



**CAHA Board of Directors' Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: September 25, 2021**

**Location: LAX Marriott, El Segundo**

**Time: 9:00 A.M.**

Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR	Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR
X			Thomas Hancock, President	X			Rob Foster
X			Rosemary Voulelikas 1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.	X			Ben Frank
X			Chris Hathaway, 2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P.	X		1	Dan Granata
X			Rick Hutchinson 3 <sup>rd</sup> V.P.	X			Cameron Higley
X			Bridget Hopkinson, 4 <sup>th</sup> V.P.	X			Nancy Hodge
	X	1	Dave Bigelow	X			Alex Morrison
X			Matthew Blanchart	X			John Paglia
	X	2	Curtis Brown	X			Vaughn Reuter
	X	2	Craig Carlyle	X		1	Chi-Yin Tse
X			Kevin Culbertson	X			Becki Winckler
X		1	Robert Field				
<b>NON VOTING DIRECTOR</b>				<b>NON VOTING DIRECTOR/ GUEST</b>			
Teresa Attebery, CAHA Secretary				Steve Laing, USAH Director			
Wendy Goldstein, Pacific District Registrar				Ken Martel, USAH Technical Director, ADM			
Karen Hackett, CAHA Member Services				Wayne Sawchuk, Pacific District Director			
Chris Hays, CAHA Treasurer							

Meeting called to order at 9:02am. Quorum in attendance. Rosemary Voulelikas motioned to approve both June meeting minutes; second by Kevin Culbertson – **MOTION PASSED**

### **President – Tom Hancock**

We are doing what we can to get the season going. We are still dealing with COVID complications. CAHA has approval from USA Hockey to use a 1-man officiating system for no check games. CAHA is working with Dan Ellison and all California Referee Associations to try to pull in more officials. There are plans to create a comprehensive marketing plan to recruit – targeting college students. Incentives are being used to help with recruiting. We all really need to watch and discourage abuse of officials. Clubs need to do a better job managing their teams. Perhaps managers need to carry lollipops or toostie rolls to hand out. Becki Winckler mentioned “Silent Saturday” when all spectators are encouraged to stay completely silent during games. It was suggested that all teams have a dedicated person to encourage spectators to only use positive feedback during games.

### **Treasurer – Chris Hays**

Chris distributed financial documents for review. Budget distributed and reviewed. We are still in a year of uncertainty. Alex Morrison motioned to approve the budget as proposed; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bridget Hopkinson – **MOTION APPROVED**

### **Member Services – Karen Hackett**

Rocky Mountain registration is being set up and notification to clubs for season payments will be sent out soon.

### **Legal Counsel – Geoff Leibl**

I have nothing really to report on my end except to reiterate that I do not feel CAHA should be in the business of providing advice as to how to handle State and local health guidelines and instead our stance should be to just refer all members to the applicable regulations. Also, unless Tom has made some significant hires in the past few months we still do not have a designated CAHA police force so we should not even attempt to enforce any state or local health guidelines and should not even officially opine on how to navigate said regulations with respect to COVID.

### **SafeSport – Scott Gray**

There have been 3 SafeSport matters officially submitted. 1 is under review; 1 was declined and the 3<sup>rd</sup> was not a SafeSport matter. There is a 4<sup>th</sup> in progress.

### **USA Hockey – Steve Laing**

Steve mentioned that all teams need to be reminded about how they use social media. Social media posts and text messages are not private. Locker room monitors are not optional and need to be present as long as any players are in the locker room – ie they should not be leaving early.

Reminder that the screening through the National Office is not limited to just 7 years – older issues are coming out.

### **Disputes – Rosemary Voulelikas**

Since June there have been 28 match penalties – 24 adult and 4 youth. 17 hearings have occurred - 10 adults; 4 coaches and 3 youth. Hateful language is rearing its ugly head again.

### **CAHA Selects – Rosemary Voulelikas**

CAHA Selects will be held January 21-23 in Lakewood. Please refer to the Guidebook for qualifications. Selects is open to birth years 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008.

### **High School Commissioner – Rosemary Voulelikas**

Rosemary plans to schedule an additional High School Managers meeting. There are 6 – 2A teams and 6 – 1A teams declared. Affiliate deadline for High School Nationals is November 15.

Americas Showcase is back this season and will be April 21-25 in St. Louis.

## **ADM Report: Ben Frank**

### Purpose:

To make structural recommendations at the state level based on sport science and age appropriate programming that contribute to the optimal environment to maximize player experience, player development, player health and safety, minimize costs, and grow the game.

### Vision:

CAHA to be innovators and be a leader in change and constant improvement of our game based on sport science principles.

### Recommendations:

8U division:

-3on3 Cross Ice Play

Why:

Optimal surface size for player development in line with the windows of trainability (number of strides for an 8U player cross ice equals that of an adult player full ice). 3on3 allows for maximal puck touches and involvement in the play with natural encouragement of all players to play offense and defense learning shape before position.

10U division:

-Move to or at least offer 4on4 half ice play options.

-Remove 10u state playoffs and focus on league playoff.

Why:

-Optimal surface size for player development and in line with the windows of trainability. Increases puck touches and involvement for all players in offensive and defensive play, allows for smaller rosters, and less system play.

-Eliminates the extension of the 10U season into the spring which causes increased costs and additional practices and some travel and hotels for the state tournament as well as interference with starting other sports.

12U

-Eliminate or reduce travel for CAHA weekends for 12U Tier II

Why:

-Focus at this age group is the training environment, not the competitive environment and recommendations focus on reducing travel for competition and associated costs to keep more players in the game, make it more accessible, and avoid long term burnout.

14U/16U/18U

-Remove checking at all A, BB and B levels.

Why:

-allows a non-checking pathway all the way through youth hockey.

-hockey stays an option for smaller, less developed kids at each age group and for those with concussion history or those who are pursuing the "hockey for life" pathway, rather than the performance path, and do not want to risk concussion and injury.

-Allows girls (individuals and teams) a vehicle all the way through our leagues for local competition.

### Overall recommendations:

-All clubs identify a hockey director that can receive information on ADM programming similar to how clubs identify a registrar, president, and treasurer.

### Questions to consider:

-How do we keep more of our players in the state? How many are leaving? Why are they? What can we do structurally that encourages athletes to feel they have all development and opportunity they need here in the State? Not solely an ADM issue but how does our structural plan for player development impact this?

-How can we introduce a focus at the CAHA level on the training environment in addition to the competition environment?

-How can ADM improve the elite track? Provide elite development and recognition/exposure opportunities here at home with less travel. Again not solely an ADM issue but player development is impacted with increased needs for travel for competition and exposure.

### Next Steps:

-Let me know your feedback and questions.

- Schedule an ADM visit or education session in your region or club.
- Join the CAHA ADM committee.
- Review [www.admkids.com](http://www.admkids.com) (background on what ADM is and the importance of it for our future).

**Officials – Mark Mauro**

Mark was not present and did not provide a report. Tom is working with Reno, Vegas and Texas to get coverage for Tier II weekends.

**Youth Council – Chris Hathaway**

Not much action. Tier II divisions look balanced. Teams are divided into 2 conferences. Teams will play each team once in their conference for seeding. There will be 8-9 conference games and 3-4 cross-over games that will not count for standings.

Playoff venues are still not 100% covered, so review will be tables and approval will be done via email within the next 2 weeks.

**Tier Commissioner – Kevin Culbertson**

FINAL Team counts (team listings attached) –

<b>Tier II</b>	<b>Tier I</b>
12U – 20	11O - 3
14U – 20	12U - 4
16U – 18	13O - 4
18U – 13	14U - 5
<b>TOTAL – 71</b>	15O - 6
	16U - 5
	18U - 6
	<b>TOTAL - 32</b>

364 Labor Day Weekend Games, that was fun!

Having a hard time getting some of the managers to read my emails, which is frustrating.

**New Playing rules** adjustment seems to be going better than I would have anticipated. However, we will have players who will quickly exceed their 3-GMs for the season threshold which would make them eligible for potential disciplinary review, and likewise for coaches getting 12+ pens games in a season. Not suggesting we grant any leeway when the 3 GM threshold for potential supplemental review, but we will need to take into consideration the new Playing Rules standards during any such review IMO.

**CAHA Weekend games** – the potential exist that some teams will not participate at venues that require proof of COVID vaccination. Assuming impacted games will result in forfeit for at least one, if not both teams, Rule 9.10-2 states that a team that refuses to play will lose its post-season eligibility. Likewise, the game will be a forfeit and the team assessed a \$1,000 fine. Given the circumstance, we need to discuss CAHA's stance on this rule given this situation.

**12U AA Teams (20)**

Bears(1) GSE(2)	Bears(2) Jr. Condors	Blue Devils Jr. Ducks(1)	GSE(1) Jr. Ducks(2)
Jr. Flyers	Jr. Gulls(1)	Jr. Gulls(2)	Jr. Ice Dogs(1)
Jr. Ice Dogs(2)	Jr. Kings(1)	Jr. Kings(2)	Jr. Reign
Jr. Sharks	SDIA(1)	SDIA(2)	Wave

**14U AA Teams (20)**

Bears	Blackhawks	Goldrush	GSE(1)
GSE(2)	Jr. Ducks(1)	Jr. Ducks(2)	Jr. Flyers(1)
Jr. Flyers(2)	Jr. Gulls	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Kings(1)
Jr. Kings(2)	Jr. Reign	Jr. Sharks	OC Hockey
Rose City Pats	Saints	Wave(1)	Wave(2)

**16U AA Teams (18)**

Blue Devils	Empire	GSE(1)	GSE(2)
Heat	Jr. Condors	Jr. Ducks(1)	Jr. Ducks(2)
Jr. Flyers	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Kings	Jr. Reign
Jr. Sharks	OC Hockey	Rose City Pats	Saints
Wave(1)	Wave(2)		

**18U AA Teams (13)**

Blue Devils(1)	Blue Devils(2)	GSE	Heat
Jr. Ducks	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Reign	Jr. Sharks
Mariners	Moose	OC Hockey	Saints
Wave			

**11U AAA Teams (3)**

Jr. Ducks	Jr. Kings	Jr. Sharks
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**12U AAA Teams (4)**

Bears	Jr. Ducks	Jr. Kings	Jr. Sharks
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**13U AAA Teams (4)**

Jr. Ducks	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Kings	Jr. Sharks
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**14U AAA Teams (5)**

Bears	Jr. Ducks	Jr. Kings	Jr. Reign
Jr. Sharks			

**15U AAA Teams (6)**

GSE	Jr. Ducks	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Kings
Jr. Reign	Jr. Sharks		

**16U AAA Teams (5)**

Jr. Ducks	Jr. Ice Dogs	Jr. Kings	Jr. Reign
Jr. Sharks			

**18U AAA Teams (6)**

Jr. Ducks	Jr. Kings	Jr. Reign	Jr. Sharks
Saints	Wave		

### **Girls Commissioner – Bridget Hopkinson**

Scheduling is going well. Alex is managing the PGHL schedule. October 16-17 is Girls Hockey Weekend. CAHA Girls Select Camp registration opens Oct 1 and closes Nov 15 for 2005 thru 2008 birth years.

### **USA Hockey – Ken Martel**

USA Hockey membership is at ~95% of the 2019-20 season. 8U is up nationally! Adult registration started strong, but has stabilized. Membership in all age groups is ahead of where the National Office expected. “Revenge spending” is being seen in multiple NGB’s. Olympic years are always a boost.

Bob Mancini has been promoted to Assistant Executive Director of Hockey Development and will be relocating to Colorado Springs. NPD camps went well. All business is being planned as close to normal as possible.

### **USA Hockey – Steve Laing**

Steve is transitioning from his role on the Pacific District board to the National Office and working on a plan for High School. High School Nationals will be held in Dallas. There is a new concussion return to play form. Nationals for 14U will be using the new USA Hockey penalty minute times. 2022 fees for Nationals are \$1500/team and will be \$1650/team for 2023. Last year the Center for SafeSport attended Nationals with an emphasis on locker rooms. More visits like this are expected.

### **Pacific District – Wendy Goldstein**

Steve Laing’s Pacific District director seat is open to be filled for the balance of his term, June 2022. In June this position will be open for a full 3 year term.

MEMBERSHIP: Paid Membership numbers are outstanding at this point . . . CAHA’s paid membership is 150% compared to the same time in the 2019.2020 season and 477% compared to the same time last year. I expect that the increase is from the players/coaches that did not register in the 20.21 season but registered for the 21.22 season in Spring 2021 when rinks started opening. Typically adult players register in August when their registration expires.

SAFE SPORT COMPLIANCE: In order to be in compliance with USA Hockey’s Safe Sport Program, all CAHA Board members must have their USA Hockey (free) volunteer registration, current Safe Sport certification and current screening (every two years) within 45 days of taking on the CAHA Board position. At this point the CAHA Board is not yet compliant, but close. We are missing two registrations, six SafeSport certifications and four screenings. For those of you that are not yet compliant, please take care of this business as soon as possible.

### **Pacific District – Wayne Sawchuk**

Youth Tier I Districts will be held April 24-27 in Irvine. Girls Tier I & II will be held March 3-6 in Fairbanks. Boys Pacific District Player Development Camp (Selects) will be held May 5-6 in Vegas. Girls Pacific District Player Development Camp (Selects) will be held May 12-15 in Vegas. USA Hockey High Performance Camp will be back in Colorado Springs in June. Dallas did a great job hosting at the last minute last year. The coaching intern program will be returning. All allocations for District events will be available after the October Pacific District meeting. Expect Player Development Camp allocations to be similar to previous seasons. There was no player that didn’t belong last year. Ken Martel is now managing the Player Development camps. There are currently 3 NAHL teams in Alaska. Seattle is submitting a bid to host Nationals in 2023.

### **Old Business**

Calendar needs to have Girls dates updated. The National Office has approved CAHA’s decision to keep with the standard 2, 5 & 10 minute penalty times.

### **New Business**

~75% of Tier II teams are willing to play in rinks with vaccination requirements. There are more people who do not want to play non-vaccinated. CAHA has no leeway to move Tier II CAHA weekend locations. Separately

NORCAL & SCAHA is not possible. If a team does not show up for a game, it is a forfeit, but will not disqualify them from playoffs. All teams still owe the same team fees.

12AA – 20 teams total; 4 unable to play where vaccination required

14AA – 22 teams total; 7 unable to play where vaccination required

16AA – 18 teams total; 4 unable to play where vaccination required

18AA – 13 teams total; 5 unable to play where vaccination required

Rosemary Voulelikas motioned to approve CAHA Tier II schedule and venues including if a team does not show up for a game, it is a forfeit, but will not disqualify them from playoffs. All teams still owe the same team fees. If neither team shows up, then both get a forfeit. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Granata – **MOTION PASSED**

Tom would like to recognize and give a big thank Kevin Culbertson, Chris Hathaway and Tyler Shaffar plus all host facilities!

Bridget Hopkinson motioned to approve Lameka Bell from [www.powerproject.org/](http://www.powerproject.org/) as CAHA Director of Diversity & Inclusion. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Field – **MOTION APPROVED**

Alex Morrison motioned for CAHA to provide an amount not to exceed \$20K to the Power Project for the purchase of equipment, player registration fees & ice for this season. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bridget Hopkinson – **MOTION PASSED**

Next Meeting will be November 13 in San Jose  
Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm

Meeting minutes submitted by Teresa Attebery / California Amateur Hockey Association Secretary