

# Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council

Meeting Minutes, Spring 2023

April 22, 2023

River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center, Ishpeming, Michigan

Draft submitted by Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary, October 19, 2023

## Attendance:

### MAHA

Al Wakeham, D8 Chair  
Tim Jaska, D8 Director  
Kitti Loukus, D8 Director  
Perry Wooden, D8 Director  
Kevin Yohe, D8 Director

Marty Laurila, D8 Referee in Chief  
Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary  
Mike Sands, D8 Coaching Director

Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officials  
Bob Yohe, USA Hockey Michigan Registrar

Calumet	Bruce Dessellier
Copper Country	Jon French
Dickinson	Tim Jaska
Escanaba	Bob Martinson
Iron Range	Eric Beckman
Iron River	Tina Brunswick, Kaycee Johnson
Ironwood	Bill Thomason
Keweenaw Bay	Dustin Lindemann
Manistique	Dale LaFoille
Marquette	Nina Janofski, Kasha Nevenhaven
Munising	Andrew Grabowski
Ontonagon	Stacey Somero
Sled Hockey UP	Kristy Burt
Tahquamenon	<i>No Representative</i>

Meeting called to order by Chair Al Wakeham at 9:06 am.

Introductions were made.

**Motion (Wooden/K. Yohe): Approve minutes from the Fall 2022 meeting. Approved unanimously.**

Wakeham presented the Chairperson's Report. The season went well. The District did well in the State tournaments:

- 10U B Marquette Range Bank – State Champion
- 12U B Escanaba Hawks – State Champion
- 14U B Iron River Ice Hawks – State Champion
- 14U AA Marquette American Legion – State Runners-Up
- 18U BB Ontonagon Fighting Miners – State Runners-Up

There was no Secretary's Report.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Bob Yohe presented the Registrar's Report.

- District is up 15 players.
- Safesport expires on the anniversary date, and the renewal cannot be taken early.
- Background screenings are required every two years.
- We need association rosters to verify that Board members are certified.

Bob Yohe presented the MAHA Report

- RIC retired – not going to fill the position.
- American Hockey Alliance is trying to compete with USA Hockey. May be of interest to Tier 1 programs.

Sands presented the Coaching Report

- Season went well, few issues.
- Virtual coaching clinics are convenient and becoming more popular.
- Mike is Risk Manager for the District. Contact him if injuries occur.

Laurila presented the Officiating Report

- Probably going to do an online clinic in the summer, with on-ice in the Fall.
- Email is [mlaurila99@yahoo.com](mailto:mlaurila99@yahoo.com)
- Need to grow official numbers in the UP.
- Burt noted that we need officials to take sled hockey modules
- Niemi thanked Marty Laurila for taking the position.

Directors gave their reports. A common theme is that ice rates are rising almost everywhere.

Jaska gave the One Goal Report. Every other year, they gave away \$2,500 grants to grow the game. There is concern that the program may be discontinued.

Kevin Yohe presented the Girls/Women Report. There is substantial interest downstate in high school girls hockey.

Wooden noted that there are potential changes to the MAHA by-laws. Two issues are the composition of the Executive Board, and potentially requiring that State Tournaments must be held in facilities having at least two rinks.

Loukus reminded people that SafeSport requires locker room monitors.

Burt reported that over 100 people were at the "Try Sled Hockey for Free" event in Houghton.

There was a reminder that Association Drafts need to be monitored by a District Director.

The Blind Draw for District Tournament placement was held, and the results are attached.

Tentative sites and dates for State, Regional and District tournaments were determined, and are attached. All sites were approved by a District Council vote.

“Swing teams” for regional tournaments were drawn out of a hat, and are as follows:

- 10U – Iron Range
- 12U – Dickinson
- 14U – Iron Range

It was discussed that JK Trophies in L’Anse worked well. Some people commented that we need higher quality ribbons.

- **Motion (Wooden/Jaska): Continue with JK Trophies. Approved unanimously.**

The District 8 Fall Meeting was scheduled for October 21, 2023, at 9:00 am tentatively at River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center in Ishpeming.

**Motion (Wooden/Jaska): Adjourn. Approved unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

## ***Blind Draw for 2023-2024 Regional and District Seeding***

Held at MAHA District 8 Spring Meeting, April 22, 2023

Tahquamenon Area Hockey

Keweenaw Bay Hockey Association

Manistique Hockey Assn

Calumet Hockey Association

Iron Amateur Hockey Association

Iron Range Hockey Association

Ontonagon Amateur Hockey Association

Munising Hockey Association

Escanaba Area Junior Hockey

Marquette Junior Hockey Corp

Copper Country Junior Hockey Association

Dickinson Amateur Hockey Association

Ironwood Polar Bear Youth Hockey

## Bidding for State Tournaments, April 22, 2023

District 8 has the 12U State Tournaments this year.

Association	Tournament
DAHA	12U B
Keweenaw Bay	
Ontonagon	
Manistique	
Tahquamenon	
Munising	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Marquette	12U AA
Calumet	
Iron Range	
Ironwood	
Copper Country	

Marquette was returned to their original position in line because they gave the 14U A State Tournament back to the State last time.

**Approved by unanimous vote, moved by Wooden/Jaska.**

### Priority List for next time.

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

**Bidding for District Tournaments, April 22, 2023**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Ontonagon	
Calumet	
Iron River	14U B
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	12U B
Copper country	
Marquette	
Iron Range	10U B
Manistique	
Escanaba	
Munising	
Keweenaw Bay	
DAHA	

**Approved by unanimous vote, moved by Wooden/Jaska.**

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Ontonagon	
Calumet	
Tahquamenon	
Copper country	
Marquette	
Manistique	
Escanaba	
Munising	
Keweenaw Bay	
DAHA	
Iron Range	
Ironwood	
Iron River	

**Rotation for AA District Tournaments, April 22, 2023**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Calumet	All AA Tournaments
Marquette	
Copper Country	

**Approved by unanimous vote, moved by Wooden/Jaska.**

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Result</b>
Marquette	
Copper Country	
Calumet	

**Bidding for Regional Tournaments, April 22, 2023**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
DAHA	East Regional
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Keweenaw Bay	West Regional
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Manistique	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Munising	

Swing teams:

- 10U – Iron Range
- 12U – Dickinson
- 14U – Iron Range

**Approved by unanimous vote, moved by Wooden/Jaska.**

**Priority list for next time**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
Iron Range	
Copper Country	
Calumet	
Marquette	
Ontonagon	
Tahquamenon	
Ironwood	
Manistique	
Escanaba	
Iron River	
Munising	
Keweenaw Bay	
DAHA	