



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
Tempe, Arizona
August 15, 2009**

Written Reports

Bryan Ireby – RMD Director’s Report

Since my last report in January I have been involved with the following events/meetings. I attended the RMD District Meeting and USA Hockey Mid-Winter Meeting in January. Numerous conference and phone calls to organize the RMD Tournaments. Directed the RMD Tier I Tournament along with Al Bloomer in March of 2009. Attended USA Hockey Annual Congress in June 2009. Participated in the Legal Council Meeting at USAH Annual Congress. Participated in the USA Hockey Playing Rules Committee Meeting at the USAH Annual Congress. Participated in the USA Hockey Board of Directors Meeting at the USAH Annual Congress. I have been re-appointed to the USA Hockey Legal Council Meeting and Playing Rules Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bryan Ireby



Tom Power
Director
Rocky Mountain District

Directors Report

August 13, 2009

My report will be very simple for this meeting.

Effective May of this year, I have officially finished my tenure as President of Idaho Amateur Hockey and Dean Brandstetter has now officially been elected to that role. Congratulations Dean!

USA Hockey notified me that I have been placed on the Marketing Committee and the Nominating Committee for the 2009-2010 season. I am looking forward to getting involved with these committees and participating at the national meetings.

Tom Power

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
Annual Meeting
Phoenix, AZ
August 2009**

District Director's Report

During 2008/ 09, I was involved in the following tasks:

- August 2008 – attended the RMD Meeting in Denver, Colorado
- January 2009 - attended the USA Hockey Winter Meeting in Orlando, FL
- March 2008 - helped supervised and supported the execution of the RMD Tier II and RMD High School Tournaments in Phoenix, AZ
- June 2008 - attended the USA Hockey Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Chaired the Council of Presidents for the Rocky Mountain District
- Helped lead the RMD Monthly conference calls focusing on RMD items and the growth of Hockey within the District
- Headed up the Rocky Mountain District - Volunteer Award – search committee
- Working with the Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah Affiliates on both Affiliate and association issues
- Involved in monthly and quarterly calls with USA Hockey on the finance committee items
- Involved in calls with USA Hockey and the RMD Directors regarding District issues
- Attended Affiliate meetings throughout the year
- Respectfully Submitted by: Chris Kenney - RMD Director August, 2009

6 November 2008

Minutes of the Girls/Women District Committee

The committee met at the Crystal Inn in Salt Lake City, Utah on 25 October 2008. Attendees were Gil Newton (UT), Ellen Yeiser (CO), Nicole Perkins (ID), Kristin Heffern (AZ), Gale Shaloo (AZ), Calvin Abila (CO), Sarah Henderson (UT), and Bruce Karinen (District).

1. The Rocky Mountain District Girls/Women Tier tournament was reviewed in order to firm up which teams would be at the tournament. Reference attached.
2. The District House/Rec tournament and a Tier II tournament were discussed. There is some conflict for teams having both Tournaments. Commitments for both tournaments were made except for one Utah team which to decide on which tournament to attend. The Tier II tournament would only have two age divisions – 14U and 19U with two teams in each age group
3. The committee would like to start a District Girls High School tournament.
4. Affiliate Player Development Camp selections - goal should to try to get more out of state evaluators.
5. District Player Development Camp – Market Division I and III coaches and instruction received at camp.
6. Future of Girls Tier I hockey in the District was talked about with the new definition that is being worked on for Tier I.
7. In 2010 it is recommended that the District have only Tier I and Tier II tournaments and drop the District House/Rec girls tournament.
8. Suggestions were made for the new Tier II definition that is or will be worked on.
9. It was suggested to give the names of the committee to George Cole so they be published on the District web site.
10. Tie Breaker rules for the 2009 Girls Tournament are on page 157 of the Guide book and are NOT the same as the youth rules.
11. Sarah Henderson talked about opportunities for females in referring and a District all female referee clinic.
12. Handouts given out were – 2010 USA Hockey National Championship Sites, Rocky Mountain District Grant for Recruitment and Player Retention, Rocky Mountain District Girls/Women's Committee Rev.4.

9 July 2009

Rev. 4

Rocky Mountain District Girls/Women's Committee

1. A Rocky Mountain District Girls/Women's committee shall be established to promote communications within the district, encourage the growth of girls/women's hockey in each Affiliate and work with the coaches and other sections to improve player skills.
2. The committee shall be composed of one or two representatives from each Affiliate and the District Girls/Women's section representative. If a second representative is appointed from an Affiliate one representative should represent the women and the other should represent the girl's teams and players in that Affiliate. Each Affiliate President will be responsible to appoint their representative(s) to this committee. Members may be appointed for up to a three year term. The term of office shall start 1 September of each hockey season.
3. The committee shall hold the majority of its meeting via conference calls.
4. The District Girls/Women's representative will establish a budget for this committee which must be approved by the District Council each August.
5. The committee shall elect a chairman and secretary from their members to serve a one year term.
6. The committee will submit a written report to the Chairman of the District Council on or before 1 August of each year.

Arizona Affiliate Written Report for Rocky Mountain District Annual Meeting August 2009

Registration looks to be up from last year but because of the change in registration year, it is really tough to measure. We hope to continue positive growth in Arizona. We are also struggling with unclaimed registered players and we are working with the local associations to claim and would be interested if other affiliates are also having the same issue with unclaimed players. We are trying to remedy this going forward with more education and training of local registrars teaching them to claim these players even if they are not putting them on teams. We have a state wide registrar meeting planned for the end of the month and hope this helps.

The uncertain status of the Phoenix Coyotes is a concern to many hockey families in Arizona and the possible impact to youth and adult hockey if the team exits the market. It is beginning to look like the Coyotes will play in Arizona for this season but their future is uncertain.

Arizona continues to have teams and players advance to Nationals as the development of players in the state continues to excel. Phoenix associations continue to grow their programs with the additions of several new A, B, Tier 2 (AA) and Tier 1 (AAA) programs.

We also continued our major initiative with the NHL One Goal and the Coyotes Kids First program to provide equipment, sticks, skates and ice at no cost to the participant. The Phoenix Coyotes are working with every rink in the state promoting learn to skate and learn to play hockey programs. The state had purchased 500 sets of equipment and sticks and provided them to all Arizona rinks. We have already had hundreds of players go through this program and our intent is to make this available on an even more aggressive basis this spring and summer. We are planning to purchase additional equipment this year for the age 10 to 12 size player as well as goalie gear. We are also looking at establishing a Coyotes Adult First program also providing equipment to this group. These are potentially the most aggressive programs we have ever hosted to grow hockey in the state.

Our state player development camp continue to have great attendance and the level of play and quality of the players that advance to the district player development camp and national player development camps continue to improve. We expanded our Player Development camp this year to include younger youth age groups that do not qualify to go on to the district camp but gives them an opportunity to be exposed to a great camp. This year we are looking to expand our state player development camp again and are also looking to host an Adult State Player Development camp

We want to express our thanks to the Rocky Mountain and USA Hockey for allowing Arizona to host a level 4 Coaches Clinic this past year. This was an outstanding program and allowed many Arizona coaches the opportunity to gain their Level 4 Certification as well as expose the coaches to some high quality presentations and enable interactions with many top level coaches and instructors.

The Polar Ice Gilbert facility opening this past fall with two sheets of ice and is home to a new association, Arizona Heat. The Polar facilities across the state also moved forward to create a new Team, Phoenix Union which has players from all three facilities. The Gilbert rink hosted to the Bantam and Midget Rocky Mountain Championships this past March and we had positive comments from everyone.

The Polar Ice Peoria facility hosted the RMD Rocky Mountain High School Championships in conjunction with the Arizona High School Hockey Association. The tournament ran smoothly and all teams seemed to have a great experience in Arizona. There were some problems with teams getting rooms that were affordable and close to the Peoria rink as it is next to a major spring training facility. The high school teams were directed to hotels but they were free to stay wherever they wanted without any penalty.

The Alltel Ice Den in Scottsdale is in the process of getting the approval to add another ice rink to the current facility which would make this the first 3 rink facility in the state. This is scheduled to break ground sometime in 2010 with a projected opening 9 months after breaking ground.

The Arizona Sun Dogs (CHL) who began play in November 2007 in a new 4000 seat multi use Event Center in Prescott Valley have helped grow the Prescott Valley Youth Hockey Association which has several teams playing in the Statewide Sonoran League this year. In addition, Prescott has both a Varsity and a JV High School Hockey Teams this year. The CHL is also looking at potential team and facility additions in Phoenix/ Mesa and Tucson, but nothing is firm at this time.

Tucson teams continue to use the Tucson Convention Center this year which is the home of the University of Arizona Ice Cats. This is a temporary solution until a new rink can be built. There are several groups in Tucson trying to mobilize the hockey community, with plans to build a new facility.

Flagstaff also continues to grow their program with a new board taking over this year with new teams and new coaches revitalizing the organization.

The Phoenix Coyotes saga continues and we hope that the team stays in Arizona. Unfortunately, there is not a ground swell of support from the community. Hockey just does not get the press and publicity that other sports get in Arizona. The Coyotes are committed to help the growth of amateur hockey and have placed a stronger emphasis on working with the state board with a full time Youth coordinator to work with each association around the state.

The Phoenix Coyotes, My Team Cares and AAHA sponsored the Phoenix Coyotes Cares website that is hosting a parent education awareness program as well as making great information available to parents and players through the state. This site has been very successful initiating our parent awareness program which will be mandatory in the near future.

The Phoenix Roadrunners disbanded their team this year with the hopes of coming back next season. ASU, NAU, and the University of Arizona continue their ACHA Club programs.

We have three associations with Tier 1 teams this year, DYHA at the Bantam level and Mission and PF Chang at the Midget levels.

The first Arizona Adult state championships were very successful this past year. 9 teams participated with plans for next year to grow the number of teams to 20 or more. We worked with the rinks that register their adult players with USA hockey to host this state Adult championship and hope that this will encourage more adult program to join USA hockey. Several teams participated from non USA hockey registered facilities as all we required was that all players be registered. We formed a statewide adult committee to run this event and Labats helped sponsorship the event with beer in the locker room after each game. We plan to expand this event this year.

State Board continues to meet on a regular basis and has finally energized support from all associations. We changed our fiscal year to match up with USA hockey and will be having our annual meeting in September and should fill all our board seats for the first time in several years.

We are focused on implementing the ACE program statewide and are in the process of identifying ACE coordinators at each association. We have plans for coaching meetings and ACE program development this year. We are asking all associations to implement the parent awareness seminars with all teams this season.

We are working with Axiom on a Statewide Screening Initiative which is mandatory for all coaches, managers, board members and officials in the state. We post coaches and officials who pass screening to the state website. Our State Website has been providing more information than ever as well as a state wide calendar of events and has become a great resource for hockey in the state.



26 July, 2009

Colorado Affiliate Report

Colorado's player numbers have held steady for the past year, but most associations are concerned about the economy and what effect it may have on the upcoming season. Many have implemented cost containment plans in the event of any significant downturn.

The Colorado Avalanche and CAHA have implemented a ticket sales partnership program for this season. The hope is that it will generate significant dollars for CAHA and create new seat sales and customers for the Avalanche. We are still in the early stages but the signs are positive. This is a voluntary program for our associations and has a greater impact for the metro area clubs since they can take advantage of their proximity to the Pepsi Center when selling tickets to their members. It is not nearly as attractive to the outlying clubs. The plan is to use the revenue generated by these sales to enable us to have all of our state playoffs hosted and financed by the Avalanche organization and use their venue, the Pepsi Center, as a new avenue in helping us market youth hockey. We are also in discussions with the club regarding grant monies for travel reimbursement for any teams that we send to Nationals. I would like to emphasize that this is entering new uncharted waters for us and I anticipate many changes as the program evolves.

We embraced the One Goal theme last year and because of our success, we are seeing a greater demand for similar events. We recently added a One Goal position to our Executive Committee because of the ongoing nature of this part of our operation. We have numerous events planned over the next few months. I can only see this program becoming more significant as we move into the future.

High School hockey continues to grow at the federation level and will probably start to have a real impact in the Midget divisions in a season or so.

Most of our associations are getting organized and preparing to participate in the new ADM program as it is rolled out. We are seeing new alliances among many competing associations since no one wants to be left out the cold when the HP portion is implemented.

Phil Paolilli

President, Colorado Amateur Hockey Association

**Land of Enchantment Amateur Hockey Association
(New Mexico)
Affiliate Report
Annual Meeting 2009**

LOEAHA has added an additional association - New Mexico Renegades Amateur Hockey Association – a non-profit that will field both a junior team based in Rio Rancho and Tier II boys teams. This association will run the competitive boys teams that for the last two years were run by LOEAHA directly. A former professional hockey player Peter Ambroziak is the driving force behind this new association – he has been active in youth hockey in our state for some time. This new association is purely a competitive organization and will not offer recreational programs at this time. This brings the number of associations offering youth hockey from 5 to 6. Adult hockey in New Mexico is split between USA-Hockey and rink-run programs.

Player numbers remain steady – but we are anticipating a possible drop in enrollment this fall.

The leadership in almost all of New Mexico's member associations has completely changed due to family relocations for economic opportunities and the stress of continued controversy and poor behavior both on the ice and off. New Mexico ICE in Albuquerque and NMAHA in Rio Rancho have almost completely new boards for the 2nd time in two years. TAHA in Taos has a new board and president for only the 3rd time in its history. Both LAHA (Los Alamos) and SFYHA (Santa Fe) remain steady. The NMIIHL (High School) league will have almost entirely new membership. This creates a challenge for LOEAHA to ensure that the new board members understand the programs offered within our state and the requirements of member associations.

In July 2009, LOEAHA held a day-long workshop for all boards of member associations. Nineteen people attended from all member associations. The morning session was devoted to explaining the role of LOEAHA in screening volunteers, offering coaching clinics, supporting referee clinics, offering state championships at the Pee wee through Bantam and the High School level, and Player Development, and the expectations of member associations within our state. Attendees participated in discussions of hot topics such as disciplinary procedures, board procedures, and accounting procedures for non-profits.

LOEAHA coordinates youth recreational games between member associations through the NMRHL a cooperative group run by the member associations themselves. There is no fee other than reciprocal ice required of participating teams. The NMRHL provides recreational hockey for Mites thru Bantams with 6-7 teams competing throughout the state at each age division. All Mite games are cross-ice with 4 teams competing at once. This continues to serve well the majority of all recreational youth hockey players in our state.

There were three active girls hockey programs last season, including one that participates in the JV division of the NMIIHL and two that participated in the MSGHL in Colorado.

The NMIIHL (High School) continues to help with retention of players after Bantams. This past year there were 9 teams – 5 pure and 4 composite and 5 teams in the JV division. Despite add-on penalties for fighting in the NMIIHL, there was a bench-clearing brawl at the end of a game between two High School teams that share the same home rink facility. As a result of the penalties awarded in the game, every player for both teams was suspended for one game and several players were suspended for longer. There was a single hearing and numerous appeals without hearings as a result of this suspension. The Disciplinary Committee considered additional penalties to the coaches. Both coaches and players were put on probation for the remainder of the NMIIHL season. Several members of the Disciplinary Committee as well as LOEAHA were subjected to threats of physical violence as well as generally harassed from November through February. The complaints were centered around players whose parents felt they were harshly treated just for being on the ice during the melee. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee was upheld with only minor clarifying modifications in the appeals process.

While the process yielded the correct result, the rumors and innuendo took its toll on the volunteers who were involved. Many quit their positions or refused to have further dealings with the disciplinary process. At least one referee backed off awarding penalties to players who would have been subject to harsher penalties as a result of the probationary terms.

For the second year, hockey in New Mexico has been rocked by controversy over poor behavior by players, parents, and coaches. Volunteers at the member associations rarely stick around after their children leave the sport so that there is no institutional respect given to the organizations or the sport. My personal goal for this year is to make being a volunteer for hockey in our state a cool and respected thing to do! I have been focusing the necessary details of the job of Affiliate President, but now I believe that to move forward volunteers need to have more fun. If we are having fun, everyone's time at the rink will be more fun and we hope that there will be fewer problems.

Melissa Peterson
Affiliate President
LOEAHA



RMD Annual Meeting
TAHA Affiliate Report
August 15, 2009
Phoenix, Arizona

- I. **Member Association Agreement** – A total of **40 of 45** member associations in Texas and Oklahoma have signed the member association agreement adopted 7-25-08. Work continues to secure signed agreements from the remaining 5 associations, of which 3 are RMS-operated rinks. Once signed and if in good standing (e.g. background screenings & team rosters submitted), access to the 2009-10 Cyber Sport registration program will be provided.
- II. **Associations** – One new association has been added (Dallas Stars Elite Hockey Club), while two (Cowtown AMA, New Dallas YHA) associations will cease to exist for 2009-10. The application by the Southlake Carroll Hockey Association was denied because the 3-team and 50-player requirements were not met. Efforts continue to bring 2 other Dallas rinks (ITC, Ice at the Parks) under USAH for their youth/adult programs.
- III. **Membership** – For the 2008-09 season, membership totaled **13,011** players and coaches through April 30th. For comparison, membership for the 2007-08 season that concluded August 15th totaled **13,283**. Most of this 272 member or - 2.0% difference is attributed to the shorter season.
- IV. **New Rinks** – A total of three new rinks (5 sheets) will open this fall in Texas. The rinks are located in McKinney (DPSC-2), Allen (Community Center-2), and Cedar Park (DPSC-1), and all will register their programs with USAH. These 3 rinks and 5 sheets of ice will bring the total up to 36 rinks and 50 sheets of ice in Texas, and 3 rinks and 4 sheets of ice in Oklahoma. Hourly ice rates vary from a high of \$390 and \$380 to a low of \$325 and \$350 in Dallas and Houston, respectively. Hourly ice rates in rural Texas are \$200-\$325.
- V. **Annual Meeting** – Our Annual Meeting was held 6/20 in Dallas with 50 attendees representing 35 active associations. Various officer and section reports were reviewed, while key topics such as ADM/LTAD/HPC, Mite travel, Tier I Hockey, Mite travel, and 2009 Nationals were discussed at length. Elections were held for the positions of President and Treasurer, as well as Section Presidents for Adult, High School, and House.
- VI. **Registrars** – Texas will continue to have two Registrars for 2009-10. **Nancy Shost** will cover all Dallas area teams except high school and sled hockey, and **Debra Lewis** will cover all other teams, tournament sanctions, patches, etc. A Registrars Workshop was held in Dallas on 6/20 for all TAHA Registrars (12 TX and 1 OK association attended vs. 45 active) to review changes and improvements to Cyber Sport, required forms, and address questions from ~5 new registrars. Travel costs were covered 100% by TAHA.
- VII. **Association Grants** – TAHA re-issued a call for grants at the 6/20 Annual Meeting, in addition to soliciting requests for remaining OneGoal equipment. One-page grants are to be submitted by local associations as an incentive to foster new growth of membership for youth to adult across Texas and Oklahoma. Grants from \$500-\$2000 will be issued to associations to implement ideas for this coming season.
- VIII. **Nationals** – The Alliance Youth Hockey Association hosted 2009 Nationals at the U14 Bantam division for both Tier I and Tier II. The event was hosted at the DPSC Plano II due to delayed completion of renovation at the DPSC Frisco. Post-tournament feedback from all participants was very positive, much to the efforts of Tournament Co-Chairs Rick Hall and Bob Smith, along with volunteers from across the DFW Metro area..
- IX. **Texas Teams** – Texas teams enjoyed much success at the District and National level last season. A total of 7 teams competed at 2009 Nationals with 5 teams placing in the Top 8 while the Dallas Stars U18 Tier II team won Nationals and

the Dallas Stars U18 Tier I team finished in 2nd place. The Allen Eagles HS team won Districts and then won States in the Gold Division (also had an 8-team Silver Division this year). Our 2009 state tournaments were probably the most competitive ever held with nearly half of the 28 games at Tier II being 1-goal or OT games. Much of this success is attributed to good local competition, as well as quality coaching and dedicated players and families.

X. **Tier I Committee** – A Tier I Committee of 7 members has been formed to help manage growth and development of Tier I hockey in Texas. Monthly meetings are planned for the Committee that is comprised of 4 TAHA reps and 1 rep from each of the Tier I clubs. The objective of this Committee is to establish consensus on ground rules for the formation of Tier I clubs and teams for the 2010-11 season. As an aside, June tryouts resulted in approx. 16 Tier I teams in Dallas.

XI. **Mite Travel** – The subject of Mite travel was a hot topic at the Annual Meeting. After much discussion, it was concluded that Mite travel in 2009-10 would not exist except for Dallas teams playing cross-ice games.

XII. **Sled Hockey** – A total of 63 players currently exist on 4 sled hockey teams based in Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. Efforts continue to create a new Texas Sled Hockey League in 2009-10 and promote good, local competition while keeping travel costs to a minimum. Further community outreach activities are planned to help fortify the Austin and Houston teams. As an aside, two Texas players (Lonnie Hannah from San Antonio & Taylor Lipsett from Dallas) were again named to the US National Sled Hockey Team.

XIII. **Background Screenings** – Names of 1240 coaches and volunteers who have been successfully screened are posted on the TAHA website, along with the screening vendor and screening expiration date. The list will be updated as new screenings are performed. Registrars will only approve rosters with screened coaches.

XIV. **Match Penalty Committees** – The match penalty count for the 2008-09 season totaled 34 (vs. 54 last season) under a June 2007 policy, which puts in place a State Match Penalty Committee and Local Match Penalty Committees. Trends on penalties called to date include: a) 71% are in Dallas, b) 53% are HS/Youth (vs. 46% Adult), c) 42% for abuse of officials (vs. 24% for kicking or 23% intent to injure), and d) 77% were upheld with sanctions ranging from 1 game to 3 years. Outstanding suspensions are posted on the TAHA website.

XV. **2009-10 Event Schedule** – TAHA's planned event schedule for 2009-10 season is provided below:

Aug 12-15 Level 5 Coaching cert clinic (Minnesota)

Aug 22 Level 4 Officials cert clinic (Dallas)

Sept 11-13 Level 4 Coaching cert clinic (Denver)

Oct 9-10 RMD ACE Workshop (Dallas)

Jan 23 TAHA Winter Meeting (Dallas)

Jan 29-31 USA Hockey Weekend Across America

Feb 18-21 Tier I States (TAHA Host at DPSC Plano)

Feb 26-28 Tier II States (TAHA host at DPSC Farmers Branch)

Mar 12-14 Districts (Girls/Women in Dallas)

Mar 12-14 Districts (Tier 1 in AZ) (Tier 2 State Champ goes straight to Nationals)

Mar 19-21 TAC Boys/Girls (TAHA host at DPSC Valley Ranch)

Mar 26-28 Texas Cup HS Championships (TAHA host in Dallas)

Mar 26-28 Nationals (Girls/Women's in Green Bay, WI)

Apr 7-11 Nationals (Youth host sites vary by age)

Apr 14-18 Nationals (HS "Pure Teams", Bensenville, IL)

Apr 14-18 HS Showcase (Pittsburgh, PA)

RMD PDC May 6-9 (SLC)

Submitted by: Ted Skinner, President

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teskinner@marathonoil.com

www.tahahockey.org

UTAH

August 14, 2009

Round Table:

We have instituted Round Table events to develop joint marketing programs amongst the various programs in the state. Its purpose was to unite youth, adult, college, and professional organizations in their efforts to promote and build hockey in our State. After attending the Annual Congress in June, we invited Courtney Welch out to Utah to assist us at one of our Round Table Events. It was a very well received event that helped generate discussions on how every program could work together, with 45 members in attendance.

Disciplinary Issues:

We have spent several hours handling various financial suspensions, one match penalty, and one very large international issue.

New Organizations:

We are proud to announce a new organization in Park City, Utah called the Summit Wasatch Amateur Hockey Association. They were helped in their formation by the WMAHA, who registered their teams the previous year.

Administration/Coaching Seminar:

We hosted a seminar for the LTAD with Al Bloomer, Tom Lampl, TC Lewis, and Tom Power in attendance. It was held in conjunction with the RMD Regional Player Development Camp. It was a well received excellent meeting. We will be attempting to revamp our bylaws to reflect the AMD/LTAD.

Geoff Fisher, UAHA President

**March 10, 2009
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report**

March recap:

- Comments regarding the ADM Information from USA Hockey – general input – right now Colorado is the furthest in moving forward with the ADM program, other affiliates still working with their local associations. This is an item that we will need to continue to review for any best practices
- RMD Volunteer Award – Chris – reminder of the RMD Volunteer Award, will send a specific email regarding the award with the form to be used
- RMD tournaments – Bryan – reviewed the upcoming RMD Tournaments, Bryan and all of the tournament chairs have done a good job preparing for the tournaments, reviewed goalies for high school and Utah teams headed to Phoenix
- Any open items – no major items

Special thanks to George for his help getting all of the RMD tournaments up and loaded on the District website

April Agenda:

- Moving the June District meeting to ? - Bruce
- Girls House/Rec tournament - Bruce
- RMD Volunteer Award – Chris
- Agenda items for the June RMD meeting at the USA Hockey Annual Meeting – Bruce & Chris
- RMD August meeting – Jon Brooks
- May 1st - Registrations
- Additional items
- Any open items

District Conference Call

When: Tuesday April 14th 2009

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to either Ted or Chris any items you would like added to the call agenda.

April 14 th	Jon Brooks
May 12 th	Phil Paolilli
June 9 th	Cancelled due to the National Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 14 th	Dean Brandstetter
August 11 th	Cancelled due to the Annual Meeting in Arizona
September 8 th	Melissa Peterson
October 13 th	Anne Hetrick
November 10 th	Ted Skinner
December 8 th	Geoff Fisher
January 12 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida

February 10th

Jon Brooks

Thank you for your participation on the call. Please let me know if I have missed anything.

Thanks Chris

Christopher G Kenney
480-317-1513

April 14, 2009
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report

April Agenda:

- Moving the June District meeting
 - The meeting is on Thursday June 4th at 7am presently in the Fremont room
 - Donnalee is working on dinner reservations for Thursday June 4th, please let her know your plans so that she can have an accurate count

- Girls House/Rec tournament – Bruce
 - We will need to make a decision if we host a RMD tournament, so that we can get the plans moving forward

- RMD Volunteer Award – Chris
 - Have received two great nominations so far and would like to get the others by Friday April 24th

- Agenda items for the June RMD meeting at the USA Hockey Annual Meeting – Bruce & Chris
 - Please get any agenda items to Bruce by May 1st so that he can build an agenda for the meeting
 - Please be prepared to talk about any of the items that will be on the Saturday Board meeting

- RMD August meeting – Jon Brooks
 - Jon is working on the final details for the meeting and will have everything completed by the end of the month. He is working on a group outing to a Diamondback baseball game for Friday night. Arizona is very excited to be hosting the RMD
 - The District meeting schedule (rough)
 - Friday – arrival and District group event
 - Saturday – RMD meeting that will be completed by 5pm
 - Sunday – RMD registrars meetingThe player development committee will set up a time to meet around the other events

- May 1st - Registrations
 - Everyone is prepared for the new registration date and look forward to getting started
 - Please remind your teams that games prior to August 1st do not count towards the 10 & 20 rule for the team or player

- Additional items
 - More conversation about RMD tournaments
 - Conversations about the National Tournaments, including the Tier I, Tier II and High School

Reminder the Block Grant Applications are due, please make sure that you get the paper work in right away!!

District Conference Call

When: Tuesday May 12th 2009

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to me any items you would like added to the call agenda.

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December 8 th	Geoff Fisher
January 12 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida
February 10 th	Jon Brooks
March 9 th	Phil Paolilli

Thank you for your participation on the call. Please let me know if I have missed anything.

Thanks Chris

Christopher G Kenney
480-317-1513

May 12, 2009
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report

May Agenda Recap:

- **Reminders**
 - Need to be prepared to discuss a Girls House/Rec. tournament
 - Have you submitted your USA Hockey Block grant request?

- **Update from the RMD Player development camp – Tom Lampl & TC**
 - Over 465 players attended this year's camp
 - Tremendous help from the folks in Utah, thanks Geoff
 - Held a Utah Affiliate meeting during the weekend, great opportunity to bring together individuals from both the Affiliate and the RMD, feedback from everyone was that it was a great meeting and enjoyed the opportunity to share information
 - Thanks to everyone that helps make the RMD Player development camp one of the best in the Nation, special thanks to Mary D and Tom L for all of their help and over sight of the camp
 - Bigger focus on development was very well received by players and coaches
 - Experienced a larger number on cancellations than in the past, had 10 cancellations within 5 days of the event
 - Had two girls teams at each of the age groups -14/ 15/ 16/ 17; the camp committee will review that for next year, my look to combining 16 & 17's, then keeping the 14 & 15's, the challenge has been filling open slots
 - We will talk about extending the agreement with the oval at the June meeting
 - Congratulation and thank you to everyone for making it a great camp

- **Level 4 Coaches Clinic – September 11-13, 2009**
 - The clinic will be in Denver, Colorado at Sheraton Denver West, 360 Union Blvd, Lakewood, Colorado
 - This will be the only level 4 coaching clinic this year in the Rocky Mountain Districts
 - Request that each Affiliate President make sure that you get this information out to all of your coaches
 - Can start to register right now, through either the RMD or USA Hockey website

- **RMD Volunteer Award – update – Chris**
 - Reviewed that we had received 4 great nominations, look forward to next year's nominations

- **RMD August meeting – Dates set - August 14th - 16th**
 - Meeting in Phoenix at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel
 - Jon Brooks to have more details at the June meeting

- **May 1st - Registrations –**
 - Everything seem to be going well at this time,
 - Please remind your teams that games prior to August 1st do not count towards the 10 & 20 rule for the team or player

- Next call will be on **Tuesday July 14th**, agenda will be forwarded a few days in advance of the call

District Conference Call

When: Tuesday July 14th 2009

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to me any items you would like added to the call agenda.

June 9 th	Cancelled due to the National Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 14 th	Dean Brandstetter
August 11 th	Cancelled due to the Annual Meeting in Arizona
September 8 th	Melissa Peterson
October 13 th	Anne Hetrick
November 10 th	Ted Skinner
December 8 th	Geoff Fisher
January 12 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida
February 9 th	Jon Brooks
March 9 th	Phil Paolilli

Thank you for your participation on the call. Please let me know if I have missed anything.

Thanks Chris

Christopher G Kenney
480-317-1513

July 14, 2009
Rocky Mountain District
Conference Call Report

July Agenda Recap:

- Al Bloomer has requested a few minutes of time on this month's call – Al
 - Al informed us that TC is going to serve as the interim District Coach n Chief as Paul Davern has resigned, Paul is going to stay involved with the District and we appreciate all of the leadership and help he has brought to the RMD
 - He spoke about the Coaching curriculum for the nation, he requested that we review the attached information and respond to him with any thoughts or suggestions
 - We will review the information during the Districts Annual meeting in August
- Success Stories Requested Re: OneGoal – Courtney Welch – Program Services USA Hockey
 - Courtney will have a presentation for us during the RMD Annual meeting in August
- Any updates or comments from the USA Hockey Annual meeting in Colorado Springs – Chris
 - No comments from anyone during the call
- RMD August meeting – Phoenix, AZ - August 14th - 16th - Any last minute agenda items – Bruce
 - Please remember to send your RMD Annual written reports to Jill Day as soon as possible so she can compile them for our meeting. You can email your reports to Jill at jillv8@comcast.net
 - Attached is the agenda for the RMD meeting
- Any District or Affiliate issues that need to be addressed as we head into the new season – Chris
 - None brought up on the call
- Level 4 Coaches Clinic – September 11-13, 2009 – Chris
 - The clinic will be in Denver, Colorado at Sheraton Denver West, 360 Union Blvd, Lakewood, Colorado
 - This will be the only level 4 coaching clinic this year in the Rocky Mountain District
 - Request that each Affiliate President make sure that you get this information out to all of your coaches
 - Register right now, through either the RMD or USA Hockey website
- May 1st - Registrations – any comments or updates on numbers
 - We will review the registration numbers during the RMD meeting
 - Everything seems to be going well at this time,
 - Please remind your teams that games prior to August 1st do not count towards the 10 & 20 rule for the team or player
- Additional items
 - Need to be prepared to discuss a Girls House/Rec. tournament at the District meeting
 - Have you submitted your USA Hockey Block grant request

Next District Conference Call

When: Tuesday September 8th 2009

Time: 6:00 P.M. Mountain Time

Call: 1 - 888 - 387 - 8686 Room number 9635661 and press #

Future Conference Call dates and time – the call will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm mountain time. Please forward to me any items you would like added to the call agenda.

August 11 th	Cancelled due to the Annual Meeting in Arizona
September 8 th	Melissa Peterson
October 13 th	Anne Hetrick
November 10 th	Ted Skinner
December 8 th	Geoff Fisher
January 12 th	Canceled due to RMD Meeting – in Florida
February 9 th	Jon Brooks
March 9 th	Phil Paolilli
April 13 th	Dean Brandstetter
May 11 th	Melissa Peterson
June 8 th	Cancelled due to the National Meeting in Colorado Springs
July 13 th	Anne Hetrick

Thank you for your participation on the call. Please let me know if I have missed anything.

Thanks. Chris

Christopher G Kenney
480-317-1513



REPORT OF DISTRICT ACE DIRECTOR FOR 2008-2009

Michael Schwarz
District ACE Director

The purpose of this report is to provide insight as to the status of ACE within the Rocky Mountain District for this past season (2008-2009). The ACE structure in the Rocky Mountain District is as follows: Each local association is required to appoint a local association ACE director. Each affiliate has in place an affiliate ACE director. The information highways flows from local association highway to the affiliate ACE director and then to the District ACE director as well as down.

One of the biggest challenges appears to be designating a local association ACE director who is truly interested in carrying out ACE duties. Another challenge appears to be compiling that information in an efficient manner without burdening the affiliate ACE directors.

With respect to the later, it is highly recommended that the on line registration process be explored to alleviate this burden. Reports can then be generated for use by the affiliate ACE director and district ACE director to generate electronic mailing lists. This would remove a substantial burden placed on the affiliate ACE directors and allow the affiliate ACE directors to focus their time, skills and energies on much more productive and important duties as outlined in the Annual Guide. I have made enquires with the National Office on this issue and with the other District ACE Directors. I do think if we are able to do this on line, it will increase retention of affiliate ACE directors and allow them to focus more on the true task at hand. In addition, this process would ensure when local associations register we have local association ACE personnel in place. It must be borne in mind that 2008-2009 Annual Guide at page 230 mandates each local association appoint a local ACE director.

The reception of ACE within each local association is uneven at best throughout the district. That uneven reception may be a function of lack of available volunteers, the lack of committed volunteers, lack of understanding of the role of ACE, and how ACE can actually benefit the local association. The ACE message is simply not be well understood or received. The duties of ACE personnel are listed on page 230 of the current edition of the Annual Guide. Those duties and responsibilities are not only covered by the annual survey (more on that later) but also are being disseminated through the ACE training seminars. Perhaps, the term "ACE" is not helpful in either recognition or function. A name change that is more identifiable and understandable to the masses is probably something that ought to be considered.

This past year the first district ACE seminar was held in Idaho, thanks very much to the Idaho affiliate strong leadership and very generous support in this endeavor. Without Idaho's support, this ACE conference would not have been possible. About 20 coaches from Idaho and Utah attended even though the invitation was sent out to friends at the Northern Plains District as well within this district. For those who attended and provided feedback, the seminar was informative, helpful and well received.

This coming season, an ACE seminar is scheduled to take place in Dallas with the much appreciated financial backing of the Texas affiliate. Space will be limited to 25 and speakers not only from Rocky Mountain but also from national office and Minnesota District are scheduled to attend. I have used over 1/2 of this year's budget to purchase

materials for the Dallas ACE seminar and plan to use a vast majority of next year's budget in providing transportation and hotel costs for the speakers. A copy of the proposed agenda is attached to this report.

This year, thanks to George Cole, we have on the Rocky Mountain Website a tab for ACE information. This ACE tab not only provides a list of contact information for the affiliate ACE directors but also is a resource page for coaches and parents alike. I am hoping to get the practice plans from the District Player Development Camp posted shortly. In time, the amount of information will grow. I perceive this will be a good place for both coaches and parents to turn when they seek information.

Another avenue taken this year is the use of internet calling. Regular internet (almost monthly) calls were held among the affiliate ACE directors. Attendance was generally very good except for Arizona. Out of the ACE budget, USB or internet headsets were purchased which virtually eliminated the very expensive long distance calling. This savings is being used for ACE seminars.

Also, this past year, the Minnesota District ACE Director and I partnered up. I attended his district calls and he attended Rocky Mountains ACE calls. We are exchanging information and problem solving tactics. It seems that Minnesota has the same type of issues as we do in Rocky Mountain, just more of them. This networking was beneficial to both districts.

Thanks to Minnesota Hockey, a series of four CDs was disseminated to each and every local association ACE director who answered this year's survey. I am hopeful that this may encourage other ACE directors to participate in responding to the survey.

The next area was handling questions from parents and coaches throughout the District. I received about a dozen or so calls from both parents and coaches on a variety of topics ranging from coaching certification to unhappy parents. My role in addressing these was to provide information and insight.

Parent awareness remains a deep concern of mine. While I appreciate the move to on line, I still believe that local associations should consider some sort of face to face component. This can be done at a team meeting and does not have to be high tech. Team meetings are probably one of the best times to carry out this task. While some parents are getting bored with the message, some are obviously still not getting the message. Having a good parent awareness training will improve parent - coach, parent - official and parent - parent relations. Parent awareness becomes even more helpful when there are rule changes.

Now to the annual survey. This is the third year that the annual survey has been in effect. These responses are helpful in identifying areas of progress as well as areas which may need improvement. This year I will be changing some of the content of the annual survey with the help of Dave Soutter, the Utah Affiliate ACE Director. It will be shorter, and more direct.

Arizona:

Arizona has an affiliate ACE Director appointed. There appears to be some issue with the appointment of local association ACE directors. This year there were only 2 returned as compared to 5 last year. The affiliate ACE Director only attended one "Skype" district call this past season which in part may be due to a health issue. The chart of local association ACE directors was a bit weak this year. Arizona has experimented with parent awareness on line thanks to a partnership between the affiliate and the Phoenix Coyotes. The bankruptcy of the Coyotes may have an impact on the future of this parent awareness component.

Colorado:

Colorado has an affiliate ACE director appointed who is very serious in promoting the ACE message. The affiliate ACE director actively participated on ACE "Skype" district calls. Colorado has substantially improved in getting functional local association ACE directors appointed. The survey returns were the largest number in the District and indicate a strong commitment to ACE ideals. Cross ice for mites still remains a sticking point for a small number of associations. This year the surveys returned were 13 which is a vast improvement over the previous year of 7. The chart of ACE directors was completed.

Idaho:

As compared to last year, Idaho has greatly improved with ACE. We received 6 surveys back as compared to 2 from the previous year. There still remains some issue of local associations buying into the ACE message despite the efforts of affiliate ACE director and the affiliate president. The affiliate ACE director participated on several Skype district calls.

New Mexico:

New Mexico's five local associations all have ACE directors, the functionality of them varies greatly. New Mexico turned in 4 out of 5 surveys. Last year, all local associations answered the survey. Like Colorado, there seems to be some issue about cross ice for mites at least at one association. There is no affiliate ACE director for New Mexico and so the district ACE is double filling that position as well as acting as co-CEP state director.

Texas and Oklahoma:

Texas affiliate ACE director and its affiliate president both have been very supportive of ACE. Texas was able to fill in the chart for local association ACE directors — a vast improvement over previous year. The affiliate ACE director participated on most “Skype” district calls and is working very hard on the upcoming conference with the Texas Affiliate president. The survey return fell from 8 this year from 12 the previous year. Like Colorado and New Mexico, there is some issue about the use of cross ice for mites games. Texas is on its way, like Colorado in having a functioning ACE programme, despite the survey decline.

Utah:

The affiliate ACE director of Utah demonstrates strong leadership. He has been in that position for several years now. The affiliate ACE director has participated, I believe, in all district “Skype” calls. Despite his efforts, this year survey return was 4 as compared to 8 the previous year. For those associations returning surveys, the results are very good. The chart of ACE directors was completed.

I am not sure why there is inconsistent return of these surveys. They are quite easy to complete and take very little time. I estimate 10 minutes at the very most. What the surveys do provide for those who participate is what is working and what is not. For example, the use of USA Hockey parent awareness materials seems not to be working, which may be function of on line (like Colorado) or lack of technology to deliver the presentations. It may also be a boredom factor, meaning that the local associations are tired of the same old presentation and desire something more invigorating. Coaching information, like the *Coach's Clipboard*, is being warmly received and hence the information highway is working.

Conclusion.

While we are making some headway, the road is far from complete. There is still more road to be built. The key seems to me to be the affiliate presidents and the affiliate governing body. If the affiliate is not interested in promoting ACE or if ACE is not a priority, then it's not going to happen.

We also need to revisit why cross ice is so important for mites and player development. Having mites play full sheet games is counterproductive. The affiliate and district is strongly recommended to get involved.

And finally, funding remains a major obstacle for delivery of the ACE message. But for the generous support of the affiliates (thus far Idaho and Texas), the goals of ACE would be more difficult to achieve. I am told in Minnesota that they designate a small amount of each player's registration fee to its ACE. I think its like 25¢ per player. Perhaps, Rocky Mountain would like to consider that so that disks like that from Minnesota Hockey and other coaching materials are disseminated without cost to our coaches which would not only make them better coaches but also develop better players.

ACE SUMMIT SEMINAR
PLACE: DALLAS, TEXAS NEAR DFW
HOTEL; TO BE DETERMINED (EMBASSY SUITES?)
TENTATIVE DATES: OCTOBER 9-10, 2009
LIMITS: 25 Attendees

Tentative Topics (not in final order yet)

7.00p Friday Welcome and Introductions (30 minutes)(Skinner, Schenider and Schwarz)

7.15 ACE Duties and Responsibilities (30 minutes)(Evavold and Schwarz)

7.45 Legal Teasers (30 minutes)(Schwarz)

Mixer 8.30 - ?

8.30a Developing Cross Ice Practices and Use of Small Area Games (1 1/2 hours)
hour)(Brennan)

10.00-12.00 Skill instruction 30 minute lecture 1 1/2 hours actual dryland and small
games implementation in parking lot (MacMillian and Evavold)

12.00-1.00 Lunch on premises

1.00 -2.00p Developing Sled Hockey (1 hour)(Brennan and Schneider)

2.00-3.00p Parent Awareness (1 hour) (TBD)

3.00-3.30p Local Issues (TX - Leagues/Competitive/Rec/House) (1 hour) (Lewis,
Skinner and Schneider)

3.30-4.00 Q & A (1/2 hour)

Adjourn

Equipment Needed:

Power Point projector

Speakers

Street Sticks

Cones

Nets?

street pucks

Other:

Notebooks for Materials and copying
Pens and Pencils?
USA Hockey Skills and Drills DVD with Dryland
Food and drinks for Mixer

Lunch?
Coffee, softdrinks and Juice during meeting

* What if rains? Back up?