

NORTH DAKOTA AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
2008 Board of Directors Fall Meeting
Saturday, September 20, 2008 – Devils Lake

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Greg Evenson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at the Great American Inn, Devils Lake, ND.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Present:

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Greg Evenson | President | Betty Triplett | Treasurer |
| Keith Olson | Girls/Women's | Tim Melander | Jr. Gold |
| Scott Schafer | Youth Leagues | Julie Howatt | NE Director |
| Phil Sedo | NW Director | Greg Bender | NW Director |
| Jay Marshall | SE Director | Dennis Lindgren | SW Director |
| Dave Hanneman | SW Director | John Colter | Registrar |
| Dave Hoff | Coach-in-Chief | Don Fiebiger | Risk Manager |

Board Absent:

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Gary Splichal | Association Executive | Mark Tollefson | Vice President |
| Steve Blasing | Secretary | David Duckworth | NE Director |
| Open Position | NDAHA Referee-in-Chief | Open Position | SE Director |
| Pete Sonnesyn | Director Emeritus | Jack Kleven | Director Emeritus |
| Bruce Rostad | Discipline Director | Brad Bekkedahl | NP District Director |
| Open Position | Director of Play Devel | | |

Affiliates Present:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Dean Bachmeier | FACYH | Alan Dostert | FACYH |
| Dan Jacobson | Fargo Flames | Terry Wallace | Devils Lake |
| Tami Christensen | Richland Youth Hockey | Chris Brostuen | Williston |
| Jason Schmier | Richland Youth Hockey | Troy Miller | West Fargo |
| Dennis Moore | Richland Youth Hockey | Troy Miller | West Fargo |
| Steve Neppel | B/W | Matt Stockert | Jamestown |
| Joe Amundson | Hazen/Beulah | Jarrold Olson | Minot |
| Chuck Neubauer | Bottineau | Kellie Bolin | Bottineau |
| Dave Hills | Grafton | Marcia Pritchert | Valley City |
| Peggy Hill | Bismarck | Jim Schaeffbauer | Fargo Angels |
| Milo Braaten | MayPort | Arik Solheim | Mayport |
| Chad Arendt | Park River | Jay McClintock | Rugby |
| Larry Naves | Miles City | Dave Hansen | Watford City |
| Greg Dehne | Bismarck | | |

III. GUESTS/PERSONNEL CHANGES

President Evenson introduced the following guests and announced the following personnel changes:

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Tammy Fossum | Secretary Pro Tem | Dave Bjugson | Player Devel ProTem |
| Greg Bender | NW Dist Dir | Jennifer Jochim | SE District Scheduler |
| Bob Gillen | NP District Coach-in-Chief | | |

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David Zimmerman NP Dist Disabled Hockey Representative
Mike Wald NP District ACE Coordinator

IV. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Affiliate-Board Meeting of May 10, 2008 were approved.

V. REPORTS

A. Girls/Womens Director's Report

Keith Olson gave his report. They are planning an East vs. West Jamboree this year.

B. Jr. Gold Director's Report

Tim Melander reported that there are 9 teams this season. Walsh County will not have a team but will be rostering their players on the Langdon team. This year's state tournament will be hosted by the Fargo Flames and held at the Moorhead Sports Center.

C. Youth League Director's Report

Scott Schafer gave his report. He reminded everyone that the fair play point system has been eliminated. He reported that the League Secretaries for the season will be:

B League

SE District Jennifer Jochim
NE District Chad Arendt
NW & SW Districts Greg Bender

A League

Matt Stockert

D. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Betty Triplett reviewed the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statements for NDAHA as of August 31, 2008. (See Handout). She encouraged everyone to cash NDAHA checks in a timely manner.

President Evenson reported that USA Hockey is now requiring all states to perform an annual audit of their financial records. Due to the high cost of this, a number of states are disputing this requirement.

E. President's Report

President Evenson discussed our Player Development Program and how much it has grown. He thanked Mark Tollefson, Jarrod Olson, Steve Blasing and Gary Splichal for all their hard work improving and expanding the program. The Player Development Committee would like to start a program to give funds back to our affiliates to help "grow the game of hockey." An amount up to \$500 would be available to each affiliate. They would be asked to match the amount requested and report back on how it was spent. We will then be able to share ideas on how each affiliate has used their funds to promote hockey in North Dakota. A committee will be formed and more information will be given to all affiliates at a later date.

F. Risk Manager's Report

Don Fiebiger reported that our new Sexual and Physical Abuse Screening Policy is now

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in effect. It has been mailed to each affiliate and is also available on our website, along with the proper screening forms. The procedure for handling this confidential information and security steps to safeguard social security numbers was explained. Screening is required for the NDAHA Board of Directors, local Affiliate Board of Directors, coaches, team managers and referees.

G. Coach-in-Chief's Report

Dave Hoff reviewed the coaching clinics for this year. He also is offering a parent education program this year. Mr. Hoff indicated that he welcomes all suggestions for the locations of next year's coaching clinics.

H. Registrar's Report

John Colter reported that the registrar's meeting was held this morning. He encouraged all registration be done on-line this year.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Amended Proposal from Spring Meeting

Article V: Class of Play, Section A: Players

3. RESIDENCY: North Dakota is a community-based amateur hockey program. Players are to participate on teams ~~from~~ within their local affiliate organization based on the ~~residence~~ physical property address of his/her custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the established North Dakota affiliate boundaries as defined by the Association Affiliate Agreements which are signed by NDAHA. It is the primary responsibility of the local affiliates to verify the legal addresses of all of its participants and to seek and obtain waivers if necessary. Waiver requests may be denied if an individual has repeatedly open-enrolled in different school systems without a change in physical address. NDAHA Residency Rules and Player Transfer and Waiver Procedures supersede all conflicting rules enacted by an organization affiliated with NDAHA.

9. PLAYER TRANSFER AND WAIVER PROCEDURE: No player residing in the boundaries of an NDAHA approved local affiliate, or who would normally play for that organization under standard team eligibility rules, may play for another organization without the approval of both organizations and the notification of both District Directors. Transfer of a player from one organization to another ~~organization must be made through the District Directors of the districts involved.~~ This transfer must be made by mutual agreement of the two organizations and a waiver of release must be made and signed by the local organization, ~~and~~ received and approved by the receiving organization, ~~and approved by the District Directors of the district(s) involved before the transfer is official.~~ Approval of the District Directors involved is mandatory. Transfer requests begin with submitting a waiver request form to the local organization. A deadline for submission of waiver requests may be determined by the local affiliates. If a deadline is imposed, only waiver requests which demonstrate extenuating circumstances will be reviewed and will require special, discretionary approval of a District Director. Transfers of players will not be permitted after January 20th of the current playing season. Approval of transfer requests are only valid for the current playing season ~~and must be re-applied for the~~

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next season if desired to continue.

10. AUTOMATIC WAIVERS: An individual player may receive an automatic waiver from one organization to another in the event a given organization does not have space for that player to play. Automatic waivers may also be granted district wide at a specified age level at the discretion of the District Director(s), but such policies will be stated not later than a date designated by the District Directors for a given playing season. Automatic waivers will be processed following the Player Transfer and Waiver Procedures and the approval of the District Director(s) is mandatory. In the case of Combined Community teams, individual waiver requests may not be required and an overall document listing the participants may be prepared and submitted to the District Director(s) for approval.

Article VI: Class of Play, Section A: General

6. COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES: Organizations having more than one team in Youth Leagues shall follow current high school boundaries defined in their Association Affiliate Agreement to determine their player residency boundaries. Local affiliate boundaries in metropolitan areas will be defined by school district boundaries or high school attendance areas to preserve community based programs; however, open enrollment may not be considered for purposes of defining affiliate boundaries. Certain affiliate associations may have boundaries defined which combine school districts such that these associations can fill team(s) while also serving the purpose of providing an opportunity for players to participate at a specified level of play. A local affiliate organization requesting a number of teams different than the number of high schools in the city shall provide an application, reasons, and proposed team boundaries for consideration at the Spring Annual Meeting of the NDAHA. A majority of votes allowed by the teams in the class of play affected will be required for acceptance of the application and the plan. Organizations having teams participating in a class of play and wishing to also participate in another class shall use the same boundary plans and requirements for these teams as used in the original class.

Motion was made by Scott Schafer to approve the amended proposal.
Motion was seconded and passed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Affiliate Agreements

President Evenson asked that all affiliates submit their Affiliate Agreement and \$50 fee as soon as possible. These must be submitted prior to any games being played.

B. Web Site Update

President Evenson reported that Jeff Kamstra, SE District Director working on our new website, has resigned. We will be looking for someone to work on a new website and welcome suggestions.

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C. Hotel Policy

Jay Marshall asked that the state tournament handbook be changed to include the requirement for the hosting community to provide detailed lodging information and/or have a housing director to handle lodging questions.

D. Sidney/Watford City Bantam Coop

A coop agreement between Sidney and Watford City Bantam teams for the current year was discussed. It was determined that they would use the method of transferring players this year instead of forming an official coop.

E. NDAHA State PeeWee A1 & A2 Tourney Locations

Scott Schafer explained that due to the lack of available motel rooms, Williston will not be able to host the PeeWee A1 state tourney this year. Other affiliates in the NW District were offered the tournament but none were able to host it. Four communities in the state indicated interest in hosting the tournament. They were Devils Lake, Grafton, Jamestown and West Fargo. It was agreed to split the tourney into an 8-team A1 and a 10-team A2. A secret ballot was taken of all affiliates who have an A-league team this year. It was determined that West Fargo would host the A1 and Jamestown would host the A2.

F. Wahpeton Request to Move to Bantam A League

President Evenson reported that Wahpeton has requested to move from the Bantam B League to the Bantam A League.

Motion was made by Jay Marshall to approve Wahpeton's request to move to the Bantam A League for the next three (3) years. Motion was seconded and passed.

G. Board Approval of Dave Bjugson, NDAHA Director of Player Development

President Evenson reported that Dave Bjugson has agreed to accept the position of Director of Player Development.

Motion was made by Tim Melander to accept the appointment of Dave Bjugson as NDAHA Director of Player Development. Motion was seconded and passed.

Dave Bjugson was introduced to the Board. He discussed his goals and stressed his desire to increase the number of participants and coaches by increasing awareness of the program. He will be available in communities to discuss and promote the player development programs throughout the season.

H. Referee Seminars

President Evenson asked for the approval of a \$1200 payment to the NDHOA for costs incurred hosting referee seminars.

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Motion was made by Keith Olson to approve the payment of \$1200 to the NDHOA. Motion was seconded and passed.

President Evenson asked that the NDHOA work with NDAHA to rotate the referee seminars to include smaller communities.

I. NP District Fees

President Evenson asked for the approval for \$500 to be paid to the Northern Plains District for fees.

Motion was made by Betty Triplett to approve the payment of \$500 to the Northern Plains District. Motion was seconded and passed.

J. NDAHA Coach's Resource Library

President Evenson and Bob Gillen discussed the availability of a coach's resource library. Bob Gillen indicated that he has possession of it and has added to it USA Hockey publications, Level 4 presentations and Level 5 handouts. He indicated that he, Mike Wald, and David Hoff will offer the contents of the library to all NDAHA coaches and ACE coordinators.

K. Association Executive

President Evenson asked that the Board approve a \$50 increase in wages and the annual contract for Gary Splichal, our Association Executive. He thanked Gary for the excellent job he has been doing for NDAHA and informed the Board that Dennis Nybo has developed a new job description for the position.

Motion was made by Dave Hanneman to approve the annual contract with Gary Splichal, our Association Executive and to approve an increase in wages of \$50 per month. Motion was seconded and passed.

L. Discipline Policy

President Evenson presented information from Bruce Rostad, Discipline Director regarding the procedure for handling misconduct and match penalties. All misconduct and match penalties are to be routed from the issuing official to the district referee-in-chief of the district the penalty was assessed in, who in turn forwards it to the state Referee-in-Chief who forwards it to the NDAHA Discipline Director. All match penalty hearings will be handled by the NDAHA Discipline Director. All game misconducts will be forwarded by the Discipline Director to the District Directors in which the penalized player is registered/rostered, and it will be their responsibility to verify compliance and report same back to the Discipline Director. All match penalty hearings will take 3-4 weeks before it is concluded. There will be NO rush hearings.

He stressed the importance of all affiliates to conduct in-house training sessions with their coaches and players on what are match penalties, the timeline involved when one is assessed and the basic procedures that are followed.

Mr. Rostad also asked if anyone was interested in becoming Discipline Director. He

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would like to start a mentoring process early in this season to ease the transition period for the new Discipline Director.

M. USA Hockey “Hockey Weekend Across America”

President Evenson informed all that the dates for “Hockey Weekend Across America” will be February 13-15, 2009.

N. ND Hockey Hall of Fame/U20 World Juniors

President Evenson discussed the possibility of moving the Hall of Fame from the Jamestown Civic Center to the Ralph Engelstad Arena. He and other representatives of NDAHA have been meeting with officials from the Ralph Engelstad Arena to work on a bid for hosting the U20 World Juniors. They have been working on an improved relationship and the meetings have been positive.

O. Player Development Donated Funds

President Evenson reported that the Player Development Committee has approved the purchase two sleds for the USA National Sled Hockey team using Player Development funds.

P. NP Coach-in-Chief Report

Bob Gillen, NP Coach-in-Chief, reported that the Level 4 clinic held in Wyoming was a great success. Next year one will be held in South Dakota, possibly in Sioux Falls, in August. A Level 5 clinic will be held in St Paul, MN in August, 2009.

Mr. Gillen reported that two specialty workshops are available for coaches: Dave Peterson Goaltending Symposium and a specialty workshop on checking. Greg Wentz will present these workshops with a minimum of 20 participants at a cost of \$40 per coach.

The National Development Program is accepting two coaches from the Northern Plains District. Contact Bob Gillen if you are interested.

VIII. FOR THE GOOD OF HOCKEY

A. Procedure for Affiliate Voting on Proposals

President Evenson discussed the proper procedure for voting on proposals that were tabled at the spring affiliate meeting. It was determined that those proposals are tabled until the following spring affiliate meeting.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Elite League Program Information

It was asked that more information on the Elite League program be available on our website for interested participants. Our Association Executive will work with the Player Development Committee to provide that.

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B. NP District President's Council

President Evenson reported that he is now Chairman of the President's Council of the Northern Plains District.

C. Winter/Spring Meeting Locations and Dates

The Winter Meeting will be held January 11, 2009 in Rugby. The Spring Meeting will be held in Bismarck the first or second weekend of May, 2009.

D. NDAHA Secretary Resignation

President Evenson reported that Steve Blasing has submitted his resignation as Secretary. He asked that Tammy Fossum be approved as Secretary.

Motion was made by Julie Howatt to accept Steve Blasing's resignation and approve Tammy Fossum as Secretary. Motion was seconded and passed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Scott Schafer to adjourn at 2:50 pm. The motion was seconded and passed.

Tammy Fossum
Secretary