

Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, District 8 Council

Meeting Minutes, Spring 2011

April 16, 2011

Wawonowin Golf Course, Ishpeming, Michigan

Submitted by Walt Milligan, MAHA District 8 Secretary, April 18, 2011

Attendance:

MAHA	Perry Wooden, D8 Chair/Director Cathy Starrett, D8 Treasurer/Director Dan Zubiena, D8 Director Walt Milligan, D8 Secretary JoLeen Jenkins, D8 Registrar Tim McIntosh, D8 Registrar Judy Niemi, MAHA VP of Officials Bob Yohe, Michigan Registrar
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Calumet	Dan Zubiena
Copper Country	Walt Milligan
Dickinson	Tina Martinson
Escanaba	Jim Eastin
Iron Range	Ken Farley
Iron River	Michelle Dominici, Paul Hytinen
Ironwood	Bob Heil
Keweenaw Bay	Dorie Miller
Manistique	Craig Savage, Don Bowers
Marquette	Linda Winslow
Munising	Joe McInnis
Newberry	Rebecca Pillion
Ontonagon	<i>None</i>

Absent: Larry Carey (D8 Director), Jeff Cornock (D8 ACE Director), Ed Kattelus (D8 CEP Director), Jeff Rule (Ontonagon District Council Rep), Bill Peterson (Director-at-Large), George Niemi (D8 Referee-in-Chief)

Chair Perry Wooden called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Motion (Starrett/Zubiena): Approve minutes from the Fall 2010 meeting. Approved unanimously.

Wooden presented the Chairperson's report. There were only four disciplinary hearings in the District the entire year, which qualifies as a quiet year. The ADM program started at different levels of participation in the District. Associations that tried it reported that the kids and the coaches liked it but some parents are still resistant. There may be a lawsuit downstate from an irate parent.

The Keweenaw Storm 16U girls' team and the Marquette 19U girls' team both won states and made nationals. Ironwood Squirt B team won states. Marquette's Midget B and Midget BB teams were both state runners-up.

In General, associations that hosted District tournaments did a fantastic job.

Treasurer Cathy Starrett presented her report. MAHA went to Quickbooks Online. While this is a good system, it is difficult to print out reports except the summary Profit-and-Loss statement. She presented the mid-year P&L statement, which showed that the District is in good shape. She used Grant money to buy credential books and scoresheets. The Budget Report is due to MAHA on May 1, and she proposed to submit the same budget as the last few years. Generally the District receives \$8,500 from MAHA and \$2,500 in Grant Funding.

Motion (Farley, Miller): Approve 2011-2012 District Budget, the same as last year. Approved unanimously.

Motion (Winslow, McIntosh): Allow District to pay for today's lunch. Approved unanimously.

Secretary Walt Milligan presented his report. Meeting minutes back to 2004 have been scanned and posted on the website (cuphockey.org). Milligan expressed frustration with the procedures for nominating and electing District Directors. Head Coaches receive ballots with names on them that they don't even know and they have no rational basis for casting their votes. Since all terms expire in July and new elections won't occur for 3 more years, there is time to address this.

Bob Yohe presented the USA Hockey and Registrar's report: There were 2,389 players registered in the UP this year, which is an increase of 106 and which starts to reverse several years of declining numbers. 6U numbers have not been released yet.

Software changes are coming in the Cybersport system that will be very positive. After a player has his or her birth certificate officially verified, all further roster reports and certification documents will have a symbol indicating that the player is legitimate. No one will need to carry around birth certificates any more. Next year will be painful because everyone will need to be verified, but after that, only new players will need to be verified. Coach credentials will also be automatically printed on rosters and credentials verification sheets. There will be no need to carry around coaching cards. Team numbers will also be automatically generated. All registrars should e-mail to request the new software.

To protect privacy, MAHA rosters will not contain players' addresses, only their town and zip code.

Reports from Anaheim about the girls' teams at Nationals were universally positive. The girls gave a great impression and enthusiastically cheered for each other, which seemed to shock some people.

Ken Leivdal (CCJHA) retired as District Registrar and JoLeen Jenkins (CCJHA) agreed to take over.

If a foreign player wants to play hockey in Michigan, there is a tremendous amount of paperwork that needs to be taken care of, so the coach needs to contact MAHA as soon as possible.

If a player gets hurt during a game, the coach should call the MAHA Risk Manager (Grant Helms) as soon as possible.

ADM will be voted on at the MAHA Summer Meeting July 8-11 in Traverse City. There is a possibility that USA Hockey will overrule everyone and force it nationwide. MAHA will not approve any full-ice mite tournaments in 2011-2012.

Managers and team volunteers can register online at no cost to them.

No representatives of the Coaching Education Program, ACE program or Referee's program were present. MAHA VP for Officials Judy Niemi reported that there were some e-mailed complaints about officials not having crests on their uniforms. This will be addressed next year.

District Directors gave their reports. Director Starrett is the MAHA Star Chairperson as of December. The Star program produced a new video that was presented after lunch. She suggested that District personnel should get involved with coaching clinics to help educate coaches about credentials and record-keeping. Director Zubiena reported that he worked the Squirt B District Tournament in Houghton and the Pee Wee and Bantam travel tournament in Calumet, and that both went well.

Association representatives gave their reports. There was a broad concern that invitational tournaments were being cancelled too often, and that there needs to be some coordination among the associations to schedule tournaments with minimal conflicts. We will try to publicize "potential" tournament information on the website in advance this year. E-mail possible tournament dates to Walt Milligan as soon as possible.

Paul Hytinen from Iron River noted that they had experimented with multiple-association mite skates in the cross-ice philosophy. Bob Yohe said that MAHA and USA Hockey approve of this and you can have up to four associations involved in such a "Jamboree".

Directors discussed the District Playoffs. 4 out of the 6 semifinals went to tiebreakers. It was noted that the tiebreaker rules used in regionals and in districts were not always the same. It was noted that the MAHA State Playoff Tiebreaker should always be used in all Regional and District playoffs.

Tim McIntosh reported on the Bantam and Midget Festival. The system will be re-vamped to avoid conflicts with state tournaments. Also, 15 and 16 year olds will need to re-qualify every year – only 17 year olds will have an exemption after qualifying previously.

Dan Zubiena reported that the CUP League meeting would follow immediately after the District Meeting. Attendance is mandatory, and we will be holding elections and voting on revisions to the constitution and by-laws.

Cathy Starrett reported that 11 rules change proposals will be acted on at the Summer MAHA Meeting. The only one that is really contentious is the ADM vote. One proposal also addresses the names of the girls divisions.

Cathy Starrett also presented the Star report. She received about 150 Star reports this year, few from the UP. Many of these reports were filed on players or refs or coaches. Since Star is a parent program, these reports are inappropriate and she forwards them to the appropriate person for further action.

In Old Business, ADM was discussed again. Most players and coaches liked it and most parents came around in the end. Also, credential books were discussed. While the quality of the books at District Tournaments is far better than it has been in prior years, there were still some problems, and the credentials checklist was not always done in advance.

New Business:

Motion (Milligan/Mcinnis): District funds will be used to pay for lunch at 2 District Council meetings per year, unless the District Chairperson or Treasurer has informed the District Council members in advance that such funds are unavailable. Approved unanimously.

It was noted that the District trophies and medals have been shrinking in size and quality. It was agreed that Tina Martinson (DAHA) would measure the trophies and come up with a specification, and that the District would then send out a request for bids.

It was mentioned that it would be nice to have the District Tournament entry fees and ref rates on the website. Other tournament information could also be easily added. Milligan said that was easily possible and would be done shortly.

Associations bid to host regional, district and state tournaments. In the case of the Squirt B state tournament, a secret ballot vote was held. Tentative tournament sites and dates are reported on the last page of these minutes.

In general discussion, Dan Zubiena led a discussion of eliminating the Regional Play-ins and running a District Tournament that was larger than 8 teams. There was much discussion but no action.

There was a discussion of District Tournament entry fees. With increasing ice costs, we may need to increase entry fees or no one will ever want to host. It was agreed that Walt Milligan would assemble and distribute the current fees, and that a motion for an increase could come at the Fall 2011 meeting.

It was proposed and agreed that the District 8 Fall 2011 Meeting would occur at the Wawonowin Golf Course, Ishpeming, Michigan, on Saturday October 22, 2011 at 10:00 am.

Motion to adjourn (Farley/McInnis). Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

TENTATIVE 2011-2012 District 8 Tournament Sites and Dates

These dates will not be finalized until the Fall District 8 Meeting on October 22, 2011. State tournament sites and dates are subject to approval by MAHA.

Regional Play-Ins

<i>Region 1</i>		
Squirt B	Iron Mountain	Jan 13-15, 2012
Pee Wee B	Iron Mountain	Jan 13-15, 2012
Bantam B	Iron Mountain	Jan 13-15, 2012
<i>Region 2</i>		
Squirt B	Iron River	Jan 13-15, 2012
Pee Wee B	Keweenaw Bay	Jan 13-15, 2012
Bantam B	Keweenaw Bay	Jan 13-15, 2012

District Playoffs

Squirt B	Munising	Feb 10-12, 2012
Squirt A, Squirt AA	Calumet	Feb 3-5, 2012
Pee Wee B	Iron River	Feb 17-19, 2012
Pee Wee A	Calumet	Feb 3-5, 2012
Pee Wee AA	Marquette	Feb 3-5, 2012
Bantam B	Copper Country	Feb 17-19, 2012
Bantam A, Bantam AA	Marquette	Feb 3-5, 2012
Midget BB	Iron Range	Feb 17-19, 2012

State Playoffs

Squirt B	Iron Range	March 2-4, 2012
Squirt AA	Calumet	March 2-4, 2012