



CAHA Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Date: November 9, 2013

Location: Hilton-Downtown, San Jose, CA

Time: 9:00 A.M.

CAHA DIRECTORS PRESENT/ABSENT

Present	Abs.	Consec. Abs.	DIRECTOR	Present	Abs.	Consec. Abs.	DIRECTOR
X			Steve Laing, President	X			Curtis Brown
X			Ed Tar, 1 st V.P.	X			Nancy Hodge
X			Laura Cahn, 2 nd V.P.	X			William Stone
X		1	Tyler Shaffar, 3 rd V.P.		X	1	Jaime Campbell
	X	1	Bridget Hopkinson, 4 th V.P.	X			Scott Allegrini
X			Bob Drifill, Treasurer	X			Rick Hutchinson
	X	1	Rosemary Voulelikas, Secretary		X	2	Scott Yorkinson
	X	1	Sandy Blumberg	X			Kathy McGarrigle
X			Lance Burrow				
	X	1	Chris Carcerano	NON VOTING CAHA DIRECTORS			
X			Kevin Culbertson	X			Mark Mauro
X			John Hamer				
X			Thomas Hancock				
X			James Gasseau				
			USAH DIRECTORS				
X			Charlie Fuertsch, District Director				
X			Robin Ruhwedel, Assoc. Registrar				
X			Wendy Goldstein, District Registrar				

Steve Laing called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Steve Laing called for new business items and noted that Lance Burrow would be reporting on Safe Sport.

Approval of Minutes

Due to a technical glitch in communicating minutes from the September meeting, there was a delay in forwarding the minutes to Steve Laing for review. Steve requested that approval be tabled next meeting.

President's Report

- Steve Laing informed the board of an incident in which a San Diego hockey coach was arrested for internet child pornography trading. It quickly escalated as the media showed up at the rink and interviewed parents who expressed concern over the coach having made it through three separate screening processes. In addition to being a coach and a military veteran, this individual was also employed by the naval shipyard which requires a high level of security.
- As highlighted in the Safe Sport program, these offenders often have no prior record, thus screening alone may not identify them. The Salvation Army/Kroc Center demanded that the club act quickly over concern for parents and kids and held a meeting on October 1st for coaches, managers and parents at the facility.
- Local law enforcement gave assurances that they found NO evidence of any of this criminal activity associated with hockey, the Kroc Center or players. Steve Laing, Bob Drifill, Charlie Fuertsch and Robin Ruhwedel attended the meeting to extend support from SCAHA, CAHA and USA Hockey. The

meeting was well attended and there does not appear to have been any adverse consequences to the rink or club.

- Steve Laing reported that he'd received a call from a woman who was ready to file a police report against an independent goaltending coach, Steve Switzer. The current allegations pertain to a civil case over loans that hockey parents made to this individual totaling roughly \$20,000- \$30,000. Because this is not specifically a hockey-related issue, it is beyond the scope of CAHA and will need to be addressed by the courts.
- Steve Laing stated he received a call that this same goaltending coach was seen recently at Lakewood rink on the ice where one of his reported abuse victims was also skating. Steve made a phone call to Rick Hutchinson and the situation was handled immediately. A policy is in place at this rink requiring coaches to submit an application for approval prior to any on-ice activity. Because the application wasn't done, it enabled rink management to take swift action.

Pacific District Affiliates

- Several affiliates, besides California, have been exploring the possibility of establishing their own districts. This potentially raises political challenges at the national level and it is unlikely that these changes will occur in the near future. In an effort to address specific concerns over disproportionate representation at the District level, Steve Laing and Charlie Fuertsch raised the issue of California's current allocations for the national player development camp. Affiliates within the Pacific District were very receptive and agreed to significant reallocation in favor of California as follows:

AGE DIVISION	2012-13 ALLOCATION	2013-14 ALLOCATION
14	22	32
15	20	35
16	20	35
17	15	28
TOTAL	77	130

- Overall, 75% of allocations now go to California. Steve Laing offered special thanks to Charlie for overseeing the process.
- Kathy McGarrigle raised a question re: allocations for girls' teams. Steve Laing suggested that Kathy work with Bridget Hopkinson to make a recommendation to the District.

Rule Changes

- Following some recent rule changes, the Pacific District guidebook and bylaws have a few inconsistencies. These issues will be addressed at the next meeting in February.

District Tournament Travel

- In order to minimize travel for Alaska and California teams, the District is considering changes to the requirement that affiliates must have a Tier I program to be eligible to host a District Tournament which may enable affiliates between AK and CA to serve as hosts. In addition to travel expenses, however, there are several issues to evaluate in making such a change, including if AK and CA no longer host district tournaments, they may be precluded from hosting a national tournament. Also, the rules state that the host club must have a team in playoffs. Steve Laing supported the option to remove this stipulation. It is unlikely that a solution to the travel issue will be solved anytime soon.

Survey

- A survey was recently sent out by the Pacific District to obtain feedback on player development camps. The response has been good with 40% of surveys having been returned so far. In general, feedback has been positive but there have been concerns raised over the lack of exposure to colleges and scouts during the camps.

Select Camp

- District Camps will be held May 9-11, 2014 for Youth and Girls teams. If a California player is playing out of district, he can ask to be considered for an at-large or CAHA alumni entry to the District Select

Camp. The player must submit his/her hockey resume to Ed Tar for evaluation. Only players who have a legitimate out-of-state residence due to school or similar circumstance will be considered. California players who have elected to play for out of state leagues aren't considered for CAHA Select Camp. Players are expected to tryout for the Select Camp held by the league in which they play. For example, if a northern California player is playing in SCAHA, he should participate in SCAHA Select Camp tryouts. Within the Pacific District, players should participate in tryout camp(s) held in the state in which they're playing.

- To balance costs with changes in allocations, the District also revised its camp payment policy from each affiliate contributing \$1,000 (approximately \$25/player) to a purely per player model. In addition, they agreed to increase the price to \$50/player in order to enhance camp programs without burdening players with additional fees. California's contribution will now be \$4,900 based on allocations and is not subject to any increase should California alternates be admitted to camp. Steve is planning to contact Reebok regarding sponsoring player jerseys for the camp. James Gasseau and Curtis Brown have agreed to assist in contacting scouts to attend the camp.
- Ed Tar reminded the Board that CAHA is still in need of Camp evaluators. We also need to find evaluators who may be able to move on to District Camp which will be held in San Jose this year. Steve Laing asked Curtis Brown, Rick Hutchinson, James Gasseau, Scott Allegrini and Kathy McGarrigle to submit names of coaches to Ed. Coach evaluators' expenses will be covered by CAHA.
- In addition to coach evaluators, we will be needing locker room managers for CAHA Select Camp. These managers must have completed Safe Sport.
- There are 190 players invited to CAHA select camp for all age levels. With the increased allocations there will now be roughly 35 out of 50-60 players moving on to District Camp. Ensuring that the best players move on starts at the league level. The north and south leagues are encouraged to work together to assess the strength of players included in their respective allocations to select the top players for the state camp.
- Ed Tar received a request from the Nevada affiliate to have their players evaluated during our CAHA Select Camp. Because they have no Tier I teams and only two Tier II teams, their resources are limited to hold a camp for their select players. Evaluation of the Nevada players will not impact CAHA select players; they will be solely evaluated for Nevada's allocations. Bob Driffill is open to having the NV players participate in the SCAHA select camp but will with speak with Rob Foster and Sandy Blumberg about the impact an additional 10-12 players may have as SCAHA typically hosts 80 players per birth year. Bill Driffill and Ed Tar will also work out logistics with the Nevada president, Greg Yokum.
- With the more than four-fold increase in cost for District Camp based on our new allocations, the Board discussed a change in player fees. Tom Hancock moved to increase the cost from \$90 to \$120 for participating players. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)

Taxes

Charlie Feurtsch has completed the 2012 tax return. The return and a required USA Hockey report will be filed next week.

Try Hockey for Free

Steve Laing reported that a "Try Hockey for Free" event took place last weekend. There were 467 kids participating in 15 locations throughout the state, compared to 371 participants in 16 locations last year. Across the U.S. there were 12,600 participants in the free event. In June, USA Hockey is expected to release retention data from last years' participants.

Mite Player Registration

Between October 2012 and October 2013 mite registrations decreased 4.9% for 6 year olds and increased 2.8% for 7-8 year olds. Overall the total number of mite players for each year was 1690. We have no knowledge of the number of mite players who may be participating in AAU leagues in California.

Tournament

- Fees to participate in the District Tournament are \$1300 with \$1100 being allocated for the tournament host and \$200 for officials' travel. Fees are due Nov. 15 made payable to CAHA who will in turn submit payment to the District.
- A playoff tournament site is needed for Women's Senior C teams. CAHA is currently soliciting rinks in southern or northern California to host the event. Three teams will play a total of seven games for this tournament.
- As of October 18, 2013 the following sites have been recommended for the 2015 National Championships which will be held Mar. 26-30, 2015 unless otherwise indicated:

All Tier I Youth	San Jose, CA
All Tier I Girls	Green Bay, WI
All Tier II Girls	Lansing, MI
All Adult Women	Green Bay, WI (Mar. 27-30)
All Tier II 14's	Salt Lake City, UT
All Tier II 16's	Plano, TX
All Tier II 18's	Troy, MI
All High School	Arnold, MO (Mar. 18-22)

Coaching Level V

Coaches have until May 1st to obtain their Level IV certification in order to participate in the Level V course in Las Vegas, August 21-24, 2014. Steve Laing encouraged the Board to get the word out to coaches soon as this is a unique west coast opportunity.

CAHA Apparel

Steve Laing has arranged for CAHA t-shirts to be printed at cost. Shirts & jackets for the Board will be ready for distribution at the next meeting.

Olympic Team Donation

USA Hockey is asking for a foundation donation that will go towards the US Olympic Team (Sochi 2014). The minimum donation is \$1,000. There was some discussion regarding the affiliate's responsibility to support the USAH Foundation/Olympic teams when there are significant needs within California. Kathy McGarrigle mentioned that a former Lady Duck, Annie Pankowski, will be playing with the Women's Olympic hockey team.

Kevin Culbertson moved to donate \$1,000 to Olympic Team USA Sochi (men's, women's hockey) on behalf of Annie Pankowski. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)

Member Services Report

Jaime was unable to attend the meeting but she provided an update to Steve informing the board that the online member registration payment system is functioning and on memberships are on track given this point in the season. To date 21 members have paid, 42 are outstanding.

Western Regional 14U High Performance Camp

- A total of 78 slots are available for this camp, 8 goalies, 24 defensemen and 46 forwards. A minimum of four coaches from the Pacific District will assist with the camp. The District has been asked to provide the names of at least six qualified coaches with the following minimum requirements: at least three years' experience coaching at the Tier I 16U or higher level; junior or college experience preferred.
- Pacific District will also be providing four team leaders for the camp. It is strongly recommended that team leaders NOT have a child attending the camp. Again, the District has been asked to provide six names for review.

Financial Report

Bob Driffill presented the financial report. Only one association has yet to pay its Tier II weekend fee. All expenses are offset by revenues from association fees. On Nov. 20, 2013 a 13-month CD will come due. Steve called for a Motion to approve the financial report. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)

Disputes Resolution and Penalty Review Report

- Ed Tar informed the Board of a recent incident involving two LA Jr. Kings Tier II coaches who were documented for abuse of officials during a tournament in Illinois. The matter was turned over to SCAHA for review.
- The NAPAH3 program overseen by the National Office monitors game misconducts and match penalties that occur in tournaments. In the past, discipline for these penalties has been pushed back to the affiliates which might take weeks or months to process. Steve Laing gave approval on behalf of CAHA for NAPAH3 to review these penalties on the spot and issue discipline. The north and south leagues and CAHA still maintain authority to issue supplemental discipline. Laura Cahn pointed out that Tournaments always have the authority to review penalties and issue discipline and if the matter needs to be escalated, it is forwarded to CAHA.

Youth Council Report

Laura Cahn reported that no significant issues have been brought to the attention of the Youth Council. The Council is currently reviewing inconsistencies in reporting throughout the state and it is looking to streamline post-game reporting of scoresheets, suspensions, etc.

- Tier Teams
 - Kevin Culbertson reviewed this season's Tier I team performance. There are dominant teams at all levels and although most have a solid competitive base, there are clearly teams who are struggling at the Tier I level.
 - There have been a rash of parent ejections occurring at a single venue; it is unknown whether these ejections are being issued by the same referees, but Kevin will explore further.
 - There has been an expansion to the number of teams being invited to Nationals--there will now be 16 Tier teams included in the National tournament.
 - Although CAHA currently does not set parameters for teams participating at the Tier I level, Steve Laing appointed a committee to review our Tier I program to ensure that we are serving the best interests of our players. James Gasseau, Curtis Brown and Scott Allegrini as directors of established tier programs have been asked to review the dynamics of our tier programs and report back to the Board at the January meeting. Laura Cahn has been asked to submit concerns brought forth through Youth Council.
- High Schools
 - John Hamer reported that D2 payments have been processed for high school teams. High school players are eligible and those who are selected will be attending league camps. The high school showcase event, America's Showcase, will be held April 9-13, 2014 in Pittsburgh and the entry fee is \$750. John moved to approve CAHA's payment of the entry fee up to \$750. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)
 - John Hamer also moved to approve retention of the same coaches and managers from 2012-13 for the 2013-14 Showcase. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)

Girls'/Women Report

On behalf of Bridget, Laura Cahn reported that Girls Tier I and Women's Nationals will be held in Massachusetts and Girls Tier II Championships will be held in Amherst, Massachusetts. At the Tier I level California will be represented by a 16AAA team. Women's Select Camp will be held in [Rocky Mountain].

State Tournament

Sandy Blumberg will report on the State tournament at the next meeting, but Board members who are interested and available to help with the event are encouraged to contact Laura Cahn.

Director of Referees

After presenting his preliminary report of current rates and proposed changes for on-ice officials at the last meeting, Mark Mauro re-examined projected increases and comparisons throughout the state. Recommended changes are most significant at the Tier I level where CAHA officiating rates currently fall well below SCAHA rates, although they remain higher than Norcal rates. Laura Cahn brought forth a suggestion from Sandy Blumberg that CAHA tournament rates should be higher than individual league rates. While the proposed changes fall in line with this request for Tier II, A and B officiating, this would mean an increase of greater than 23% at the Midget Tier I level. The proposed CAHA increase at this level is roughly 15%. Kevin Culbertson moved to approve the proposed CAHA officiating rates for a period of three years, through the 2015-16 season. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)

Steve Laing contacted Donna (Pacific District) regarding their fee structure for the National tournament. For every 12 teams, the host pays a \$1200 flat fee. There are typically 48 teams which results in a total fee of \$4800 or roughly \$160/game.

Pacific District Report

- Wendy Goldstein reported that the District has seen a 3.4% increase in registrations from October 2012 to October 2013 while nationally registrations are up 1.3%.
- There will be an upcoming election to fill a District Director position. Because an affiliate is limited to no more than two directors, the candidate would run against Charlie Fuertsch. Applications are due to Wendy by August 31, 2014.
- There are currently two legislative proposals which will be discussed by registrars at the Winter meeting in an effort to put forth a recommendation to be voted on at the June meeting:
 - Allow Midget teams to roster 23 players with a maximum of 20 players suiting for games;
 - Allow post-season (Spring/Summer) teams to roster 25 players with a maximum of 20 players suiting for games. This expanded roster is intended to allow for players missing due to vacations.
 - Wendy welcomed input from the Board on these proposed changes.
- Charlie Fuertsch reviewed the District Tournament schedule for this season:
 - TIER I-- San Jose, March 5-9, 2014
 - 14U: 4 teams (2 CA, 1 Alaska, 1 Pacific NW) for a total of 7 games
 - 16U: 6 teams (3 CA, 2 Alaska, 1 Pacific NW) for a total of 12 games
 - 18U: 4 teams (3 CA, 1 Alaska) for a total of 7 games
 - TIER I GIRLS--Anchorage March 5-9, 2014
 - 16U: 4 teams (2 CA, 2 Alaska) for a total of 7 games
 - No tournament is necessary for 14U and 19U as there is only 1 team at each level from the Lady Ducks.
 - TIER II GIRLS--Anchorage March 5-9, 2014
 - 14U: 4 teams (2 CA, 2 Alaska) for a total of 7 games
 - 16U: 3 teams (1 CA, 2 Alaska) for a total of 7 games
 - 19U: 5 teams (1 CA, 3 Alaska, 1 Pacific NW) for a total of 11 games
 - SENIOR B--although no tournament is needed, there will be a playoff scheduled between the Lady Ducks and San Jose Jr. Sharks to determine positioning at Nationals
 - SENIOR C: 3 teams (3 CA) for a total of 7 games. A location for the Senior C tournament has yet to be determined but it will take place February 21-23, 2014.
- The Pacific District's allocation to the National Select Camp for the various age levels is as follows:
 - 15's: 16 (2 Goalies, 9 Forwards, 5 Defensemen)
 - 16's: 13 (1 G, 7 F, 5 D)
 - 17's: 12 (1 G, 7 F, 4 D)

The next meeting of the Pacific District will be Feb. 7-8, 2014 in Las Vegas. The USA Hockey Winter meeting will be Jan. 15-19, 2014 in Orlando. Olympics-Sochi Feb. 2014!

NEW BUSINESS

- Lance Burrow stated that he and Jaime Campbell had been conducting Safe Sport webinars since September and they expect to have fully complied with all USA Hockey requirements by the end of November.
- Lance shared that there is some concern over coaches not taking hazing and bullying seriously. In addition, it is essential that all clubs have written policies pertaining to travel, co-ed locker rooms, and billeting. Although the Safe Sport training program emphasizes reporting of inappropriate activity to authorities at any level, Lance stated that it is desirable to have Safe Sport reporting initiated at the local level rather than start at the national level and work its way down.
- Safe Sport certification will be a requirement for all coaches, managers and team personnel nationwide next season.
- Kevin Culbertson moved that the deadline for completion of screening be moved from September 1st to June 1st beginning June 2014. (motion **SECONDED** and **PASSED**)
- Next meeting will be January 25th in Lakewood, CA. This is the same weekend as the Select Camp and the outdoor contest between the LA Kings and Anaheim Ducks so the Board will strive to address important items early.

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 pm.