

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING  
MINUTES**

Friday, January 16, 2009  
Wyndham Orlando Resort, Orlando, FL

In attendance:

|                    |            |                     |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Irey, Bryan        | District   | Director            |
| Kenney, Chris      | District   | Director            |
|                    | District   | Director            |
| Lewis, TC          | District   | Asst Coach-in Chief |
| Power, Tom         | District   | Director            |
| Davern, Paul       | District   | Coach-in-Chief      |
| Day, Jill          | District   | Secretary           |
| Karinen, Bruce     | District   | Registrar           |
| McMann, Bob        | District   | Referee-in-Chief    |
| Cole, George       | District   | Webmaster           |
| Stewart, Mary      | AZ         | Vice President      |
| Rogers, Jim        | AZ         | CEP Coordinator     |
| Paolilli, Phil     | CO         | President           |
| Brandstetter, Dean | ID         | President           |
| Peterson, Melissa  | NM         | President           |
| Donovan, Larry     | OK         | President           |
| Skinner, Ted       | TX         | President           |
| Fawks, Gary        | TX         | Vice President      |
| Lewis, Debra       | TX         | Registrar           |
| Fisher, Geoff      | UT         | President           |
| Wilner, Fred       | UT         | Vice President      |
| Bloomer, Al        | USA Hockey |                     |
| Stoleman, TK       | USA Hockey |                     |

Absent: Kelly Grover, District Risk Manager, Michael Schwarz, District ACE Administrator, Jon Brooks, AZ President, Anne Hetrick, OK Registrar, Tom Lampl, Player Development

Chris Kenney, Chairman of the District Council, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Introductions were made.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the August 16, 2008 meeting were reviewed. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as written. Geoff Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**District and Affiliate Reports**

Chris Kenney, Bryan Irey, T C Lewis, and Tom Power submitted written District Director reports. Chris Kenney will be attending the Junior Council and Finance Council meetings. TC Lewis will be attending the Youth Council meeting. Bryan Irey will be attending the Legal Council meeting. Tom Power hasn't been assigned yet.

There are written reports from the ACE and CEP representatives. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah submitted written reports.

**Colorado** – Phil Paolilli talked about their very successful One Goal event. They have shared their template with the local associations and encouraged them to have their own event. Growth in the state is flat except for girls.

**Utah** – Geoff Fisher reported that they have changed volunteer screening to a state controlled program due to a problem in a local association. It's taken all year to work out the kinks.

**New Mexico** – Melissa Peterson reported that they are always in transition. There are 2 associations with all new board members. Albuquerque is going strong with a new learn to skate program. Taos is organizing tournaments

and drawing participation. They will be losing the CHL team in the state to bankruptcy which impacts the associations with increased ice costs.

**Texas** – Ted Skinner reported they have one new association and 5 disbanded associations. The rink cancelled ice for the association in Lubbock. Background screening expiration dates are listed on the TAHA web page. They are having the registrars return team rosters crossing out staff members that haven't passed screening and returning to the team. Then supplemental rosters have to be processed to add them when screening is complete. Another problem is increasing match penalties. They are going to post those on the web site also.

**Oklahoma** – Larry Donovan reported on new ice sheets being built. Online registration has been made mandatory and is successful. There is a rumor of professional hockey coming to Oklahoma. The first year of their Kids First beginner hockey program has been extremely successful.

**Idaho** - Tom Power reported that the Coeur d'Alene ice rink collapsed under heavy snow and is closed. Displaced teams and players are struggling to find replacement ice. Plans are to rebuild from the ground up. They have two new probationary associations. They use Intelicorp for background screening at \$1.50 per person.

**Arizona** – Jon Brooks was absent but the highlights of his report were reviewed by Chris Kenney. Polar Ice in Gilbert is a new two rink facility. CHL team now in second full year of play in Prescott, is helping growth of youth and High School hockey. Tucson does not have full time ice. They will host their first adult state championship this year.

## **DISTRICT REGISTRAR**

Bruce Karinen reported that the district is at 99% online registrations, and insists that it will be 100% now. Invitational tournaments don't want birth certificates at credentials due to privacy issues.

## **District Director Elections**

Bruce Karinen reported that Tom Power is the winner of the Special District Director election. Tom was the only person nominated for this special election. There were no write in candidates; therefore, Tom has been elected by accumulation. This position is for the remaining term of the late Wayne Lehto with term of office starting 18 September 2008 and ending at the close of the USA Hockey Congress in June 2011.

The 3-year term of Bryan Irey is expiring. Bryan has expressed an interest in continuing to serve. Bruce presented the procedure for the elections. Nominations are open until March 15, 2009 and Bruce would like them in writing along with an acceptance by the nominated person. Ballots will be mailed to affiliates in April. Votes are based on last year's player count.

## **2009 District Volunteer Award**

Chris Kenney announced that nominations are due April 1, 2009. He would like to get at least one nomination from each affiliate. It is suggested that affiliates put an announcement on local web pages requesting nominations. Al Bloomer suggested that USA Hockey be contacted about having this person recognized in the service award meeting in June in Colorado Springs.

## **Review of District Policy & Procedure Manual**

Melissa Peterson presented the final changes to the manual for review. Changes included simplifying voting, using generic language on tournaments, the girls recreation tournament was left in, and grammatical changes. Ted Skinner made a **MOTION** to approve the proposed changes. TC Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **RMD Player Development Camp**

Tom Lampl was absent so TC Lewis reported on player development concerns. Team Leaders are needed, preferably coaches but not professional coaches from the District. The schedule is being revised a bit to increase skills development. The camp wants to involve more ACHA coaches because a lot of our players will be going that way. It looks like there will be a 14 national camp this year but there is a proposal for a Regional Select camp in 2010. This would include the Rocky Mountain, Northern Plains and Pacific Districts. We would proceed with this concept only if the National Boys Select 14 Camp was discontinued. Camps will probably reduce from 12 to 8 teams and age groups could be combined for cost savings. Regional camps are being investigated to replace national camps. Al Bloomer would like Northern Plains, Pacific, and Rocky Mountain Districts to combine to host camps. Pacific has begun this same concept for an elite 15-16 girls' camp in Las Vegas and wants us involved. Al Bloomer talked about the player classification open forum USA Hockey is having tomorrow. Under the

proposed qualifications, there could be clubs in Arizona, Colorado and Texas that could apply and have a good chance of meeting the criteria of "high performance".

**Coaching Education**

Paul Davern submitted a written report. There is a new online reporting system for coaching education. There were several problems affecting certification of 236 Rocky Mountain District coaches. A Level 4 coaching clinic was held in Phoenix, AZ last September. The next level 4 clinic is proposed for Denver the second weekend in August.

**RMD Grants for Recruitment and Player Development**

Chris Kenney reported ID AZ and UT remain to be processed. The remaining affiliates have received their money.

**2009 District Tournaments**

The following game formats were determined:

Tier I 12-15 March 2009 Salt Lake City, Utah

|              | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | HOST | Total | Team | Format |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|-------|------|--------|
| Midget Major | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  |      | 6     | 6    |        |
| Midget Minor | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  |      | 6     | 6    |        |
| Bantam       |    | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0    | 4     | 4    |        |
| Peewee       | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 3     | 3    |        |

Girls/Women 6-8 March 2009 Metro Denver, Colorado

|         | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | HOST | Total | Team | Format     |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|-------|------|------------|
| Women A | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 0     |      |            |
| Women B | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 1     | No   | Tournament |
| Women C | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  |      | 2     | No   | Tournament |
| over 30 | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 1     | No   | Tournament |
| 19U     | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 1     | No   | Tournament |
| 16U     | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 2     |      | 2          |
| 14U     | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 2     |      | 2          |
| 12U     | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 2     |      | 2          |

Tier II 12-15 March 2009 Metro Phoenix, Arizona

|              | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | Total | Team | Format |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|------|--------|
| Midget Minor | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 6     | 6    |        |
| Bantam       |    | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4     | 4    |        |

Tier II 12-15 March 2009 Boise, Idaho

|              | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | Total | Team | Format |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|------|--------|
| Midget Major | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 6     | 6    |        |
| Peewee       | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 3     | 3    |        |

High School 27-29 March 2009 Arizona

|    | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | HOST | Total | Team | Format |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|-------|------|--------|
| HS | 1  | 1  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1    | 8     | 8    |        |

Girls/Women House/Rec 20-22 March 2009 New Mexico

|     | AZ | CO | TX | ID | NM | OK | UT | HOST | Total | Team | Format     |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|-------|------|------------|
| 19U | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  |      | 4     | 4    |            |
| 16U | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 1     | No   | Tournament |
| 14U | 0  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  |      | 4     | 4    |            |
| 12U | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |      | 1     | No   | Tournament |

### **Tournament Banners and Trophies**

Kelly Grover was absent. He had talked to TC Lewis about increasing the grant for tournament banners and trophies by \$1,000.00. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to add \$1,000.00 for a total of \$8,000.00 for the 2009 tournament banners and trophies. Bryan Irey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Legislative Issues**

Al Bloomer stated that surveys on games played under the "no-short handed icing pilot" compiled in Alaska & Mass suggested that there was not a significant increase in the number of whistles. The games were not longer due to the no-icing pilot. The Coaching section does not want the proposed change to Rule 109 Player's Bench to delete item (b) which would allow someone other than a Team Official to fill in on the bench. The proposed amendment to Rule 403 Major Penalties of not requiring a replacement on the penalty bench for a player receiving a major penalty and is ejected from the game (not involving coincidental penalties) will be voted on. Some expressed the feeling that playing rules should be changed to improve the game and not to improve the player.

### **Other Business**

Ted Skinner reported that the Dallas Stars Care Newsletter and the Ice Times Magazine are really contributing to parent education in their area.

### **Web Master**

George Cole made the suggestion to switch from Network Solutions to GoDaddy for the District's web hosting and email. There would be a significant cost saving. TC Lewis made a **MOTION** to transfer from Network Solutions to GoDaddy. Geoff Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Next Meetings**

The next meeting is the lunch meeting June 4, 2009 in Colorado Springs. The Annual meeting will be in Arizona August 14-16, 2009.

Bryan Irey made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 4:07 p.m. Phil Paolilli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Day  
RMD Secretary