

2019 Girls Affiliate Representatives Call November 12, 2019



Attendees: Don Gould (GWS), Kristen Wright (USAH), Katie Holmgren (USAH), Taylor Gross (USAH), Jane Solverson (SE), Emily Cabral (VT), Andrea Rosenthal (CO), Chris Cooper (NH), Titia Leisz (WY), Angie Vaught (TX), Bob Gillen (NP), Doug Anne (UT), Geoff Pashkowski (RMD), Jeremy Gesicki (WI), Joy Pendowski (OR), Kahlie Singletary (TN), Kris Klemenhausen (MN), Seth Francis (RI), Shelby Edwards (SD), Laura Greenbury (MO).

Don Gould welcomed everyone to the call and thanked them for their time. The purpose of the calls is to connect all levels of girls hockey, from the national office, to the girls/women's section, to our local leadership. The girls/women's section holds monthly calls and reports to the Youth Council as part of the structure of USA Hockey governance. The girls/women's section has three main subcommittees focused on creating and implementing programs to further the goals of their area:

- Identifying Barriers to Growth and Creating Entry Level Participation Programming for Girls.
- Leveraging Opportunities to Increase Visibility for Female Hockey.
- Defining Leadership Roles and Filling the Gaps. Identify the needs and goals of Girls and Women's Hockey.

Membership Services:

Don thanked Katie Holmgren for all of the amazing work she has done since she started at USA Hockey. Katie gave a "try hockey for free" update, noting that each affiliate will get reports for kids that tried the sport.

(https://www.usahockey.com/news_article/show/1065653?referrer_id=752796)

Women's Leadership:

Jane Solverson gave an update on the upcoming women's leadership summit that the G/W Section is hoping to put on in February 7-8, 2020 in Anaheim in conjunction with the WNT U.S. v CAN game. The subcommittee sent out a survey to coaches, volunteers, board members, registrars, etc. to get a wide range of perspectives on women's leadership, resources, and engaging more females in coaching, officiating, and volunteering. More information on the summit to come.

Questions came up from Laura Greenbury on what USA Hockey is doing to provide gender and diversity training and opening conversations on gender bias. She asked where we provide that training and suggested we should insert it into the coaching education program. The CEP modules currently contain a female-specific module for any coaches that indicate they are coaching girls. We are working on an update manual to supplement this module that will help on this topic.

National Tournament:

The 2020 National tournament guidebook, which has rules that have been carved out of the Annual Guide, will be available on the <http://nationals.usahockey.com/guidebook> page soon. USA Hockey, with advice and agreement from the girls/women's section, youth council, and the national championships subcommittee has decided to expand the Girls Tier II national

tournament beginning in 2021. The rationale for this expansion is growth, player development, incentive to develop players at tier ii, and cover all levels of play. The 2020 National Tournament Guidebook will include a note with information on this expansion and how the expansion will look in 2021 (see below). Please let us know your thoughts, concerns, etc. on this language/selection process:

NOTE: Beginning with the 2021 USA Hockey National Championships, each of the Girls Tier II National Championships (14U, 16U and 19U) will include 24 teams per age classification divided into two separate tournaments. The 24 teams will be comprised of one team representing the host, two teams from each of the nine USA Hockey Districts with the highest registration of female players age 11 to 19 as defined in the age classification from the prior season, one team from each of the three USA Hockey Districts with the lowest registration of female players age 11 to 19 as defined in the age classification for the prior season, and at-large teams selected by the Girls National Championship Tournament Selection Committee (per the criteria above). All participating teams will be placed in one of the two different competitive level tournaments as determined by the Selection Committee, and a champion will be determined in each tournament. The size of each of the tournaments (8 teams, 12, teams, 16 teams, etc.) will be determined by the Selection Committee. Each of the Girls Tier II National Championship Tournaments are not seeded. Teams are placed into their respective brackets by the Selection Committee. When appropriate, the Selection Committee will attempt to place teams into different brackets than teams from the same affiliate, district or league.

Proposed Legislation:

The girls/women's section has crafted three pieces of legislation for this cycle. The three proposals were distributed and are on the google drive. These will be discussed and revised as needed during the winter meeting (Jan) and then voted on during Annual Congress (June). Please circulate these to your areas to get member feedback, affiliate concerns, etc.

1. Play-up limitation: A limitation on players under 13 playing on national bound rosters will sunset and adding a maximum play up of more than one age classification. The main rationale for this is player safety
2. Senior C definition: Changes the time of separation from national team, and adds language about division II and division III players
3. Senior women game requirements being lessened

The Adult department continues to offer a women's national tournament in Florida each May. The Girls/Women's section has worked with them to expand to younger age levels for the 2020 tournament. The 2020 Adult Women's National Championships will be held April 23-26 at Adventhealth Center Ice in Tampa, FL. Registration for the tournament will open on December 4th, 2019 at 12 pm EST. <http://usahockey.com/adultnationals>

Girls Hockey Long-range Planning Survey:

Joe Eppolito began to collect data from each affiliate. The current data is available in the google drive. If your affiliate's information has changed or is missing, please fill out the survey here.

<https://form.jotform.com/81638551494162>. We will take a look at this and clean it up for everyone before our January Meetings.

Girls Hockey Resources:

Kristen Wright showed a power point of the girls hockey resources that USA Hockey is developing, including membership numbers, the girls hockey website, creating a girls-specific environment, coaching girls, etc. The power point is available on the google drive and has additional slides that you may find helpful. Here is a link to the girls page:

<https://www.usahockey.com/girlshockey>

There are also 11-year registration numbers available on the google drive.

We created charts to show the girls registration in each state over the past 11 seasons from 2006-2007 through 2017-2018 season. The first 12 sheets/tabs have each year's registration numbers from USAH's final report, so I recommend scrolling to the "Total by Age Chart" tab to start. This chart includes the total number of girls by age classification for each of the last 11 years. As you continue to scroll to the right in the sheets at the bottom, each sheet depicts individual states girls registration numbers in each age classification for the last 11 years in bar graphs (ordered alphabetically by district then state). If you have trouble pulling a state or need it another format (word, PDF, etc.), please let me know.

We asked each of the affiliate representatives to review their girls hockey page on their affiliate website to see if it is providing the content relevant to their members. Get their websites update

NHL advisory committee:

The NHL advisory committee has bi-monthly calls and bi-annual meetings to discuss growing the game, female leadership, and visibility. More information is available here:

<https://www.nhl.com/community/gender-equality-month/advisory-committee>

Laura Greenbury expressed concerns about the requirements for the tryout to be an ice girl and the language that was included about attire if you were a girl or a boy. Kristen said she would bring the concern to the committee for discussion.

Who to contact at USA Hockey?

- Grow the game, member services, club excellence – Katie Holmgren (katieh@usahockey.org)
- ADM/Hockey programs/hockey director/girls programming/player development
 - Kristen Wright / Heather Mannix (Kristenw@usahockey.org or Heather.mannix@usahockey.org)
- Girls/Women's Section District Representative (list is here at bottom of page: <https://www.usahockey.com/girlshockey>).
- Don Gould (Girls/Women's Section Chair) – general girls questions, ideas, concerns.

