

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT HOCKEY**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**  
**ZOOM**

In attendance:

Lewis, TC	District	Director
Servaes, Mark	District	Director
	TX	Vice President
Pashkowski, Geoff	District	Director
	AZ	Director at Large
Smith, Kathleen	District	Director
Day, Jill	District	Secretary/Treasurer
Clarke, Cosmo	District	Coach-in-Chief
Grover, Kelly	District	Risk Manager
Thompson, Darla	District	Registrar
Reinhard, Ken	District	Referee-in-Chief
Corona, Alfredo	District	Disabled Rep
Aguirre, Kristy	District	Webmaster
	District	2021 Tourn Director
Reckell, Tim	District	High School Section
	AZ	President
Jerome, Donnalee	AZ	Registrar
Kanai, Randy	CO	President
Heinrich, John B	ID	President
Lehto, Shelly	ID	Registrar
Tirocke, Joanne	ID	Secretary
Wenner, Rick	NM	President
Reid, Lucas	TX	President
Brewer, Tonya	TX	Registrar
Radke, Derrick	UT	President
Urban, Bruce	USA Hockey	Director at Large
Bonnett, Joe	USA Hockey	ADM Manager
Wright, Kristen	USA Hockey	ADM Manager
Noyes, Bobby		

Absent: No voting members were absent.

TC Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm CST. There was a quorum present to conduct business.

**Minutes**

Minutes have not been approved for Sep. 2019, Jan. 2020, Aug. 2020, Nov. 2020, and Dec. 2020. This agenda item was inadvertently skipped in this meeting.

**Referee-in-Chief Report**

Ken Reinhard reported that official registrations are down over 20% due to COVID. Level 4 registrations are up because a skating test was not required this year. The district conducted 102 virtual seminars.

### **Playing Rule Change Proposals**

Bruce Urban reported on some of the proposed rule changes. Local jurisdictions would be able to change the length of penalties based on length of games. Attempt to injure will be changed to recklessly endangered for it to be easier for discipline committees to adjudicate. Officials don't have to play doctor because the injury is removed from the rule. Offsides is now offside. Gender reference being eliminated. Four instead of five personal penalties and twelve instead of 15 penalties for a team to be a major. No tag up offside, no icing on penalty-kill. Many more proposed to vote on in June 2021. Contact the district directors with any input on these proposals.

### **District Registrar**

Registrar Darla reported she has been having monthly Zoom calls with the affiliate registrars. In their January meeting, they discussed the dates for 2021 district tournaments and reduction of game count requirements, and many other changes. The district registration count for 2019-20 was 55,797 and as of Jan. 6, 2021, there are 43,851 or 82.67% of the prior year. The registrars are preparing to credential books for state, district, and national tournaments. In the 2021-22 season a member will receive an email that their screening was approved to avoid calls to the national office wondering about the status.

### **Coach-in-Chief**

Cosmo Clarke is the new Coach-in-Chief for the district. He reported this year's certification is down 10%. The deadline was extended a month to 1/31/21 and have several clinics scheduled to help get numbers up in January. All CEP clinics were held via Zoom from Aug 29th – Dec 27th. The feedback that was received was very positive and encouraging for our instructors. The coaches enjoyed the clinics as they had the chance to converse with others from around the country and a handful from around the world. The clinics were educational, interactive, and fun. Our instructors did a phenomenal job including as many participants as possible during the clinics. He is still working on getting a CIC for Colorado. There is a nice article on NHL.com on Cosmo. Please make sure your Tier I and II coaches are registered.

### **Disabled Section**

Alfredo Corona reported that it has been very slow this season with COVID and most district teams have shut down for the season. The decision still needs to be made if the disabled festival will be held. Warriors program is the only one running right now.

### **ADM Update**

Joe Bonnett and Kristin Wright recognized the Gold Medal won in the World Junior Championship. It was a very diverse team with more kids from California than Michigan and many came up from the grass roots. ADM still is not traveling and haven't been told when they might start again. They are hoping to be able to attend the national tournaments. ADM is working with the coaching section on the coaching curriculum. They are also starting on parent modules.

### **Affiliate Reports**

Texas - Lucas Reid reported that hockey is still operating and busy. Thanks to the registrars for getting tournament sanctions approved. State Tournament on schedule, district tournament on schedule, state camp is Mar 12-14, 21 for both boys and girls.

Idaho - John Heinrich reported that the state meeting in a couple of weeks will finalize dates of camps and tournaments. They have a couple of girls teams going to Phoenix. Some high school games are being played. Started to get back to playing.

Arizona - Tim Reckell reported they are open for business. Everything is on schedule; high school games are being played. Western Girls League play was impressive last weekend. Player development camp dates are girls April 9-11, 2004-2006 birth year Mar 26-28, and 2007 birth year Apr 16-18.

Colorado - Randy Kanai reported they just got clearance today to start play again. They have been suspended since mid-November. Teams will now work on getting required games in. Don't have camp dates yet.

New Mexico - Rick Wenner reported they have a 2-week required quarantine after travel. They have been practicing but not playing a lot of games. Camps are scheduled for March.

Utah - Derrick Radke reported that 11 rinks in the state with some County rinks not completely open. There are locker room and spectator limitations. We have 72 house/rec teams. Our county teams are not USA Hockey registered. He reported on team counts and required game count is being met. Had to start issuing travel permits to curtail unapproved travel. State camp will be March 19-21.

### **District Directors**

Kathleen Smith has been working with a couple of affiliates and is part of the governance task force to increase athlete percentage on the board. Tomorrow's Town Hall meeting will have a lot of information about it. They are meeting every other week for 2 hours. A survey will go out after the Town Hall to National Board members. Please tune in!

Mark Serveas now on Adult Council and no longer on the nominating committee. The Pond Hockey Tournament that usually has a huge turnout had to be canceled this year due to COVID. Team fees will be rolled over to next year.

Geoff Pashkowski reported that there will be two teams from the district that will advance to the national tournament. He sits in on discussions with 3 different subsections, sits on women's leadership, and the play up rule is still evolving.

TC Lewis reported on the Youth Council and being named the National Tournament Director. USAH is very motivated to hold the tournaments this year. The San Jose tournament location has not been replaced yet

### **District Finances**

Jill Day reported that there hasn't been much financial activity. That will change when the development camp account is combined into the regular district account. The Annual 990 post card has been filed with the IRS. Camp fees will increase the income and will require a CPA to file that annual 501©3 tax return. All affiliates have paid their fees to the district. New invoices will be going out later this month with the 50 cent per youth player increase. A donation was sent in the name of the Jim Rogers Memorial Fund. He was involved in Arizona hockey for many, many years and will be greatly missed.

### **District Tournament**

Geoff Pashkowski reported that Arizona is the host affiliate, and they are working on finalizing the entry fee. During a normal year, teams are moved between rinks to get the experience of all locations. But this year, with COVID, it is more important to keep the same people going in and out of the same rinks. It is important to keep safety in place for this year and we must follow each rink's COVID rules. Still need to do some scheduling changes to maintain the safety and rules.

### **Player Development Camp**

Mark Serveas reported that the nationals end May 3<sup>rd</sup> so the Boys' 15,16,17 camp will be May 21-23 in Dallas. There won't be a girls' multi-district camp this year. The Pacific District has said they don't want to continue the relationship. So, the girls will be held at the same time as the boys. The girls had a virtual camp put on for them last summer. The 14 High Performance Camp will not be at the same time as the other camp this year due to COVID. There is a tentative date in June for the 14-year-old camp this year.

### **District Director Elections**

Darla Thompson noted that the director position of Geoff Pashkowski is up for election for a 3-year term. Nominations need to be to Darla before March 1<sup>st</sup>. Ballots will be sent out on March 15<sup>th</sup> and are due back on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **District Risk Manager**

Kelly Grover reported that there is no coverage for COVID in USA Hockey policies.

### **Other Business**

There was quite a bit of discussion on what happens if there are COVID cancelations for the district tournament. We will just have to do the best we can to deal with it if it happens.

Please attend the Winter meeting sessions, especially the town halls. Send any questions or comments you have to the district directors.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day, Secretary/Treasurer  
Rocky Mountain District Hockey

**District Registrar Report**  
**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

**As we are all aware the 20-21 season has been very different. As registrars, we have stayed in touch monthly via zoom to keep everyone in the know on what was happening in each Affiliate.**

**1. Had zoom calls in September, October and November. Took December off to enjoy the Holidays and started the New Year off with a call in January.**

**2. In our January call, we discussed RMD dates for Tier I youth and Tier I/II girls.**

- a. Changes in National dates and locations (dates can be found on the USA Hockey web-site.**
- b. Reduction of minimum game count for youth Tier I/Tier II from 20/10 to 14/7**
- c. CEP extension to 1/31 AND**
- d. Winter meeting dates**

**3. In the 1920-21 total players, coaches, officials in RMD were 55,797 and as of January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, we have 43,851 total player, coaches, officials in RMD.**

**4. Registrars will start preparing to credential books for State, District and National tournaments in the next few weeks.**

**5. We have sanctioned 141 tournaments and have cancelled 16 of those due to Covid restrictions in different States.**

**6. District Registrars had our closed registrar meeting last night. A few changes we will see in the 2021-2022 season**

**a. Once a member receives a green light on their screen the member will receive an email that their screen was approved. Hoping that this reduces the number of calls/emails to the National office.**

Darla Thompson  
RMD Registrar  
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## **USA Hockey 2021 Winter Meeting: RMD CEP Report**

This is my 1<sup>st</sup> year as CIC as I replaced Michael Lehto in the Spring 2020 weeks prior to COVID shutting down our country and sport. The spring/summer were spent working with other CIC's from other states. Time was spent on learning how to roll out the new curriculum as well as how to teach the new curriculum over the web.

Due to unfortunate times, USAH decided to offer two options for coaches to complete their Coaching Education. Option 1- Returning coaches could apply for a Temporary Card valid for this season only. Option 2- New or returning coaches could participate in clinics via Zoom to obtain their education.

### **2020/21 CEP Clinics**

RMD held all clinics via Zoom from Aug 29th – Dec27th.

Coaches received their CEP by participating in the Zoom Clinics or by applying for a Temporary Card for this season only.

The majority of our clinics were taught over the course of 1 day, mostly on a Saturday. These clinics ran 6-7hrs.

The others were held during the weeknights over the course of 3 nights and ran 2.5hrs/night.

**Nationwide Temporary Cards that were distributed - 12,462. (as of 12/28/2021)**

**Nationwide Coaches attended Clinics - 14,846 (as of 12/28/2021)**

**USA Hockey's Youth Council, in December, authorized an extension of the Coach Education Due Date to**

**\*\*January 31, 2021. We are offering more virtual clinics in January to assist coaches in meeting their obligation.**

### **Breakdown of Clinics Held by RMD as of 12/28/2021**

Level 1= 6= # of Coaches 252

Level 2= 5= # of Coaches 234

Level 3= 5= # of Coaches 210

Level 4= 4= # of Coaches 195

Total # of Clinics held in RMD = 20= Total # of Coaches 891

\*Our goal was to hold 24 clinics. However; we just fell short and were only able to hit 20.

### **Positive Feedback/Response from Participants:**

The feedback that we received was very positive and encouraging for our instructors. The coaches enjoyed the clinics as they had the chance to converse with others from around the country and a handful from around the world.

The clinics were educational, interactive and fun. Our instructors did a phenomenal job including as many participants as possible during the clinics.

**Negative Feedback/Response from Coaches:**

Issues were dealing with internet connections and understanding the process of utilizing Zoom. Participants enjoyed attending the 1-day class versus the multiple-day clinics

**Coaching Directors and Instructors:**

Feeling comfortable with teaching the new material seemed to be an issue with many of our instructors. With many of our staff being new to Zoom/Web Conferences, some chose not to be the regular lead instructors and opted to assist as needed. The few instructors who did run the clinics, did an amazing job and we are truly grateful to them for stepping up. They not only led the clinic, but self-produced it and managed to run everything smoothly behind the scenes.

**Moving Forward:**

- Decisions will be made to offer coaches the chance to attend clinics in-person as well as via Zoom.
- We are hopeful to attend the USAH Level 5(National Coaching Symposium) Duluth, MN in August 2021)
- Additional new curriculum for CEP will be launched in Fall 2021
- Continue to grow and educate our CEP staff in order to produce even better clinics.

A huge "Thank You" to our RMD CEP Coordinators for all your time and effort. I would also like to thank my fellow CIC's from states for their guidance and support.

Submitted by: Cosmo Clarke, RMD Coach in Chief

Cosmo

RMD USA Hockey Coach In Chief

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RMD Report Jan 2021 Utah President, Derrick Radke

11 rinks open. SL County rinks still have significant restrictions. Practices private ice rental. Only a few games. Other Rinks operating with restrictions on occupancy, locker rooms, etc.

House Rec 72 Teams	Tier II – 9 Teams	Tier I – 3 Teams	High School - 45 teams
6 U 4	14 U 3	14 U	
8 U 9	16 U 3	16 U	
10 U 16	18 U 1	18 U	Men 24 teams
12 U 20			Women 3 teams –
14 U 17	Girls 14 U		Down by half
16 U 6	19 U		
Girls 3 teams			Disabled – 1 Team
			First Rostered for
			Utah

Issued about 60 travel permits

Game Counts are above the USAH minimums:

Tier I - 20 to 25 plus 10 to 12 by March/No issues with player game count

Tier II – 17 to 27 to date 25 to 36 by March/ No issues with player game count

Girls 14 16 total no more scheduled Players have game count

Girls 19 22 to date 4 more in Feb. Players have game count

Few early issues with teams wanting to travel to non-sanctioned tournaments. Calmed down. Highly discouraged. Need to develop policy during off season.

Camp March 19-21