

DISTRICT 2 MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2004 in Southgate

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Directors Present-Rick Frescura, Deborah Beatty, Deborah Zimmerman, and Gordon Leitz
Directors Absent-Doug Diroff, Gary Wojo, and Gary Ball

Council Persons Present-John Bauer, Bob Smith, Jerry Ralko, and Carl Brogley
Council Persons Absent-Tom Featherston

Rick Frescura provided a sign in sheet in order for all association presidents to supply the executive board with their address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

John Castine and Mark Thomas from Hockey Weekly Action Photos, which is a partnership between Massive Productions and Hockey Weekly, made a presentation regarding their new photography venture. With their new system, it will take approximately 13 seconds to print photographs including panoramic views, team photos, and individual photos. Teams using their company for individual and team photos will have them immediately instead of waiting 6-8 weeks. They are available for association pictures and tournaments. 10% of the gross sales will be returned to the organization that contracts their services.

USA Hockey has made a DVD of commercials promoting "Its Just a Game" that will run on radio and television in the near future. The DVD was shown to the district at which time they were informed that it can be downloaded off of the USA Hockey website. USA Hockey is attempting a mass production of the DVD for everyone's use.

RULES: Rick Frescura

- A. A complete set of the new rules were provided. If you did not attend the meeting and receive a copy, please see MAHA.org. A brief summary of each change follows is as:
 1. In regards to the new rule defining an association;
 - a. all existing associations must comply with the new rules within one-year.
 - b. any IP/Learn to Skate program that cannot comply with the skater quota set in this rule must submit a Letter of Exception to the District 2 board.
 2. The 2 year term for all MAHA district board members begins immediately after the summer meeting that follows the election.
 3. There is a new electronic format online for submitting Proposed Rule Changes. This format must be followed and the form filled out in full. An effective date for the rule must be indicated.
 4. There is a new rule that passed that was supposed to have Tier I midget teams rostering on September 1 with no roster changes after December 31, but the executive boards' notes do not reflect that the members wanted a friendly amendment to the rule stating, "with the exception of the bantam, pee wee, squirt, and mite divisions" therefore those divisions have now lost two weeks in August in which they could have been rostered.
 5. No girl's team may play a checking team.
 6. Leagues must now follow all MAHA guidelines (i.e., sliding scale, divisions).

REGISTRATION: Rick Frescura

- A. Youth added all 18 year olds for the midget divisions.
- B. Girls added an 8 and under division.
- C. Adults will begin online registration this year. Districts 2, 3, and 4 are the beta test areas for this new registration technique. A credit card and e-mail address are mandatory. Once registration is complete an e-mail will be sent back to the registering player and/or coach with a bar code to furnish to his/her teams. If all goes well, youth registration will be done this way in the fall 2005/06 season.

OFFICIATING: Rick Frescura and Gordon Leitz

- A. Please visit the website for officiating clinics. Jack Adams, Allen Park and Monroe arenas already have clinics scheduled.
- B. This was a non-playing rule change year.
- C. USA Hockey would like to see more women enter the officiating program.

RISK MANAGEMENT: Gordon Leitz

- A. Some of the local rinks are in very bad condition so the associations need to check their arenas carefully for potential risk areas (i.e., gaps in boards) in order to avoid a potential lawsuit. Please make sure your association board is covered by insurance in case of lawsuits.
- B. There was a huge increase in the price of D&O Insurance this year and USA Hockey is working on finding a way to get the premium lowered. John Bauer of Southgate informed the district that Southgate uses EW Smith in Wyandotte for their D&O Policy and consider it reasonably priced. The sales representative that they use is named Bob Peters.
- C. The Abuse Prevention Committee has drafted new guidelines, which will be strictly adhered to. Hazing was one of the issues and a coach can be suspended if he/she is aware of hazing, harassment, or abuse and does nothing to correct the situation.

GIRLS: Deborah Zimmerman

- A. No Report.
- B. John Castine informed the district that there is a 12 & under girls clinic taking place in Brownstown. See HockeyWeekly.com for information.
- C. Any girl looking for a team can contact Bob Steele, the MAHA Girls Committee Chairperson. His telephone number is on the website.
- D. A lot of people are looking for an 8 and under team. Bob Smith will be looking into the Michigan Devils possibly having an 8 and under team.

ADULTS: Rick

- A. Please contact Rick if your adult league needs him to come out and furnish the league with materials or explain the new registration process. When registering on line as a player and you are also a coach, be sure to register as a coach/player.
- B. Women's teams must register through Rick Frescura.

COACHING: Deborah Beatty

- A. USA has changed the title of "Ace Coordinator" to "Ace Director" in order to lessen confusion because some associations refer to position as "Coaching Director".
- B. USA held an Ace Director's meeting on August 14th in Novi. Attendance from D2 was great. All ACE Directors received materials to be added to their association libraries. If your association did not have a representative in attendance, please see me after the meeting.
- C. Coaching Clinic dates and times are posted online. D2's dates should be up by the end of the week. You must register online. Walk-ins will only be allowed if the clinic does not fill through online registration. I am still waiting to hear from either Tom Gibbs or Bob Brayman on the Level 1 clinics. No cash will be taken at the clinics.
- D. District 2 Coaching Clinics are as follows:

Sunday	September 12	Dearborn	Level 2	Max 180
Saturday	September 25	Dearborn	Level 3	Max 180
Saturday	October 9	Taylor	Level 2	Max 110
Sunday	October 24	Southgate	Level 3	Unlimited

All clinics will run from approximately 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. We need volunteers for help with registration and would like the host associations to provide coffee and doughnuts.
- F. NTDP Internships dates (see website)
- G. Michigan will be hosting a Level 5 (Master) clinic in Grand Rapids on June 22-26, 2005.
- H. The next Level 4 (Advanced) clinic will be in South Bend, Indiana on September 17-19.
- I. USA Hockey is waiting for the findings from the Safety and Protective Equipment Committee ("SPEC") on concussions. SPEC will support USA Hockey should they decide to mandate helmets for on-ice coaches. At this time, helmets are not required by USA Hockey but are recommended.
- J. USA Hockey is developing a Rate form that should help associations and coaches in rating their skaters as to their specific needs and strengths.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Larry Johnson and Mickey Jesue are still working on the Mite issue and have asked Rick to inform the district that the Mite issue was widely discussed at the summer meeting and to poll the district to see what percentage of the associations are in favor of reinstating mite travel. To this date, there is no opposition to the reinstatement of mite travel. All mites travel teams are to be rostered using Cybersport and they are to be listed under "Category" as "Mite Select" and then under "Classification" they are to be labeled "N/A. When prompted to enter Tier I, II or Rec, please use the word "Travel."

- B. If the Pioneer League is too full to take more mite travel teams, a person can start a new league. As long as the team count remains under 60, MAHA will not oversee the league.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. The girls hockey program is looking for associations to host their states this year. Please contact Bob Steele if your association is interested.
- B. There are no states playoffs in district 2 this year. There is a chance that another district will turn down the opportunity for hosting states at which point district 2 will be able to host the state playoffs. Please inform Rick Frescura if your association is interested in hosting states.
- C. All associations must submit their by-laws, draft rules, and draft dates to the board by the end of the meeting.
- D. A non-checking division was added by USA Hockey for the pee wee division and up.
- E. District's 3, 4, & 6 associations have been conducting two drafts every year. One for in house teams and one for league teams. This is an illegal draft by MAHA rules. Those districts would like to see a rule implemented to allow this. District 2's opinion on this matter must be submitted at the Chairperson's Meeting in September. Please poll your association and send an e-mail or letter to Rick informing him of your association's decision by September 8
- F. Any association wanting to host district playoffs must submit their request in writing to Rick Frescura.
- G. District Intent Letters are due to Rick Frescura by November 15.
- H. Coaching Exception Letters are due to Rick Frescura by December 1.
- I. National bound teams in need of a second goalie must choose a goalie from a lesser division. Teams that need a second goalie for state playoffs that are not national bound may obtain a second goalie in an equal division.

Debbie Beatty moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Debbie Zimmerman

Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.