



UAHA Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 12th, 2024

Location: Maverick Ice Arena Conference Room

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81644973453>

Phone: 1-669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 8644973453

Regular Session: 7:00pm

1. Roll Call:

Present: Ryan Bonham (President), Chuck Dorval (Vice President), Ryan Chaffin (Secretary), Robyn Eyre-Long (VP Discipline), Courtney Miller (VP Girls), Tim Odell (VP Travel), Dana Combs (VP High School), Shannon Bennett (VP Growth/Retention), Josh Anderson (Oval), Jeff Volkman (Renegades), Lee Smith (Renegades), Robert Cowden (Renegades), Alex Valez (Safety Director), Steve Picano (Lightning), Erin Dreksel (Jr Grizz), Angela (Lady Grizz) and via Zoom: Adam Bailey (Treasurer), Megan Ostler (Provo), Danielle Cipriano (), Tamara Terrill (Oval), Jeff Kite (Jr Grizz), Corie Miller (), Mariko Rollins (Ogden), Jeff Krieger (Renegade's Parent), Jacob Hickman (Provo), Jeff T (Park City), BJ Ringrose (District), Cherie Miller (Vernal), Daniell (Vernal), Morgan (Vernal), Randy Abbey (Jr Grizz),

2. Approval of January Meeting Minutes (Addendum A):

Tim asked if his agenda item needed to be updated to align with the meeting notes, or if the meeting notes were sufficient. The board decided the meeting notes were sufficient. Motioned by Tim, seconded by Chuck. Approved unanimously.

3. Tier 1 Team Application Procedure (Addendum B):

Wasatch Renegades are requesting approval for 14U, 16U, 18U, 15U boys, 18U/19U girls in Tier 1 category. P&Ps only allow one Tier 1 program in the state of Utah. Tier committee met and discussed the application. Had a couple of questions, which the Wasatch Renegades addressed. Everything appears to be in check. Floor opened to Renegades for comments. Lee Smith commented that the kids here in Utah have the same drive as the kids back in Minnesota. They've built great relationships with other programs in the Western United States. They want kids in Utah to have the dream of playing Junior and College hockey. Jeff Volkman added comments about developing players and advancing them to junior hockey to put Utah on the map. It's going to be a long process to build Tier 1 out in Utah. Lee Smith continued that they've built out the program from a staff perspective. They're sending a player on to the USPHL, which they are excited about. Along

with the successes, there are also challenges. Ice availability has been an issue, but it is trending in the right direction with the help of SLC Sports Complex (Steve Picano) and the Oval (Josh Anderson). They had to go out and earn respect this year; no teams wanted to come to Utah. They played all road games. Other teams have committed to come to Utah next season to play the Renegades. Looking to add additional coaches next season. Hoping to add a girls team and have better in-state schedule. Their vision is for anyone that puts on a Renegades jersey to have the dream to play junior or college hockey. Looking to build relations with the other programs in state, be a resource to them, and help. It's time to have more players from Utah in the NHL. Robyn raised a question about the application for the girl's 19U team given the numbers at the state level. She also referenced USA Hockey Tier I projections for the upcoming season and maximum number of teams that each Affiliate may have in the Youth and Girls Tier I classifications for the 2024-25 season. Utah Tier I Girls 0 for all three age classifications. It was opened to parents and org members from the Lady Grizz to comment. A parent (Angela) of a Lady Grizz player shared that her daughter wants it, and if it does not happen, they would be looking to programs out of state for those opportunities. Shannon added that based on her conversations, it would be great to give these girls these opportunities in state. It would not dilute the Lady Grizz and what they are doing, and those families support it, and feel it's a step in the right direction. Chuck added that currently when girls hit the 16U level, the best players leave the state to play Tier 1. For the competitive girls, there has been nowhere in state for them to play. We need a home for them in state. Shannon added that Tier 2 will be changing for the 19U girls, and it will require a lot of changes. A question was raised about out of state girls coming into Utah to play. The same billeting rules would apply. The girls would be held to the same rules, as it's a Tier 1 rule for Utah. Other states have different rules. You can be more strict than National, but not less strict. Our rules are designed to give Utah players preference, but give teams the opportunity to recruit from out of state, as needed. Robyn raised the question that there was only one Tier 2 team this year, so are there enough players for a Tier 1 team and still have a Tier 2 program? The answer was yes. The conversation shifted to the teams requested, and it was clarified that they are not requesting a 130 team this year because that will roll into the 14U and makes sense given the current landscape. Tier 1 teams must meet the requirements and deadlines in our P&Ps to field the teams applied for. Chuck pointed out that the P&Ps will need to be updated to accommodate a girls team under the Renegades for a Tier 1 team. Motioned by Courtney. Seconded by Tim. Approved. Robyn abstained.

4. BJ Ringrose from District in terms of Officiating:

Discussed plans to develop youth officiating as a boots on the ground presence when they can and model similar to growing the game. We have "try hockey for free", why not do a "try officiating for free" event? Not a replacement for state resources, but to work with them to put these initiatives forward. Numbers wise, Utah is in a good position (up 33% for officials). Of the 334 officials Utah has, over half of them are Level 1 officials. The goal is to develop these officials. A question was raised as to when this would take place? BJ said it's a "now moving forward" timeline now that they've hired the staff. This program is about making both sides (officiating and coaching) better.

5. Section Reports:

- a. High School VP, Dana Combs: High School is deep in the playoffs. Games have late start times.
- b. Girls VP, Courtney Miller: Girls are doing great. Lady Grizz were in Denver for WGHL playoffs, 16s came home with the Championship, 12s came in third. 19s and 10s have

- been doing a lot of tournaments and participating.
- c. Adult/Disabled VP- Tanner Engles: Not present.
 - d. Youth VP (House/Rec) Foster Watabe: Via Robyn. WRHL first weekend is scheduled. Thanks to everyone providing ice (Vernal, Davis County, Ogden, Provo, the Oval). Josh added for UTHL. 16s have two games left before seedings. 14s have quite a few more games. 10s have 3 more games prior to seedings. Single elimination. All games March 1st and 2nd at the Oval. Schedule will be sent once seedings are finalized.
 - e. Travel VP (Tier), Tim Odell: Next Tier Committee meeting is Feb 21st. Four Tier 2 applications (Ogden, Oval, Grizz, Park City), plus the Lady Grizz. Comments on the membership agreement are due this Friday, February 16th. Jeff (Park City) raised a question about PC's redlines. It was requested that he send them to Tim. Tier playoffs are coming up. Robyn has confirmed eligibility. Tim is working on the schedule and logistics. State camp is March 15-17. Still plenty of capacity as of Feb 8th. People typically sign up towards the end. Once registration numbers are in, they will meet to discuss what the camp will look like. 13 evaluators are confirmed, they are hoping for 24. Things are in good shape overall. Hats are in.
 - f. CIC/ADM, Michael Strahan: Not present.
 - g. Goaltending Development Coordinator, Reid Jacobsen: Not present.
 - h. Safesport, Wendy Radke: Not present.
 - i. Safety Director, Alex Valez: USAHockey wants all injuries reported via the injury (insurance) portal. They are discussing how to address orgs not addressing.
 - j. Growth Coordinator, Shannon Bennett: Taking over social media, looking to make plans and take into consideration the buzz around an NHL team coming to state.
 - k. Web Master, Brian Murray: Not present.
 - l. Registrar, Robyn Eyre Long: All Tier I and Tier II credential books are verified and have been sent to District for approval. High School still has one credential book outstanding for State playoffs. Youth patches deadlines are Feb 28th for high school and March 31st for Youth.
 - m. Discipline, Robyn Eyre Long: Had two match hearings this past month for youth players. One parent shared feedback thanking the committee for how the hearing was handled and stated that it was a great learning experience for their player. Outstanding Debt List reminder was sent out to all orgs; submissions are due no later than April 9th for this current season. As of August 1, 2024 neck guards are required for all 18 and under officials and players.
 - n. Treasurer, Adam Bailey: No comments.
 - o. Secretary, Ryan Chaffin: No comments.
 - p. Exec, VP, Chuck Dorval: Attended winter meeting for affiliate presidents. They made signs that say "respect the refs". The message is they want us to support the refs, and possibly by these signs to hand out to rinks. There is a concerted effort to grow girls high school hockey. For state camp, make sure we have locker room monitors. SafeSport will be auditing state and district camps. Have one monitor per locker room. Steve Picano will work on this. They also discussed that if we have any young, aspiring coaches, we should send them to state and district camps to develop the coaches. Tier 1 signing policies will update August 1st. You can recruit players for the following season starting August 1st. You still cannot hold on-ice or sign players until the 48 hours after national. USA Hockey has pushed a change to bylaws to comply with national guidelines that to change an affiliates bylaws, you need a 2/3 vote. Our bylaws currently require 60% vote. So our bylaws must be updated to match national.

- q. Past President, Derrick Radke: Not present.
- r. President, Ryan Bonham: Every organization cannot recruit for next season until April 9th. You can advertise your tryouts, but you cannot have discussions about next season. Tim will send Ryan B. all the dates, and Ryan B. will make sure it is on the website.

6. Next Meeting, March 4th

7. Adjourn Meeting