

**NDAHA Board of Director Fall Meeting**  
**Saturday, September 10, 2022**  
**Minot Municipal Auditorium, Minot, ND**

President Matt Stockert called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

**Roll Call:**

Matt Stockert, Jarrod Olson, Cassie Scheving (Zoom), Dallas Kuntz, Keith Olson, Chad Arendt, Tyler Palmiscno, Jay McClintock, Terry Halstengard (Zoom), Darrin Voeller, Don Walz, Greg Bender, Brian Bauman, David Hoff, Grant Paranica, Thor Nelson

**Affiliates:** Bismarck, Bottineau, Crosby, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo Angels, Fargo Youth Hockey, Grand Forks Stallions, Grand Forks Youth Hockey, Hazen, Langdon, Mandan, Mayport, Minot, North Stars, Rugby, Sidney, Wahpeton, Watford City, West Fargo, Williston

**Agenda Additions/Changes:**

Treasurer's Report  
2021/22 League Rules  
Sled Hockey - David Hoff  
Affiliate Fees

**Minutes:**

Jarrod Olson made a motion to approve the 2022 Board of Directors Spring Meeting Minutes. Chad Arendt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Finance Committee presented the financials on behalf of Betty Triplett for approval. The profit and loss report for September 2021 - August 2022 along with balance sheet as of August 31, 2022 were emailed and provided at the meeting for review.

Brian Bauman questioned the balance since there is a lot of money in the accounts. The Player Development program is growing and bringing in good money. A Finance Committee member noted that expenses are still coming out for the Fall Development Programs. By the winter meeting, the balance should be around \$350,000-\$400,000. There was discussion Friday night regarding what is a good balance if have no income for one year. Brian would like Betty Triplett to put together what actual costs NDAHA has outside of Player Development.

Brian Bauman made a motion to approve the financials. Greg Bender seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

**NDAHA Hall of Fame - Nominations:**

Mike Schmidt, a Hall of Fame Nomination Committee member, stated the committee has received 3 nominations this year: Dean Wilson (Fargo, ND), Betty Triplett (Rugby, ND), and Greg Evenson (West Fargo, ND). Also, the committee nominated Serge Gambucci (Grand Forks, ND). Matt Stockert gave an overview of the NDAHA Hall of Fame. After discussion, Jarrod Olson made a motion to approve the four nominees as presented for induction into the NDAHA Hall of Fame. Greg Bender seconded the motion. All were in favor. Brian Bauman abstained. The four nominations were approved.

## **NDAHA Director Reports:**

### **Registrar - Keith Holland:**

#### Important Dates:

Coach Background Screen and SafeSport Training - Before any player contact

Players on a Roster - Before the first game

Rosters submitted - Before the first game

Last day to register or be put on a Roster - December 15<sup>th</sup>

Player must be assigned to a team - December 15<sup>th</sup>

Coach must have current CEP - December 31<sup>st</sup>

Register members for the 2022/23 season in the USA Hockey portal. Coaches must be registered and have modules, current CEP, SafeSport Training, and Background Screen. Only registered coaches can be on the ice, no volunteers.

Volunteers who have any direct contact with the kids (board members, team managers, etc.) must complete a Background Screen and the SafeSport Training.

Players can move up one level, not two levels.

Double Roster requests must be submitted to the Registrar, Keith, for approval. Any team with a Double Roster cannot have more than 11 players (10 skaters and a goalie).

Make sure to register tournaments and jamborees on the NPD website so sanctioned and insured.

If need a coach to coach a different team, contact the Registrar, Keith, for approval before the game. The coach must be certified.

Goalie moves must be approved by the Registrar, Keith. Goalies can move to same or higher level (B to A, Not A to B).

Typically, texted approval from Keith is sufficient for emergency player/goalie/coach moves.

### **Referee-in-Chief - Thor Nelson:**

During the 2020/21 season, NDAHA had 631 officials. At the fall meeting last year, there were only 375 officials (down 41%). At the end of the 2021/22 season, there were 754 officials (up 18%). There were 17 seminars last year, which was a record. Supervisors in communities helped recruit officials last season. Local communities need to continue to help recruit and help keep officials longer than one or two years. Some communities started to have mentors where older officials shadow younger officials until the younger officials are comfortable. Official numbers in ND are better than the rest of the nation. NDAHA hasn't had to cancel any games yet, but we need to continue to grow so never becomes an issue.

For the first part of the 2021/22 season, not much was reported. Then, there were a lot of reports the rest of the season. Officials must enforce the USA Hockey body contact rules, so will call hits whether coaches/spectators like it or not. Also, USA Hockey wants official abuse gone. No one should behave in youth hockey like see other people behave at college/pro games. Everyone should have patience for young officials. Also, people can't expect officials to be the best. Thor discussed how officials are not removing anyone. Local associations need to have a point of contact in the association responsible for removing someone if needed.

Thor mentioned to make sure coaches read and understand the rules. Also, once at a two-penalty mark, coaches should talk to their players to warn them.

### **Coach-in-Chief - David Hoff:**

A few coach responsibilities include player safety, to develop players, and to not abuse officials.

At coaching clinics, David tries to get coaches to understand when to play a kid and when not to play a kid.

David suggested having young officials attend practices and officiate small area games. Then, someone can coach them during practice.

David mentioned how coaches must complete the SafeSport Training and Background Screen before coaching.

Coaches must be certified by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

If currently Level 3 and need Level 4 certification, coaches must now do the course virtually through zoom. There is nothing David can do; the training must be done nationally.

If coach a Tier 1 or 2 team, a Level 4 or 5 coach needs continuing education. The coach needs 5 hours of continuing education every 3 years. Goal-tending clinics count towards continuing education. If not a Tier 1 or 2 team coach, a Level 4 or 5 coach may be grandfathered in.

For Levels 1, 2, and 3, coaches can either do an in-person or virtual course. ND can only offer a limited number of in-person courses each year and needs 40-60 participants for each course. David plans to offer coaching clinics in the 4 quadrants and advertise in the 4 districts. He plans to offer clinics in Minot, Bismarck, Grand Forks, and Fargo. He could do other locations too. David plans to offer clinics the last couple weeks of October and a couple options in November. He will get a document to Matt by the end of the week with the in-person coach clinic dates.

### **SafeSport - Terry Halstengard:**

Terry will send an official report next week.

Make sure your association is following USA Hockey Bylaw 10.

Affiliates should go over the Code of Conduct document with their club before the season and remind them mid-season what they agreed to. Also, affiliates should hang the NDAHA Code of Conduct poster in their rinks. The mandatory 3-game suspension rule applies to the next 3 games for that team. Affiliates have the option to add more than a 3-day suspension to their rules. For example, Minot tacks on an additional 3 games, so they have a mandatory 6-game suspension instead. The challenge can be finding the individual who violated the rules to make sure he/she services the mandatory game suspension. David Duckworth can help.

### **Player Development Director - Grant Paronica:**

Grant noted how they will find a place for anyone who registers to play.

The ND Player Development Program is healthy and growing. The program is a supplement and supports/enhances youth and high school players. There were 500 players who attended the Spring 2022 High Performance Camp (including NIT). Players even came from Canada and out of state.

There are around 350 players participating in the fall programs. For the 2022 Team ND teams, there are 4 Team ND Girls teams and 6 Team ND Boys teams. For girls, there are the following teams: 19U Girls Tier 1, 16U Girls Tier 1, 14U Girls Tier 1, and 14U Girls Tier 2. For Boys, there are the following teams: 18U Boys HP, 18U Boys Tier 1, 16U Boys Tier 1, 15U Boys Tier

1, 14U Boys Tier 1, and 14U Boys Tier 2. For the Northern Plains Hockey League, the Bantam division has 57 players (3 teams) and the High School Division has 120 players (6 teams). The Bantam division could grow more. Any eligible Bantam and High School player in the state can play in the NPHL; there are no requirements except register on time.

The program needs around 35-40 coaches. It is a great experience for coaches. Grant suggested having young coaches pair with more experienced coaches. Grant requested if anyone knows someone who would be interested in coaching, give the coach names to him. He is looking for coaches to start at the state camp then get more involved. The coaches must be able to commit to weekends.

The Player Development staff is managing the fall teams now. They will be working on the Boys National Invite Team. They are working with Wisconsin to try to get back the Girls NIT program. Phase 1 of the Boys CCM NIT Team tryout is March 4-6, 2023 in Jamestown. The National Tournament is April 20-23, 2023. Also, the Spring High Performance Camp is April 14-16, 2023 in Grand Forks and the ND Team tryouts are May 12-14, 2023. Grant noted to make sure players know the Player Development programs available.

Brian Bauman questioned if time to hire a full-time staff position to help since the Player Development program has grown. Currently, there is only Grant and two others. Grant stated that they are limited in resources. Brian noted how there is enough to invest in a full-time staff. It was also discussed to incorporate an outreach program where they go to local communities. Jarrod Olson suggested waiting until after fall season to discuss. The committee will discuss after fall season what they would like with the program in the future.

#### **Diversity and Inclusion Advisor:**

Matt Stockert stated how the Diversity and Inclusion Advisor position is currently open. There is one person interested. Matt discussed handing off this Growth Coordinator position since the position could be tied in with Diversity and Inclusion.

#### **Web Master - Jerry Zachmeier:**

Matt Stockert noted how Jerry is busy doing the website transition from SportsEngine to League Apps. The leagues will be loaded in a few days.

#### **Old Business:**

##### **State Tournament Security:**

Matt Stockert stated that the recommendation made at the NDAHA Spring Affiliate Meeting for State Tournament Security has been ratified by the Board of Directors. This led to discussion amongst the Affiliates and Board of Directors. Having security at State Tournaments would cost NDAHA \$15,000-\$20,000. Brian Bauman suggested having affiliates pay for security. West Fargo expressed concern hiring security since cops in their community are short-staffed so would be hard to hire. Bismarck noted how it was good having someone from NDAHA help at their state tournament last year. Also, if there is no other help, it is hard to monitor if someone sneaks back in. After more discussion and concerns, the Affiliates and Board of Directors agreed that Affiliates hosting the State Tournaments should have another Point of Contact for Parent/Spectator Conduct and Discipline. Also, the host should determine a security plan. Fargo made a motion that each State Tournament host must submit a security plan to NDAHA by the NDAHA Winter Board Meeting. Also, the host should send Chad Arendt contact information for the Discipline Point of Contact as well. Minot seconded the motion. All were in favor. Further State Tournament security discussion was tabled until the NDAHA Spring Affiliate Meeting.

## **New Business:**

### **Ratification of Youth Leagues - Youth League Governance - Dallas Kuntz:**

The Youth League sheets were emailed to the Board of Directors and Affiliates to review. Dallas went over the Youth League sheets for the Bantam and PeeWee levels at the meeting. He noted the changes. Greg Bender made a motion to ratify the Youth Leagues for the 2022/23 season. Jay McClintock seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Youth Leagues for the 2022/23 season were approved.

### **Ratification of Girl Leagues - Girls League Governance - Keith Olson:**

The Northern Plains District Girls Fall Jamboree is October 14-16, 2022 in Dickinson. NDAHA would like to put together as many teams as possible for 12U, 14U, 16U, and 19U divisions. Any girl in ND is eligible to play.

Williston State is adding a girls league. They need coach applicants if anybody knows someone who may be interested.

Keith thanked NDAHA for their support with America's Showcase. The girls played 3 games and lost to Wisconsin in overtime. The girls did awesome and represented ND really well.

Keith noted that the girls program needs to do a better job with educating program changes and levels. Also, the contacts always change and teams are hard to pin down. Its hard to put leagues and state tournaments together.

Keith went over the Girl League sheets for 12U, 15U, and High School, along with possible changes. Jarrod Olson made a motion to ratify the Girl Leagues for the 2022/23 season. Tyler Palmiscno seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Girl Leagues for the 2022/23 season were approved.

### **Ratification of Junior Gold League - Junior Gold League Director - Chad Arendt:**

Chad went over the Junior Gold League on the sheet. It is a statewide league. Dickinson added a team. He is waiting on another team to determine if playing Junior Gold. Chad encourages scheduling with the team since easier to drop then add games. Jarrod Olson made a motion to ratify the Junior Gold League for the 2022/23 season. Brian Bauman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Junior Gold League for the 2022/23 season was approved.

### **2021/22 League Rules:**

The Board of Directors and Affiliates discussed and agreed to keep the same league rules that were used last season, as listed below:

10U/Squirt and 12U/PeeWee Levels:

1:30 minor penalties, 3:00 double minor, 5:00 major penalties

15-minute periods

14U and 15U/Bantam Levels:

2:00 minor penalties, 4:00 double minor, 5:00 major penalties

15 or 17-minute periods (15-minute periods at the State Tournament)

All Levels for League Play: 1-10-minute overtime (if no one scores, ends in a tie)

### **Sled Hockey - David Hoff:**

Sled Hockey is an option to offer to kids with disabilities. If you have disabled kids in your community, David recommends giving them the opportunity to try it. A community doesn't need a team, it just needs players. Local communities can find ways to get in a program and help grow it. Two current options: Hope Inc. in the Fargo-Moorhead area and Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports in Minot both offer sled hockey.

### **Affiliate Fees:**

The affiliate fee hasn't increased for a while. Brian Bauman suggested increasing the affiliate fee from \$50.00 or possibly get rid of it. Currently, the affiliate fees, along with the State Tournament fees, help pay for State Tournament costs. Discussion was had to raise it to cover an employee, etc. The Board of Directors will look into what the money could be used for. Discussion was tabled until the NDAHA Spring Affiliate Meeting.

Jay McClintock noted that he is handing out affiliate fee invoices at the meeting. Also, affiliates should let him know how many scorebooks they need, if any, so Betty Triplett can bill them.

### **Bylaws - NDAHA Bylaw Committee:**

The Bylaw Committee opened discussion with both the Board of Directors and Affiliates regarding the bylaw changes. The bylaws need to be updated with revisions from the last five years and to be in line with the rest of the country. USA Hockey came back with suggestions. Everyone reviewed and discussed the bylaw changes and verbiage that needs to be cleaned up. A major topic of discussion was the District Directors section.

Also, there was discussion if Section Directors should be voting or non-voting members. The Section Directors are the Girls League Director, Boys Junior Gold Director, and Youth League Director. They are operational, not governance. Also, they are appointed by the Board of Directors rather than by popular vote. These reasons are why the Section Directors are non-voting members. Also, it was discussed how these Section Directors should be paid positions. They get a stipend at the end of the year, not enough though.

Keith Olson stated how the Bylaws need to be reviewed and cleaned up before the Board of Directors vote. Also, there were different versions of the Bylaws being reviewed at the meeting so everyone needs to review one, final version.

The Bylaws discussion was tabled for now. The Bylaw Committee will revise the Bylaws and email the updated version within two weeks. Then, Matt Stockert will schedule a NDAHA special meeting to review and vote on the updated Bylaws.

**State Tournaments:** There was no new discussion regarding the State Tournaments.

### **2023 Spring Meeting Elections - Term Expirations:**

President, Treasurer, Youth League Director, Girls Director, Junior Gold Director, NW District Director (Bender), SW District Director (Halstengard), SE District Director (Walz), and NE District Director (McClintock)

Send Nominees to the Nomination Committee: Keith Holland and Terry Halstengard.

The Winter Meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2023 in Rugby, ND.

Jarrold Olson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Olson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 1:05pm.