented the tournament dates and hosts so far. Michelle Nilson moved and Keith Morris seconded to approve the tournaments as presented with Carol finalizing the last tournament schedule. The motion passed.

VP Comp Council: Michelle Nilson reported for the newly elected Matt Shasby. They discussed the state tournament dates at the meeting prior to the board meeting. The North Star waiver was discussed and they recommended approving the waiver. They discussed a new VP of the Comp Council, the ice time needs of the Bantam National team, ADM and player development. They also discussed the friendly amendment to the Mite Proposal and that they didn't recommend it.

VP House Council: Anna Culley reported that the House Council approved the friendly amendment of the Mite Proposal. They also approved the Anchorage-Valley agreement.

VP Girls/Women Council: Kirk Payne reported that for the upcoming season, they have one undeclared girls team, 5-7 Tier II girls teams and 7-12 girls house teams.

They had a meeting on July 7, 2015, and the next meeting will be held at noon on September 14, 2015. Selects will be held on December 19-20, 2015 for the 99, 00, 01 and 02 birth years at the Subway Center.

VP Adult Council: Keith Berrian reported that the Labatt's Tournament was complete and they are working on cleaning up loose ends. They are taking care of the billing and working on the many match penalties that were assessed.

VP Player Development: Wayne Sawchuk reported that the following dates have been set:

October 8, 2015 – Player Development Meeting at the Moose office at 6:30 pm
December 19-20, 2015 – Select Camps 1999, 2000 & 2001 birth years at Boeke.
April 7, 2016 – Player Development Meeting at the Moose office at 6:30 pm
April 8-10, 2016 – Select & Development Camp 2002 & 2003 birth years at Subway.
May 5-8, 2016 – Pacific District Select Camp in San Jose, CA.
June TBA – U14/2002's High Performance Camp in Colorado Springs, CO.

Discipline Committee: No report.

Associate Risk Manager: No report.

Registrar: Lisa McPheters reported that the new updated software has been sent out. She will do training whenever it is needed. She asks that associations go through their own registrar first with any issues. She will have registrar reports at every meeting this season.

National Tournament Committee: Lisa McPheters reported that we need more participation from volunteers for the upcoming tournament. The next meeting will be August 12, 2015 at 6:00 at the BP Energy Center.

Handbook: Lisa McPheters reported that she is in the process of updating changes. Please send any updated information to Lisa by July 30, 2015. The books will be available at the scheduling meeting. Let Lisa know how many you will need. There are only 50 Annual Guides that will be available this year. A thank you was given to Lisa for sending out the delinquent player list.

Referee-in-Chief: Eric Simmons reported that the dates for the referee clinics will be out soon. The numbers of referees are declining. We need to encourage the young referees. We also need to train scorekeepers throughout the year so state tournaments can run smoothly. A discussion was held regarding the encouragement of referees through incentives, posters, etc.

Coach-in-Chief: No report.

Junior Hockey: Jack Tragis reported that the NAHL is expanding to the East Coast. It is growing and he is very optimistic.

Safe Sport: No report.

ADM Coordinator: Barrett Heisten reported that he would like for everyone who is interested to stay after the meeting for the presentation by Kenny Rausch.

Kris Knauss reported that they are working on a definition of Tier I. There is a program for administrators of hockey called Club Excellence. His report is attached.

Donna Kauffman reported that she needs feedback from associations and affiliates when working on various committees.

Old Business:

Carol Hamming moved and Annetta Powell seconded to approve the Polar Ice Arena settlement for \$3500.00. The motion passed. A thank you was given to Dima Kulmonovsky for working on this issue.

New Business:

Handbook Changes:

#1 19.2(b) All ASHA Associations that participate in the Alaska Competition League OR HAVE NATIONAL BOUND GIRLS TEAMS shall be required to participate in the evaluation process of the affiliate player development camps. Competition League Associations AND ASSOCIATIONS WITH NATIONAL BOUND GIRLS TEAMS not participating shall be fined \$500.00 prior to national bound tournament participation. There will be no exceptions to this provision.

Carol Hamming moved and Wayne Sawchuk seconded to pass the #1 guideline book change. The motion passed unanimously.

#2 Page 60 rule 5.5.1 ASHA is committed to USA Hockey's ADM program and has resolved to NOT ask for a waiver for the USA Hockey's cross ice mandate. As such, all ASHA U8 and younger programs are required to adhere to USA Hockey's cross ice mandate and may only play cross ice games, and they are not permitted to participate in full ice games.

Travis Frisk moved and Carol Hamming seconded to pass the #2 guideline book change. The motion passed unanimously.

#3 If an association that agreed to host a State Tournament in April of the previous season, discovers that they will not be fielding a team in that division and do not want to host that Tournament, if another association is willing/able to host the tournament and if the ice/ref/time schedule can be made to work by the ASHA VP of Tournaments and the House Council approves the change of location then the hosting association can be relieved from the duties of hosting the State Tournament.

Anna Culley moved and Annetta Powell seconded to pass the #3 guideline book change. The motion passed unanimously.

#4

All associations will follow the USAH 8U ADM Red, White and Blue program guidelines. All member associations of ASHA are required to adhere to USAH's Seasonal Plan for Mites. The following expanded schedule needs to be followed: 20 week season, 9-13 players per team and 50-70 ice sessions per season excluding up to 5 jamborees and with an average of 2 practices/1 game ratio per week. This information can be found in the USAH Fundamentals document and on www.admkids.com. The only exception to this will be season lengthen as agreed upon in the Anchorage-Valley Agreement.

ASHA encourages all associations to have a communication plan in place to educate coaches and parents on The American Development Model at 8U hockey.

ASHA **encourages** all associations with multiple teams to field 8U teams that are not birth year specific but are instead evenly skilled teams.

For the 2015-2016 season Associations may allow 4 Mites to play up to Squirts. A waiver approved by the House Council, may be granted if additional players are needed to field a Squirt team that would otherwise not be fielded or for ice allocation issues (which only applies to AHA and Allstars)

There will be NO full ice games in the Mite division. There will be no more than 20 cross/half ice games per season, excluding up to 5 jamborees.

ASHA will not sponsor an 8U State Tournament but instead encourages associations to celebrate the end of the season however they see fit.

Anna Culley moved and Joe Barth seconded to pass the #4 guideline book change. Discussion followed. The motion failed.

#4.5 All associations will follow the USAH 8U ADM Red, White and Blue program guidelines. ASHA encourages all associations to have a communication plan in place to educate coaches and parents on the American Development Model at 8U hockey.

ASHA encourages all associations with multiple teams to field 8U teams that are not birth year specific but are instead evenly skilled teams.

For the 2015-2016 season Associations may allow 4 Mites to play up to Squirts. A waiver approved by the House Council may be granted if additional players are needed to field a Squirt team that would otherwise not be fielded or for ice allocation issues (which only applies to AHA and Allstars).

There will be NO full ice games in the Mite division.

ASHA will not sponsor a 8U State Tournament but instead encourages associations to celebrate the end of the season however they see fit.

Travis Frisk moved and Keith Morris seconded to pass the 4.5 guideline book change. The motion passed.

AHA Proposal Waiver:

Barrett Heisten explained the following proposal – North Stars are requesting a waiver for the 2015-2016 season to field 3 Pee Wee Tier II teams. This request is made per ASHA Handbook page 101 section 13 guidelines. We feel that by fielding 3 teams at the Pee Wee Tier II division it would be best for continued skill development for this player group. Last season we fielded 2 Pee Wee Tier II, 3 Pee Wee Tier III and 3 Pee Wee Tier IV teams.

Barrett Heisten moved and Keith Morris seconded to approve the AHA Proposal Waiver. Discussion followed. The motion passed.

Long Range Planning: Darryl explained that we need to develop an ad hoc committee to discuss long range planning.

Board Member Comments:

Joey Merrick commented that the Mac Attack will be held the first week in April. MHA is not in agreement with the Anchorage/Valley agreement.

Dima Kulmanovsky gave a big thank you to Dan Massie for his work as VP of Comp Council and welcomed Matt Shasby.

Theresa Austin gave a thanks to all who helped her with the tournament.

Barrett Heisten commented on the Anchorage/Valley agreement, which is between them and not a board matter.

Matt Shasby commented that he is excited for the upcoming season.

Keith Berrian commented that he really appreciates the registrar reports.

Justin Johnson commented that we all need to cooperate with one another and concentrate on our own associations.

Keith Morris gave a thank you to Dan Massie for his work and also commented that he was not in favor of the Anchorage/Valley agreement.

Joe Barth commented that there will possibly be a 4-man referee system for all 16 and 18 games.

Kirk Payne commented that the girls scheduling will occur during the comp scheduling times.

Carol Hammingh presented a first reading for a By-Law change to page 120 of the current ASHA Handbook – **ADD** Electronic Vote Summary to the order of business.

Brenda Luthi commented that we need to update our By-Laws to include the audio conferencing and the electronic voting. She will also check into purchasing an audio conferencing system for ASHA.

Darryl Thompson commented that the next meeting will be August 29th at 11:00 at the Coast Inn. The April 23, 2016 meeting will be held at a different location. As the season is now upon us, keep up the good work!

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Luthi
ASHA Secretary