



**Meeting was called to order by President Steve Oleheiser on January 22, 2023, at 8:04 AM.**

**Roll Call was taken by Secretary Rhonda Madsen.**

**Board Members Present:**

President Steve Oleheiser	Past President Dave Margenau	Treasurer Doug Kephart
Secretary Rhonda Madsen	VP Scott Gray	VP Tom Christianson
VP Jeremy Reed	VP Steve Gapinski	Director Tom Mickus
Director Kevin Suoja	Director Paul Steenerson	Director Mike Pigman
Director Nate Wold	Director Brad Hewitt	Director Rich Rakness
Director Mark Blaisdell	Director Colleen Donovan	Director Pete Hill
Director Dennis Bushy	Director Mark Elliott	Adult Women Kendra Verbeten
Diversified Hockey Toni Gillen		

**Staff Present:** Executive Director Glen Andresen, Marketing/Communications Manager Louis Snee, Financial Administrator Kathy Hayes, Hockey Programs Manager Connor Clark, and DEI/Girls Hockey Growth Manager Akua Tieku.

The voting quorum was announced. With 21 voting members present, simple majority was ten (10) two-thirds majority was fourteen (14).

Minutes from the September 18, 2022, meeting was distributed electronically. A motion was made by Treasurer Kephart and seconded by Director Suoja approve the minutes. Minutes stand as distributed.

**Agenda Additions/Changes:** No additions or changes made to the agenda.

**Moment of Silence:** Margaret Schauer, Financial Administrator Kathy Hayes Mother; Donna Mae Donovan, D10 Director Colleen Donovan's Mother; Charlie Boike, 17-year-old St. Cloud MNH Player; Cormick Scanlan, 16 year old Cretin-Derham Hall Hockey Player; Dave Kemp, D6 USAH Chief of Officials; Casey Orn, D10 Mike Orn's son; and Margery Dahl, Mother of Denise Hill.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Kephart reported the Financial Statements through September 30, 2022. Revenues reported were \$1,519,239.23 and expenses reported were \$1,213,336.83 resulting in a net income of \$305,902.40. The financial statements will be referred to audit. Motion was made and seconded by VP Steve Gapinski to approve the Treasurer's report. **Motion passed unanimously.**

A comparison report, from the previous year to the current year, will be included with the financial statements.

Treasurer Kephart moved to accept the Annual Audit Report for year ending August 31, 2022, seconded by Director Suoja. **Motion to accept the Audit report passed unanimously.**

**President's Report:**

President Oleheiser - We are celebrating 75 years this year, which has been an amazing run. The leadership, drive and commitment that has come from the current Board and those that have served on the board in the past has kept us going with issues we have faced in the past, and those we face today with parents, SafeSport

and society. Moving forward, some will stay involved and some will step aside, but we will continue on for many years to come.

#### **Executive Director's Report:**

Executive Director Andresen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

District Directors – let Glen know when your District meetings are scheduled for as the MNH staff would like to attend some of the meetings to meet everyone.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Administrative Management:**

Committee Chair Oleheiser reported the committee has been meeting and working diligently on the addition of new staff, replacing old staff, interviewing this week for the new Events Coordinator/Social Media position, and finalizing the employee handbook.

#### **Adult Women / Girls and Women's Recruitment Committee:**

Adult Women Director Verbeten submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

There has been some issues staffing officials this year. Working on getting back-to-back games so they aren't just having a single game, and then the SafeSport requirement. Is it possible to change any of the officials' requirements on becoming an official if they are going to officiate adult-only games.

A link will be emailed to everyone containing a segment on Women in Coaching.

Looking for two Districts and/or Associations to host a Mother/Daughter Try Hockey for Free Event.

#### **Diversified Hockey:**

Director Gillen submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

#### **District Directors:**

District Director Chair Suoja report stands as reported in committee, which discussions included JGHSL Board role within MNH statewide, , surplus of MNH funds, players Mic'd up during games, Female coaches in locker rooms with boys while getting dressed, fighting penalty, AA Regions, and Neck guards.

**District 1** – Director Mickus had nothing to report.

**District 2** – Director Suoja reported they are working through issues at the Super Rink.

**District 3** - Director Steenerson reported they are preparing for Districts.

**District 4** – Director Pigman reported they are preparing for Districts.

**District 5** – Director Wold reported they are preparing for Districts.

**District 6** – Director Hewitt reported they are adding a CFO position to their Board. They are currently looking for a replacement for Dave Kemp.

**District 8** – Director Rakness reported they have had 12 fighting penalties so far, which three were girls.

**District 9** – Director Blaisdell reported they are preparing for Districts.

**District 10** – Director Donovan reported they have a had a few issues, but are addressing.

**District 11** – Director Hill reported they are preparing for playoffs and four region tournaments.

**District 12** – Director Rabideaux was not in attendance.

**District 15** – Director Bushy reported they are preparing for their five region tournament. There have not been any real issues with penalties but have been a couple major issues with parents that they are working through. Winter meeting is coming up.

**District 16** – Director Elliott reported their season is going well. Fighting penalties are down, but have had issues with racial slurs and with a coach physically attacking a referee.

**Diversity:**

Director Mickus had nothing to report.

**Executive Committee:**

President Oleheiser reported the 2024 MNH Fall Meeting will be held in Mankato.

**Finance and Budget:**

The Finance/Budget Committee brought forth a motion changing the meal per-diems, effective immediately, and will also be reflected in the Financial Policy, to: \$10 Breakfast - \$20 Lunch - \$20 Dinner. With no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

The Finance/Budget Committee brought forth a motion to change MN Hockey's policy, effective immediately, that we follow the IRS allowance for mileage, with the Finance/Budget Committee reviewing on a quarterly basis. Following a brief discussion, with no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

The Finance/Budget Committee will be taking action on the recommendation from the District Directors and checks will be distributed accordingly.

**Girls Committee / Regional Coordinators:**

Committee Co-Chair Christensen reported the seedings are completed for the 15A's and 15B's. They will be meeting with the Competition Committee on how to bracket them, as well as the AA's. We will be working with the Tournament Committee regarding the Girls regions.

VP Gold Coordinator Christensen reported on the hearing he was asked to run in District 16, assault on an official. Director Suoja and Director Blaisdell assisted with the hearing. Outcome of the hearing was a one-year suspension.

Committee Co-Chair Gapinski reported on the Girls 13U stating the numbers have been small state wide. There is one more year of the pilot project to see if numbers will pick up. The numbers may not dictate a change, but the change would be beneficial.

VP Maroon Coordinator Gapinski reported they will be working on the region brackets for completion.

**Grievance Committee:**

Committee Chair Gapinski reported it has been busy with 8+ grievances so far this year, and three more coming within the next week or so. A number of inquiries have been turned back to Districts or Associations.

The current fee of \$200 should be increased to \$300 which may help mitigate some of the issues.

District Directors should go back to their Associations letting them know to include verbiage in their Peer up Policy that if you want to use Peer up, it needs to be announced prior to tryouts.

Suspensions cannot occur until there is a hearing.

**Handbook:**

Committee Chair Madsen had nothing to report. Executive Director Andresen mentioned that the Board will need to look for a Handbook Committee Chair, as current Chair will be stepping down.

**High School Boys:**

HS Boys Rep Voglesgang was not in attendance. VP Reed reported Dustin Voglesgang is the new President of the High School Coaches Association beginning March. Fall clinic is scheduled at UMD the weekend of October 13, 2023. High School coaches are all teamed up to support the HP spring program. There are a few new section reps. The Hockey advisory Committee of J. Ammerman, D. Voglesgang, S. Wacoll, M. Taylor, and M. MacMillan are meeting with the Hockey Advisory Committee for the High School League.

**High School Girls:**

HS Girls Rep Morris was not in attendance. VP Reed reported they are preparing for the end of the year with award, Miss Hockey, and the Section Tournament. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Senior Showcase, which will be held the weekend of March 3, 2023.

#### **Hockey Operations:**

Vice President Reed submitted written reports which are attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes, highlighting goalie development and trying to achieve more district wide clinics.

The Hockey Operations Committee brought forth a proposal to raise the off-season affiliate fee from \$250 to \$750 per team to be effective next season (for programs this fall). After a brief discussion, a roll-call vote was administered as motion must pass by 2/3 vote. Motion passed unanimously with no opposition.

The Officials Task Force met on January 18, 2023, which a written report is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

#### **Junior Gold:**

Past President Margenau reported the season is progressing and the playoffs have been posted for the teams advancing out of each division. .

#### **MIAMA:**

Director Rakness reported MIAMA's spring workshop is scheduled the first week in May in New Ulm. The MIAMA Board Meeting will be held February 1, 2023.

#### **Marketing/Communication:**

The Association Leadership Conference is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott, St. Louis Park.

#### **Membership Development:**

Marketing/Communications Manager Snee has submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

#### **Nominating:**

President Oleheiser asked Past President Margenau to Chair the Nominating Committee with the upcoming elections in April. Past President Margenau accepted.

Currently open for election include Secretary, Treasurer, HS Section Rep, Adults Director, and two USAH Director positions.

#### **Recreational Hockey:**

Director Mickus reported the Rec Hockey League has 39 teams, approximately 576 players, and 81 coaches. They are good with referees, but something needs to be done due to the rising cost of officials. They are currently working on the completion of SafeSport training.

#### **Referees:**

Referee Section Director Kuhl was not in attendance but has submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Discussion was had regarding parent behavior towards referees. This topic will be assigned to the District Directors for further review. District Directors were reminded they can suspend parents and assess a fine as well.

#### **SafeSport/Screening:**

Committee Chair Gray's report stands, with the following issues being reported on during committee meeting: Locker rooms are not being monitored on a consistent basis, noting that MNH could make locker room monitoring required. This was deferred to the Rule Committee.

Associations need to let Scott know of any SafeSport issues. Discipline actions are not being followed appropriately. Scott can assist in guiding them through the process or complete the process for them.

#### **Scholarship Committee:**

Committee Chair Donovan reported scholarships are due by March 6, 2023 and should be sent to the MN Hockey office.

### **Tournaments/Awards:**

Committee Chair Elmer reported that all region and state host agreements have been received. Alexandria and Buffalo will be hosting 15U-B regions; invitational tournaments are going well; however there are a lot of late registrants; and the committee will add the 15U-B into the rotation and look at adding an addition region.

### **USA Hockey Reports**

Steve Oleheiser: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Doug Kephart: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Doug Foster: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Travis Johnson: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Antonia Gillen: Submitted a written report which is attached hereto and incorporated into these minutes.

Steve Tatro: Not in attendance, no report submitted.

Scott Gray: Reported the USOPC Ethics Committee does not allow a director to complete safesport investigations. Scott has elected to remain the SafeSport Coordinator.

Steve Gapinski: Reported the next rule changes will occur in 2025 and will be presented for consideration in April 2024.

Todd Elmer: Registration numbers in our section have been reviewed and there is concern with the low 6U numbers; new age modules are guaranteed for this coming fall; coaching education continuing ed requirement has been moved out one more year; business rules around the 12-month SafeSport training, which coaches will receive an email 60-days prior for completion but cannot be on a roster 30-days before the end of their one-year SafeSport cycle; and USAH is removing the words midget, bantam, peewee etc. from the handbook and rosters and will only be using/showing up as girls 12U, youth 12U etc.(this has been added to the District Director agenda for review to see what MN Hockey wants to do).

Glen Andresen: Nothing to report other than momentum for the full-ice mite exemption.

Louis Snee: Meetings were eye opening. It was fun meeting people and networking.

Dave Margenau: The Officiating Task Team has been meeting monthly with discussions regarding the mentorship program, the gap between assigners and new referee's, and having younger officials wear green ram bands.

Greg Evenson, ND: Reported that in September 2022, he was voted into the ND Hockey Hall of Fame. He thanks the support from the MN Hockey Board of Directors for the past 15 years.

Greg Evenson has been appointed as a Tournament Director at the 18U Tier-II National Tournament in Maple Grove; Steve Oleheiser has been appointed as a Tournament Director at the Youth 14U Tier-II National Tournament in Denver; and Dave Margenau has been appointed as a Tournament Director at the 18U Tier-II National Tournament in Maple Grove.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded. President Oleheiser adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda J Madsen, MNH Recording Secretary