

# Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council

Meeting Minutes - Fall 2021. October 23, 2021  
River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center, Ishpeming, Michigan

Submitted by D8 Director Kitti Loukus (Secretary Milligan was unable to attend.)

## Attendance:

MAHA  
Al Wakeham, D8 Chair  
Steve LaCourt, D8 Director  
Phil Berger, D8 Director  
Kitti Loukus, D8 Director  
Scott Cambensey, D8 Director  
  
Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officials  
Eric Froberg, D8 Referee in Chief  
Bob Yohe, USA Hockey Registrar  
Michele LaCourt, D8 Registrar

Calumet	Dan Zubiena, D8 Treasurer
Copper Country (CCHJA)	Sara Tormala
Dickinson (DAHA)	Ben Ryan, Coach/ACE Coordinator
	Tim Jaska, President
Escanaba (EAJHA)	Bob Martinson
Iron Range	Matt Heinzl
Iron River (IAHA)	Tina Brunswick, Treasurer
Ironwood	Jennifer Krznarich
Keweenaw Bay (KBHA)	Brian Rantanen
Manistique	Nick Bosanic
Marquette	Amanda Gobert, D8 Registrar
Munising	John Maki
Ontonagon	Stacey Somero
Sled Hockey UP	Allen Beauchamp
Tahquamenon (TAYHA)	Ben Rahilly, President

Absent: Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary  
Mike Sands, D8 Coaching Director  
Perry Wooden, D8 Director  
Nick Fornetti, D8 Director

Guest: Cathy Starrett

Meeting called to order by Al Wakeham, Chair at 10:07 am.

Moment of silence for MAC.

Introductions were made.

**Motion (Zubiena/Rahilly): Approve minutes from the Spring 2021 meeting. Approved unanimously.**

Wakeham presented the Chairperson's Report:

- Reminder to associations to submit exceptions ASAP. Directors then review and submit to playoff committee.
- November 1<sup>st</sup> is deadline to declare teams to participate in state tournaments.
- Passed out Playing rules with highlighted changes from summer meetings.
- Handout for Association of the year contest. MAHA's initiative to grow numbers for this season and beyond.
- Reviewed discipline procedures for penalties. Players receiving match penalties are suspended until hearing is held (zoom).
- MAHA Strategic plan/committee formed to grow numbers. If any volunteers interested in joining committee, let him know.

Zubiena presented a Treasurer's update:

- Districts no longer have checkbooks. A movement from USA hockey and adopted by MAHA to prevent fraud. Expense reports come from MAHA's Treasurer, Jim Cosgrove.
- Budget report submitted last year. Includes travel for 2 district council meetings and directors travel to state meetings. For Districts, host buys trophies. For States, MAHA pays for the trophies and officials. All expenses are submitted online. He is not on the MAHA budget committee.

Secretary's Report – no report. Loukus circulated attendance sheets.

Yohe presented Registrar's Report:

- Passed out sheet with District 8 and MAHA registration numbers to date.
- As of 10/23; District 8 has 1193 registered players, compared to 1438 in 2019-20.
- MAHA numbers are at 29731, compared to 30406 in 2019-20.
- Our 3 Adult checking teams are not yet registered.
- Try Hockey for Free event will be held in some associations.
- Safe Sport and Background checks are required for all association board members. 2 associations rosters not yet submitted. Our district council board roster is complete.
- Changes at USA hockey. Jim Smith no longer the President, now Mike.
- Bob Mancini new coaching director.
- USA hockey annual guide has been updated.
- MAHA Annual Guide not in print, but updated on website.
- Associations reminded to follow COVID protocols sent out by MAHA's Jason Reynolds.

Yohe reported on CEP:

- Clinics full immediately.
- If need help with finding coaching clinics, contact Bob. He will contact Julie.
- There are virtual clinics available. Coaches can sign up in any state.
- Safe Sport screening reports, website not reliable. Contact Bob if questions. All coaches and board members are required to complete Safe Sport. Change coming where Safe Sport will be due yearly.

Froberg presented Officiating Program report:

- Important rule changes for this season. 401B: 4 penalties per player per game, and 12 penalties for team.
- 402: Shorter penalties lengths: 1min for 12 minutes or less periods; 1:30 min for 12-16 min periods; 2 min for 17 minutes or more periods.
- Rule changes to faceoff, faceoff locations, icing.
- Clinics scheduled in Calumet, Marquette, Escanaba, Iron Mountain.
- Everyone asked to help finding officials. Local and statewide issue. Asking to think of incentives to help find referees – reimburse registration fee, mentoring program, help them navigate website. Stressed the need for officials at all levels.
- 2 officials required per game in 10U and above or NO game.
- All district and state assigned officials approved by him.
- When planning a tournament, make sure you have enough officials in advance.
- There will be a virtual referee clinic in the UP. No date set yet. Working with JP Parmentier.
- Ask associations to take and hang up supplied posters.
- If you know of any experienced officials, ask if they will help new officials.
- Ask coaches to thank officials.
- Zero tolerance policy for hollering and abuse of referees.
- Discussions for ideas for help/incentives for officials: Helmets: Keweenaw Foundation, Portage Fountain, Peranis. Could we offer a starter kit. Approx. \$350 for equipment and seminar.

Beauchamp present the Sled Hockey Program report:

- Season starts October 30<sup>th</sup>. Numbers are down compared to six years ago.
- Everyone asked to help with recruitment. Sled Hockey is open to all. They have 6 players this season.
- They plan to have “Try Sled Hockey” events in Negaunee, Escanaba, Iron Mountain, and Hancock this season.

Team Declarations:

- Due by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Regionals/District/State Playoff Sites and Dates:

- Set Regionals for January 14-16, 2022 for Escanaba (East) and Iron River (West)

**Motion (Rahilly/Berger): Approve Escanaba and Iron River for Regional sites. Approved unanimously.**

- Set Districts:
  - 12UB – Escanaba – February 4-6
  - 10UB – Manistique – February 4-6
  - 14UB – Iron Range – January 28-30
  - 16/18UB/BB – Marquette – February 4-6
  - 10UAA, 12UAA, 14UAA – Marquette – January 38-30

**Motion (Zubiena/Heinzel): Approve District sites and dates. Approved unanimously.**

- State Tournament dates and sites:
  - Copper Country – 14UAA – March 11-13

- Ironwood – 14UB – March 11-13
- Marquette – 14UA – return to the State Playoff committee
- Wakeham reminded the requirements of submitting SPC forms, and to follow checklists. 120-140 rooms required.

Gobert reported on Player Development Program:

- Boys 14/15 and 16/17 camp in Marquette. Cost \$105-115 (3 skates)
- State camps in Taylor. April 29 – May 1. Registration opens December 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be Team Michigan camps for both Juniors and Seniors this season.
- Email going out to all MI registered Bantam/Midget level players. Split by districts, more slots available.

Old Business:

- Wakeham presented option for trophies from JK Trophies.
  - Metals with Ribbons - \$5.85 (20 per team) – Engraved, full color.
  - 5 color trophies - \$75 for both champion and runner up.
  - Five week lead time. Estimated \$300.00 per districts.

**Motion (Rahilly/Bosanic): Approve going with 5 color trophies and medals from JK trophies. Approved unanimously.**

New Business

- Wakeham reported for Sands on Coaching Clinic Shortage. He said coaches should check website regularly. Virtual clinics being added daily. He is working to get more Level 4 clinics set up.
  - 2 in-person clinics set for the UP. Level 4 in Marquette on November 8 & 9.
  - Level 1 in Hancock on November 10 & 11.
  - Association's Coaching Directors can contact Sands if any questions or for help.
- Krzmarich – New rink in Ironwood.
- Wakeham: Reminder that all Association Boards required to have their rosters submitted. Currently missing DAHA and Keweenaw Bay. Thanks to Michele and Amanda for submitting these.
- Reminder of Book checks on January 9<sup>th</sup> at Lakeview in Marquette and DEE Stadium in Houghton. Book checks for all teams. Books require: Roster, game logs, scoresheets, credentials, concussion forms for national bound teams. Jersey numbers and positions required on rosters. Make sure manager is listed on every roster.

District 8 Spring Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2022 at the River Rock Lanes and Banquet Center, Ishpeming, at 10:00 am.

Scott Cambensey reminded of Winter MAHA meeting in Livonia on January 21-22.

Bob Yohe reminded of MAHA Summer meeting in Grand Rapids in July.

**Motion (Rahilly/Heinzel) Adjourn 12:47pm. Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted: Kittie Loukus