

WAHA Region 4 Hockey Council Inc.

Meeting Minutes

Date: **Wednesday – February 19, 2020**
Location: **Conference Room, Madison Ice Arena**
Time: **6:30 pm**

Members/Organizations Present: (x) Edward Chady, President (x) Gottlieb Brandli, Vice President, () Matt Goetzke, Treasurer (x) Tod Prichard, Secretary () Jeremy Gesicki, R4 Director (x) Anna Hughes-Papich, R4 Director (x) Lisa Martinson, R4 Director () Tom Hansen, Registrar () TBD, RWB ALD (), TBD, Girls ALD (x) Mike Pagni, Past President (x) DCHOA Representative (x) WHOA Representative (x) Beloit (x) DC Diamonds (x) Ice Wolves (x) Janesville (x) McFarland () Middleton (x) Monroe (x) Oregon () Patriots (x) S/C Cyclones () Sauk Prairie (x) Stoughton (x) Sun Prairie () Verona () Polar Caps (x) Wildcats (x) Capitols () Dubuque

Review and Approve:

Minutes of Meeting from December 4, 2019 – Presented by Ed Chady
Motion Ice wolves, 2nd Beloit

Standing Business:

1. Treasurer's Report; tape
2. WAHA Directors Report (Anna)
 - a. Safesport program – New emphasis going well across the state
 - b. Concussion return to play form - Must be signed by doctor and sent to Jerry Kennedy before player can return. Form is on WAHA Website.
<https://scripts.wahahockey.com/scripts/Forms/USAH%20Return%20to%20Play%20Form%2006-20-19.pdf>
 - c. Coaching clinic changes for Region 4 – More regional clinics planned instead of randomly scattered across state.
 - d. Coaching certification changes coming - Level 4 Grandfathering (CEU) but will need continuing education. Less redundancy in modules (5 down to 3 - <8, 10/12, >13). Changes still in progress, formal announcement soon.
 - e. Officiating retention - Still a huge issue, blamed on fan abuse. 80% quit by the end of three years. Discussion of how do we get to zero tolerance towards the refs. Anna commented that it starts with the association cultures, enforcement of parent conduct, signage in the rinks. Associations can also help encourage folks to become refs. A few issues during the playdowns. One association complained some recent games were getting out of control due to lack of officiating.
 - f. Key dates
 - i. Proposed bylaw changes – March 15: <http://scripts.waha-hockey.com/scripts/Forms/By-Law%20Submission%20Form.doc>
 - ii. Proposed rule changes – March 15: <http://scripts.waha-hockey.com/scripts/Forms/Rule%20Change%20Submission%20Form.doc>
 - iii. Nominations for WAHA Director role – April 1st / Declaration of candidacy. Jeremy's term ends this year: <http://scripts.waha-hockey.com/scripts/Forms/DECLARATION%20OF%20CANDIDACY.pdf>
 - iv. 2022 State Tournament Host Site Bids – April 1: https://scripts.waha-hockey.com/scripts/Forms/bid_request.php

DCHOA / WHOA Officials Reports – Bill / Seven state tournaments in Region 4. Looking for associations to host officiating training sessions. Forms. Ice and classrooms which hold 40 attendees (at rink or nearby) is required.

Below is the seminar application that Bill referenced at the meeting. Contact Bill or the education coordinator, contact information below, if they have any questions.

Key Dates

- 2/3/20: Application process begins.
- 3/16/20: Application deadline.
- 5/15/20: Announcement of seminars (this date is a WAHA expectation).

What Applicants MUST Provide

1. The standard seminar application will be submitted via a Google Form. The association or Region Director may complete this form. The link is found below.
2. Seminar applicants must provide, at a minimum, the following:
 1. Three classrooms with appropriate seating for 40 individuals.
 2. Projections devices in each classroom compatible with Microsoft and Apple operating systems (our projectors are old and do not work well with all instructor devices).
 3. Site access beginning at 9:00 AM and concluding at 3:30 PM.
 4. Three one-hour (60 minute ice sessions) with a resurface between sessions. Ideal ice session times are: 12:45 to 1:45 PM; 2:00 to 3:00 PM; 3:15 to 4:15 PM.
 5. Sufficient locker room space to hold 40 participants including overlapping times. A separate locker room must be provided for female participants and for instructor staff (SafeSport).
 6. Seminar applicants are responsible for any and all costs associated with hosting a seminar. WHOA is responsible for instructor costs.
2. Each seminar applicant must submit a primary date and ONE alternate date. Primary and alternate date CANNOT be on the same weekend. Previously, the second date (now called the "alternate date") was used for 30-40% of seminars. Primary and alternate dates cannot be on the same weekend as WHOA is cognizant of individuals working weekends, the vast majority of whom work every other weekend.
3. Seminar dates must be between 8/15/20 and 11/1/20 (dates inclusive). This time frame is shorter than previous seasons. An early seminar (e.g. 8/8/ or 8/9) cannot be accommodated with a tentative 8/4 registration start as registration would literally open and close on the same date. The "Last Chance" seminar, dictated by the opening of the WIAA hockey season will be held on 11/15/20. Regular season seminars close two weeks prior to the "Last Chance" seminar, encouraging individuals who wish to complete in a timely fashion to attend a regular seminar.

Proposals for Alternate Seminar Formats

1. WHOA recognizes the need to diversify seminar formats to meet the changing needs of the Wisconsin officiating community. Examples of past alternate formats include, Zebra Cup, weeknight seminars at individual levels, incorporating game experience during or after a seminar, female only seminar, and online Level 4 seminar.
2. A request for an alternate format seminar must be submitted to the WHOA Education Coordinator in accordance with the timeline described above. In addition, submitters must copy both WHOA Region Directors for their region.
3. The request must describe the alternate format in explicit detail, addressing all items in numbers 2-4 above and explaining why deviation from the above is needed and the expected benefits to the officiating education. Alternate dates must be included.
4. The WHOA Education Coordinator will review the request and advise the submitter if an online application is required and how the application should be submitted.

Allocation of Seminars

- R1: 2
- R2: 2
- R3: 2 or 3
- R3: 3
- R5: 3
- R6: 3

Other Information

- While Region Directors work within their regions to secure seminars, decisions for host sites are made on a statewide basis first, followed by a region basis. For example, if Chippewa Falls (R1) and Eau Claire (R6) both apply for a seminar, careful consideration would be given to surrounding sites in both regions as CF & EC sites are within 15 miles of each other making it unlikely both sites would host.
- WHOA makes every effort to place seminars in a fashion where no official will need to travel more than two hours to a seminar.
- **NEW:** The Region Director must submit proof of hosting capabilities as described above to the Education Coordinator no later than 3/16/20. Proof can be a formal contract, email, etc. In 2018, five locations (25% of locations) were granted seminars and published in May. When making "final" arrangements with these sites during the fall, it was highlighted that ice times had changes, classrooms had not been secured, etc. While accommodations were eventually worked out, this approach cannot continue.
- Please distribute information to BOTH the Referee Scheduler and President of each association in your respective region, ensuring continuity.

Link to Seminar Application: <https://forms.gle/hUUEYnEf5R8Yy7RH8>

Questions can be directed to me using the information below. Thank you for your assistance with the 2020 seminar season!

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Duffy Dyer,
WHOA Education Coordinator
218-349-0327
education@wihwa.org

Disciplinary Hearings- Mike: Peewee playing up to Bantam, eight game suspension due to kicking penalty (30 days). Please let parents know that a Match Penalty at this time of year will result in suspension for the state tournament.

Evaluation of newly enforced checking rules- Officials unsure if there will be an evaluation at the end of the season.

New Business:

1. State Tournament placement process feedback – Ed reviewed situation involving the playdown process and the movement of teams into different divisions. Ed was very disappointed in how WAHA handled the situation. WAHA directors did not communicate a board vote regarding the team moves, and that decision cost a 2C Peewee team a chance to go to state. If the board would have communicated their decision in a timely fashion, the teams involved could have played each other to determine the proper seeding. It was noted later that the 2C state tournament now has 5 B teams in it. The 2C Tournament will also be hosted by Somerset 3B, when a C team (McFarland) also applied to host and was denied. Another example, a 4A Bantam team was also moved into a 1C tournament. Anna was the only WAHA board member at the meeting at this point, and said board did not look closely at this proposal when it was voted on by the board in December. She said there will be changes made next year.

McFarland shared some draft rule changes with the associations present. McFarland is looking for feedback on these draft proposals. One of the major proposals is to move from four to three divisions to alleviate the lack of teams at all levels which leads to cancellations of state tournaments. Another proposal limits the scope of moves the tournament committee can make in playdown and state tournament brackets. (See draft rules attached – contact Tod Pritchard for feedback: todpritchard@yahoo.com).

McFarland also added that McFarland, Janesville, and Oregon asked for an appeal of this decision by the WAHA board, and were told that an appeal will not be entertained by the board for those clubs.

The 1C clubs also asked WAHA for an explanation and did not get questions answered regarding a concern about player safety regarding a 4A team playing 1C team. It was also brought up that there are already rules on the books to avoid this situation from happening, but those rules were ignored.

Anna encouraged everyone to submit changes of Bylaws and Rules, and suggested possible "at large" members on WAHA committees would make for more transparency.

2. Try Hockey for Free portal process feedback – USA Hockey portal is finally open, but late and may have an impact on participation.
3. Reminder that at next meeting (Apr 15th) the committee will nominate and vote on the Region 4 Executive Committee members. Ed not planning to re-run for the President role next season. Suggests next president should be from Division 2/3/4 as the majority of the issues in our region tend to be centered around Division 1 programs. This minimizes potential bias from many situations.
4. Club Updates
 - a. Tournaments looking for participants
 - i. Stoughton – 3v3 tournament Mar 7
 - ii. Janesville – 3v3 tournament Mar 21&22
5. Rosters- Anna thanked all the associations for their help on having clean rosters.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion - _____ Janesville _____, 2nd - _____ Stoughton _____

2019/20 Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 - 6:30pm at Madison Ice Arena - Region 4 meeting including Spring WAHA meeting, review of proposed bylaw and rule changes, vote on Region 4 Executive Committee members, etc.