

NDAHA 2023 Winter Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 5, 2023

Eagles Club ~ Rugby, ND ~ 10:00 am

Girls & Boys League Governance ~ Seeding & Bracketing ~ NDAHA State Tournaments
Presentation by Chad Arendt of State Tournament Brackets

Jr Gold - Watford City

10 team bracket, March 2-4

Brian suggested no need for the “friendly” games at the bottom of the bracket, these can be eliminated out of Jr Gold. Small community cannot host these games with only one rink.

Girls High School - Watford City

Recommendation of 10 team bracket, March 3-5

Same bracket format as Jr Gold

Bantam AA - Bismarck

Recommendation of 5 team bracket, March 9-12

Games starting Thursday, one game Thursday

Bantam A - Grand Forks

14 teams, March 10-12

Recommendation of 8 team Gold bracket, 6 team Silver pool play - there is a distinct divide looking at N and S teams, based on record, goal differential, etc. (4 in N, 4 in S for Gold)
Silver - pool play for 6 teams

Bantam B1 - West Fargo

13 teams, March 10-12

8 team Gold bracket, 5 team Silver bracket, or straight bracket for all teams

Jay McClintock commented that Grand Forks should have had two B1 teams at the Bantam level, Tyler Palmiscino commented that 50% of the kids are A level or higher so he doesn't think this placement was wrong for Grand Forks.

Recommendation that top 3 teams get byes into Gold bracket and then the rest of the teams play in for Gold bracket (play-in game). Winner goes to Gold and loser of play-in game goes to Silver.

Bantam B - Gold Richland, Silver Mandan

17 teams, March 10-12

Recommendation of 10 Gold teams and 7 Silver teams

Competitive split same as Bantam A as to record, etc.

10 team Gold bracket has to start Friday (start around 9am)

Seeds will be placed at the conclusion of the season.

PeeWee AA - Grand Forks

5 teams, same bracket as Bantam AA, March 3-5

First game Thursday March 9

PeeWee A - Grand Forks

14 teams, March 2-5

Dallas recommends Watford City B1 move to A, they have been preparing for this and played 8 A teams already. WC will be competitive in PeeWee A, they just want to know soon if they are moving up.

Recommendation of 14 team bracket - play-in game and you win into Gold bracket and if you lose play-in you go to Silver bracket.

Tournament starts Thursday March 2

PeeWee B1 - Grand Forks

17 teams, March 2-5

Crosby is 0-13, losing each game by 13 goals; Dallas recommends moving Crosby down so it would leave 16 teams in B1.

Recommendation of 16 team bracket like PeeWee B, one large tournament

PeeWee B - Bismarck/Mandan

26 teams, March 3-5

Possibly 2 tournaments, Bism/Man has 5 available rinks

Recommendation of 16 team Gold, 10 team Silver

Discussion on Crosby seeding to Gold bracket, probably 4th or 5th seed, top third will be good position.

15UA - Grand Forks

Recommendation of 3 team bracket, March 10-12

12UA - Grand Forks

Recommendation of 5 team bracket, March 10-12

Team 4 and 5 play right away

12UB - Devils Lake

Recommendation of 8 team Gold bracket, 6 team Silver pool

4/4 split for Gold bracket E/W

Once ratified, these will be sent to the hosts tomorrow and then Jerry will put them online as soon as possible, hopefully by next weekend out and about on website and to parents, etc.

****All tournaments for Bantam are 15 minutes, Jr Gold is 20 minutes, and Girls H.S. 17 minutes**

****All games start on clean ice, 2-man referee system**

****There is a new state tournament handbook that has been updated - on website and will go out to tournament hosts**

Darrin discussed request from West Fargo to remove gate fees for the tournament they are hosting.

----- concluded on tournament seeding and play

NDAHA 2021 Winter Board Meeting

a) Call to Order – President Stockert called meeting to order at 11:50am

b) Roll Call taken by President Stockert

Present at the meeting are as follows:

Jarrold Olson, Cassie Scheving, Dallas Kuntz, Keith Olson, Chad Arendt, Tyler Palmiscino, Jay McClintock, Brian Bauman, Greg Bender, Darrin Voller, Don Walz, Terry Halstengaard, Chad Miller, Bob Guillen, Grant Paranicka.

Absent are as follows:

Betty Triplett, David Hoff, Keith Holland, David Duckworth, Jerry Zachmeier, Thor Nelson, Greg Evenson

NDAHA still has open position for Diversity and Inclusion Director. If anyone is interested to please reach out to Matt Stockert.

c) Additions to Agenda ~ Old Business

1. West Fargo Gate Admission
2. Bylaws
3. Rostering BOD at Affiliate Level
4. State Tournament Fan/Spectator Conduct

d) Treasurer's Report – Triplett

Stockert handed out Profit and Loss Statements and Balance Sheet prior to meeting. Stockert presented the finance report in Triplett's absence. Stockert discussed 13 month CD at 3.05% and Triplett's request to reinvest the money as well as transfer Monday from Savings Account for a new CD. Total invest \$223,759.49. This transaction was approved by the finance committee. No comments or questions. Jarrod Olson motioned to approve the treasurer's report, Jay McClintock seconded, no further discussion was held, all in favor, none opposed, treasurer's report approved.

e) Hall of Fame – Guillen

Four candidates approved for this year, 2 of the 4 were inducted in during games in packed houses. Two more left to do, possibly at spring meeting in GF for one of them. Deadline for nominations is Sept 1.

f) Approval 2022 Fall NDAHA Board Meeting Minutes

Fall Board Meeting Minutes were provided prior to this meeting to all Board members to review. Jarrod Olson motion to approve the meeting minutes, Don Walz seconded, no further discussion

held, all in favor, none opposed, minutes approved.

g) Committee Updates from those present

Grant Paranicka - Player Development: Paranicka discussed he is still chipping away at NIT stuff, preparing for Tier 1 qualification games, working on HPC camp getting jerseys and coaches figured out. To date, 150 kids registered for HPC camp, Tier 1 and 2 tryouts in May have about 70 registrants. Play-in games are in March. National tournament is March 29 - Apr 3. Stockert discussed automatic bids for 14o T1 and T2 for boys and 14o T1 for girls. 14o T2 for girls will be playing off Dickinson with SD in Wyoming. 16o tier 1 girls auto bid to nationals. Playoffs will be in Sioux Falls this year. Greg is working on ice, refs, etc. No questions were presented.

Terry Halstengaard - SafeSport: it's been a busy year this year. A lot going on in the state. Six cases/issues sent to the Center. ND is #7 in the nation in SafeSport report list, reported at the Annual Congress at the winter meeting in Florida. Reports aren't actually coming from the victim/victim's parents, they are coming from third-party people. A lot of people telling on other people. This makes the investigation hard because the affiliate doesn't know who to go to immediately and then it can drag on and get messier. Stockert thinks affiliates are doing well and taking care of their issues internally and when it needs to go to SafeSport it does and they are taking care of it. Terry appreciates most things getting handled in-house as opposed to the Center as the Center tends to blow things up. Anything that comes to Terry about "sexual" matters it must automatically go to SafeSport. Jay McClintock asked how many reports are not "legit". Halstengaard commented that perspective comes into play with this, parents think coach is a bully and all other team members and parents think the coach is just a hard ass.

No other committee members present to provide updates/report.

h) District Director Updates

Southeast (Don Walz, Darrin Voller) - All things that went on this fall regarding transition agreement between Angels, Fargo, West Fargo, they all terminated the transition agreement and signed off. Cassie Scheving assisted this process. Darrin and Don met with the affiliates twice and they are leaning towards school of attendance as a driving factor as to where a kid plays. They will play with the kids they go to school with. Everyone seems to be on board with that and ok. That will likely be a recommendation to the board for approval. They are looking at getting something approved at the Spring meeting in May. Public school district boundary lines were how Fargo/West Fargo was split up. Fargo is messy because you have parochial schools in both Fargo/West Fargo, then you also had people that live in Fargo and pay Fargo city taxes but the kids go to a West Fargo public school due to the boundary so then you were forcing Fargo residents to play in West Fargo hockey. That's how it got messy and this created waivers. The belief is going with where kids attends school as the boundary then it would be easier. Then we can verify school of attendance. We don't want recruiting to occur, so this is a sticky situation.

Northeast (Tyler Palmiscino, Jay McClintock) - Jay reported a few minor things that need to be taken care of but overall going ok. There will be calls once state seeding comes out.

Northwest (Brian Bauman, Greg Bender) – Brian commented nothing to report.

Southwest (Terry Halstengaard, Chad Miller) – Terry commented nothing to report.

i) Jr. Gold Report ~ Ratification Jr Gold State Tournament ~ Arendt

Chad commented nothing to report, season is moving along, a handful more incidents this year than last year but moving along.

Ratify Jr Gold State Tournament - 10 team state tournament, motion by Tyler Palmiscino, seconded by Jarrod Olson, no further discussion held, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved for 10 team state tournament.

j) Girls Section Report ~ Ratification Girls State Tournaments ~ Olson

Keith Olson reported the weekend before state there will be quiet a few makeup games due to weather this season.

Ratify the following girls state tournaments:

Girls HS - 10 team tournament

15UA - 3 team tournament

12UA - 5 team tournament

12UB - 18 Gold, 16 Silver tournament

Greg Bender motioned to ratify the above state tournaments, Chad Miller seconded, no further discussion held, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

k) Youth League Report ~ Ratification of Youth State Tournaments ~ Kuntz

Dallas commented not much to report, it's been a pretty smooth year other than what was discussed with Watford City and Crosby moving levels. Darrin Voller posed question about the rule that teams with only one level are to play B1, did any move back down to B for this year. Crosby would be the only one to move down and Crosby said they didn't think they had the option to move down, but no representation at the previous meeting and if they would have petitioned to move back to B there would be no reason to not move them down based on who was coming back this season.

Ratify the following state tournaments:

Bantam AA - 5 team in Bismarck

Bantam A - 8 team Gold, 6 team Silver in GF

Bantam B1 13 team Gold and then break down to Silver bracket in West Fargo

Bantam B - Gold Richland 10 team, Silver in Mandan 7 team

PWAA - GF 5 team

PWA - GF 14 team

PWB1 - GF 16 team

PWB - Gold and Silver in B/Mandan 16 team Gold, 10 team Silver

Brian Bauman motioned to approve the above state tournaments, Don Walz seconded, no further discussion held, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

Stockert requested that all board members send email to Chad Arendt about which tournament you will be attending, should have a board member at all tournaments for representation.

**State Tournament Handbook 2022 has been sent out and is on the website, there are some changes, it has been updated, clean ice before games is the only mind blowing one.

l) Junior Gold & Girls High School State Tournament Rotation ~ Arendt

Chad reported that since the Jr. Gold and Girls H.S. moved out of Grand Forks this year, the tournament has moved to Watford City, discussion needed is how does this move forward since Grand Forks has an opportunity again but federation H.S. will have their tournament in Grand Forks next year so likely can't happen. Addition of E/W rotation and how to do this trial period with Jr Gold and H.S. together now that this rotation has been thrown off since it was in the West last year. Does Fargo/West Fargo want it? Darrin will ask West Fargo for next year. Chad won't have an answer for Jr Gold Meeting and Keith won't have an answer to the girls at the Girls Meeting. Chad will offer to Grand Forks first (Stallions) to take on the tournament next year. Grand Forks will need to work on pricing with hotels so people aren't gouged. Stockert had constructive conversation with CVB lady, they haven't been really helpful but they understood the situation.

m) Mission Statement ~ Triplett

Stockert spoke on this topic. Discussion held looking for interest in a board member to work with Betty to come up with a mission statement for NDAHA. Stockert offered to assist Betty and to send out draft(s) to the Board.

n) Player Development Scholarship ~ Triplett

Stockert reported that this scholarship is available and he will send this out again. Betty has received some applicants to date. Stockert requested that district directors send out this information to their affiliates so they know this is an option.

o) Spring Meeting Proposals ~ Stockert

Stockert reported that the deadline to file proposals for the Spring Meeting is March 1st, if you don't have it fully written, please send it to Cassie by the deadline as there will be some coming forward from affiliates as well but need to have them in by March 1.

p) NDAHA 2023 Board of Directors Elections ~ Stockert

Stockert reported this year is a big year for elections. The following terms are up this year: President (Stockert), Treasurer (Triplett), all Jr. Gold Director (Chad Arendt), Girls Director (Keith Olson, Youth League Director (Dallas Kuntz), one district director in each district, Southeast (Don Walz), Northeast (Jay McClintock), Northwest (Greg Bender), and Southwest (Terry Halstengaard). Stockert requested those who are up for election to contact him by the end of February 2023 if you plan to rerun. April will be district meeting time so if we know by March there can be a conversation about it on the March call just so districts know who is or is not running. Halstengaard suggested that the District meetings be official with Cassie included in each call/meeting since the votes are not by caucus it's by member count.

q) Bylaw discussion - Stockert

Stockert had a discussion with both Ben and Casey with USA hockey legal regarding bylaws (by email) regarding NDAHA's newly approved Bylaws. Stockert talked to Ben on the phone a bit last Friday, talked again the following Monday and resent emails regarding review and comment on the Bylaws. Ben came back with an email with confirmation on a few items (Stockert read the email to the members). There are contentions with some affiliates regarding these Bylaws, but Stockert is asking District Directors to go back to your affiliates and report that NDAHA got the blessing of the Bylaws from USA Hockey. Brian was part of the conversation with USA Hockey. Brian clarified about affiliate count members, if one affiliate has 100 and another affiliate has 200 then one affiliate gets 100 votes and the other affiliate gets 200 votes. USA Hockey did propose some "clean up" items to make the language a little clear. Stockert has Cassie working on these items. Bylaws were already voted on and approved so no need for a vote. Jerry Zachmeier will post these new Bylaws to the Website immediately.

r) Presidents Update – Stockert

Stockert discussed player development for 13o program. As far as getting games for that team in the fall of the year Stockert doesn't think this will be an issue. If we have the numbers we will go 14U Tier 1, 13U Tier 1, and 13U Tier 2.

Keith Olson pulled numbers and there are 600-800 unclaimed players in ND so you will get emails to claim your players. We reached and surpassed the 9,000 member mark this year, good from a registration standpoint.

MN is moving towards 13U girls, 16U girls and there will be a push from affiliates to board of directors to go in the same direction. NDAHA does offer 13U but we don't classify it as such, NDAHA allows it and half the 12U teams has 13U players so it would just be a matter of rostering that team as 13U and allowing them to play in the 12U league. The 16U conversation is a little different. MN they are doing this to deter girls from moving up to the HS leagues. ND side of border there is a general feeling that we want to keep the girls at affiliate level longer and not go to the federation level. If we bring in 16U then have them play 19U league games for the 19U to get games and play MN games as well. Teams that don't have HS team will probably go 16U.

Discussion on how we can effectively roster our teams to have our B teams play MN C teams. That conversation is happening on MN side. Stockert doesn't want to pull the trigger and change

letters and numbers right now and see what MN does first. MN has B1, B2, and C teams whereas ND has B1 and B.

s) West Fargo gate admission discussion at State Tournament

Gate fees are set by NDAHA and the rule is clear as to fees and what is required and not required. Discussion and review of the State Tournament Handbook and the requirement for fees, set pricing, requirements, etc.

t) Rostering BOD at the affiliate level

Stockert is writing up a proposal whereas each affiliate board each year rosters as a team under the portal so verification of SafeSport and background check is done. You create an adult team on the portal, like Fargo Youth Hockey Association BOD and there is a list of the BOD and verification of SS and background check.

u) NDAHA 2023 Spring Affiliate & Board of Directors Meetings - May 6th & 7th – Grand Forks, ND

Stockert is working with Canad Inn for rooms. Meeting will be held at Canad Inn conference room. Affiliate meeting on Saturday, dinner with Stockert Saturday night, then Sunday Board of Director meeting.

v) Additional item

Chad Arendt asked whether league secretaries are you getting notice of game changes. League secretaries reported no.

w) Parent behavior at state tournament

Stockert discussed parent behaviors recently and with state tournaments coming up, he wants a basic statement regarding NDAHA position regarding poor spectator conduct. Stockert's feeling is you get asked to leave you do not come back for the duration of the tournament. General feeling amongst board agrees with that statement.

Email out to all affiliates and members regarding parent behavior and no alcohol on or in premises. Stockert will send out email on behalf of NDAHA regarding policy for parent behavior, drinking, etc.

x) Adjournment

Jay McClintock motioned to adjourn, Tyler Palmiscino seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, none opposed, meeting adjourned at 1:35pm