

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, January 12, 2017
Renaissance Sea World, Orlando, FL

In attendance:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Kenney, Chris | District | Director/Chairman |
| Lewis, TC | District | Director |
| | District | Director |
| Servaes, Mark | TX | Vice President |
| | District | Director |
| Pashkowski, Geoff | AZ | Director at Large |
| Day, Jill | District | Secretary/Treasurer |
| Lehto, Mike | District | Coach-in-Chief |
| Reinhard, Ken | District | Referee-in-Chief |
| Thompson, Darla | District | Registrar |
| Reckell, Tim | AZ | President |
| Rogers, Jim | AZ | Vice President |
| Heinrich, John B | ID | President |
| | District | Disabled Rep |
| Hoskins, Mike | OK | President |
| Kanai, Randy | CO | President |
| Heinrich, John B | ID | President |
| Hall, Reggie | TX | President |
| Smith, Kathleen | UT | President |
| Anderson, Cathy | UT | Registrar |
| Radke, Wendy | UT | Safe Sport |
| | USA | |
| Urban, Bruce | Hockey | Director at Large |
| Dennee, Sarah | AZ | Secretary |
| | USA | Member |
| Gibson, Andy | Hockey | Development |
| | USA | |
| Bonnett, Joe | Hockey | ADM Coordinator |

Absent:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------|
| | | High School Section |
| Grover, Kelly | District | Risk Manager |
| Thompson, Steve | NM | President |

Chris Kenney called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Introductions were made. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 20, 2016 meeting in Dallas, TX were reviewed. Kathleen Smith made a **MOTION** to approve them as written. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

USA Hockey

Joe Bonnett, USA Hockey ADM Coordinator, asked for recommendations from the District for a Women's ADM Coordinator. He is also working with the new Las Vegas NHL team about starting a youth program. 345 associations

have registered for the Feb 25, 2017 Try Hockey For Free program. Andy Gibson from Member Services expressed his appreciation for the volunteers in the District. It has been announced that Dave Ogreaan will be retiring as USA Hockey Executive Director this August, but will remain on as a consultant for three years. There is a possibility of amendments to the Tier 1 program regarding grandfathering. There could be a postponement if there is additional discussion. This goes to vote on Sunday.

District Director Elections

The terms of TC Lewis and Mark Serveas will end in June 2017. Darla Thompson will be distributing the election information.

Affiliate Reports

Utah – Kathleen Smith reported UAHA is in the process of updating their Policy and Procedure document and will be implementing for the 2017-2018 season. Focus will be on restructuring definitions and implementing 2 levels of recreational hockey for 8U to 12U. Still working thru the upcoming changes at the Tier I level and looking for some guidelines to fall back on. UAHA sends a huge thank you to everyone for supporting the Wight boys after the loss of their parents. A Special thank you goes to Randy and CAHA for reaching out to do anything possible after the accident.

Texas – Reggie Hall reported on the Concussion program in Texas. He talked about the 15% requirement for tournament participation and the problems that have been raised by it.

New Mexico – Absent, no report

Idaho - John Heinrich noted that Idaho might have an issue with the 15% also. A northern Idaho Tier 1 team plays all games in Canada. There is a new Team starting formation in Boise.

Arizona – Tim Reckell noted that they have implemented strong fines for not wearing helmets. The NHL Coyotes are being very helpful with the youth program. Planning for the National and District Tournaments in a few months is going well.

Colorado - Randy Kanai reported that their Tier I definition is being re-written. When approved, it will go into effect as early as the 2017-18 season. Discussion of what numbers are going to be used to determine the 15% rule. State recreation playoff has caused a little difficulty but will be held again this year for the third time. About \$60,000 in grants have been issued. The NHL Avalanche are doing more for CAHA including grow the game.

District Reports

Referee-in-Chief - Ken Reinhard reported that 1,931 officials have attempted to registrar. Level 1 had 855 attempts with 483 completed. Level 2 had 467 attempts with 385 complete. Level 3 had 536 attempts with 465 complete. Level 4 had 73 attempts with 67 complete. First time official attempts were 658 (34%) with 341 complete. There is too much turn over every year. Need to determine a way for better retention of officials. 107 seminars were held this season. Women's officiating in the district is not growing. Officials age 18 and older who have not completed Safe Sport will not receive an officiating crest. The rule book needs to be modified. He is trying to put together 5 years of historical numbers.

Registrar - Darla Thompson reported on the registration numbers in our district. There are 40,683 registered players in the Rocky Mountain District as of Jan 5, 2017. Of those, 8,694 are unclaimed players. To date, 108 tournaments have been sanctioned in the district for this season. There was only one registrar who was not at the district meeting in Dallas last August to go over information from the Annual Congress. She is working on credentialing guidelines for district tournaments.

Disabled - Mike Hoskins reported that interest in the district has grown. Special hockey has had a lot of interest the last six months. Dallas Stars have committed to helping with special hockey. There are many different disciplines in disabled hockey, including deaf, sled, and blind. The Disabled Festival is April 6-9, 2017 in San Jose, CA.

Coach in Chief - Mike Lehto reported on the consistency of the coaching clinics over the last several years, creating uniform training for the trainers. He is working directly with affiliates on temp coaching cards. There were less than 10 this year. He will have more details on level 4 clinics at the Annual Congress.

High Performance Camp - Bruce Urban reported on the 4th year for the high performance camp. He is waiting for one sponsorship check to come in to have a \$300 balance in the account.

Director - Geoff Pashkowski is on the Girls Council and they are working on rules being the same as the boys and whether girls' national tournaments should mirror boys' national tournaments. A straw vote among the attendees showed that most want it to be the same as boys. He says there doesn't seem to be any interest in advancing any district women's' teams to a national tournament. Please encourage affiliate women teams to attend national tournaments.

Director - TC Lewis reported that the Youth Council tournament format is being revised. Rule changes and possible age changes are also being talked about. Please give TC any input on the proposals.

Director - Chris Kenney reported that Anne Hetrick's husband passed away and to please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. He also expressed a huge Thank You to Tom Lampl for building the district development program. He was always challenging to find a way to do it better. Tom is retiring after 22 years of service to the Idaho Amateur Hockey Association and the Rocky Mountain District. Chris would like to hear any input from Affiliates about any issues created by non-USA hockey programs.

District Tournament

Team commitments for all levers were reviewed. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** for Colorado to have their 1st and 2nd place teams at the Boys Tier 1 15U level participate for this season only. Mark Servaes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** for Colorado to have their 1st and 2nd place teams at the Girls Tier 2 14U level for this season only. Mark Servaes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. There will be a 4-Man officiating team for boys and a 3-Man officiating team for girls. Geoff Pashkowski made a **MOTION** for officiating to be reviewed on a yearly basis. TC second the motion and it passed unanimously.

Player Development

Girls Multi-District Camp - Geoff Pashkowski reported that has been an increase of 40 plus players. The camp is in the black after only 2 years. Tom Lampl has retired. The length of the camp will be shortened by one day, Jun 10-14, 2017 at Colorado College. Bruce Urban said the cost will be \$650, same as last year.

Boys - Mark Servaes reported that the boys player development camp is being moved from Salt Lake City to Dallas for next couple of years. It will be shortened one day. USA Hockey wants it geared more toward moving players on to national camp. They will add 15 year olds to the 16 and 17 year olds. They have not been able to make it a multi-district camp yet.

Camp Checking Account – Chris Kenney is working on resolving the USA Hockey audit concern of the camp account being separate from the district account. The District is due to be audited again next year.

Other Business

Mike Lehto would like nominations from all affiliates for the District Coach of the Year.

Kelly Grover back home after a hospital and rehab stay. We don't know when he'll be back with us. Bruce Karinen is out of rehab and back to assisted living. (Bruce Karinen has since passed away in March 2017.)

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be a breakfast meeting on June 8, 2017 at Annual Congress. The August meeting will be in Utah.

TC made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. Kathleen Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day, Secretary/Treasurer
Rocky Mountain District