



CAHA Board of Directors Meeting

Date: December 7, 2024

Location: San Jose Marriott, San Jose

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR	Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR
X			Thomas Hancock, President	X			Cameron Higley
	X	1	Rosemary Voulelikas 1 st V.P.		X	3	Kristi Kehoe
X			Chris Hathaway, 2 nd V.P.	X			Pat Manzer
X		1	Rick Hutchinson 3 rd V.P.	X		1	Caroline Marchant
X			Bridget Hopkinson, 4 th V.P.	X			Randy Meyer
X		1	Kolton Aubol	X			Mark Petrovich
	X	3	Dave Bigelow	X			Tommy Tartaglione
X			Kevin Culbertson		X		Trevor Wada
	X	1	Rob Foster	X			Tim Williams
X			Shane Galaviz	X		1	Becki Winckler
	X	2	Scott Hannan				
NON-VOTING DIRECTOR				NON-VOTING DIRECTOR/ GUEST			
Teresa Attebery, CAHA Secretary				Ken Martel, USA Hockey National Office			
Dan Ellison, RIC							
Wendy Goldstein, Pacific District Registrar							
Rick Walden, CAHA Legal							
Matt Zucker, Director of Officials							
Karen Hackett, Director of Member Services							

Meeting called to order at 9:00am. Quorum in attendance. Kevin Culbertson motioned to approve September minutes with updates, 2nd by Cam Higley – **MOTION APPROVED**

President – Tom Hancock

Affiliate Presidents are working on a national contract to stop inter-affiliate player hopping unless the losing affiliate agrees and provide confirmation from the local association for Tier II and below. Appeals will be heard by the Affiliate Presidents Appeals Committee and are not appealable to USA Hockey.

Tier I standardization modifications regarding residency are being looked at – ie prep schools – to clean up the current USA Hockey Tier I language.

If a club provides a player with a Free & Clear, there is no stopping a competitive advancement release. CAHA should put rules in place for lateral movement – ie 1 team/1 season at all levels. Valid and legitimate waivers with cause will be heard. CAHA should look into the AHAI process allowing only 1 in season move in a players youth career.

Financial statement and budget distributed.

Member Services – Karen Hackett

Tom & Karen will be meeting to have a formal hand off of Member Services activities.

DE&I – Lameka Bell

Robbie and the DE&I panel will be at our February meeting.

Legal – Rick Walden

Rick has nothing to report.

SafeSport – Scott Gray

Scott is directly handling issues. Quite a few have come in and ~50% are declined due to not being a valid SafeSport issue.

Casey Jorgensen and the National Office are pushing for clarifications, including issues with current expiration dating.

Discipline – Rosemary Voulelikas

Rosemary was unable to attend. There have been 51 hearings held November 4 to today. There has been a slight decline in 601(e)3 hearings since the ABI training has been implemented. There has been an increase in Intent to Injure. There has also been an increase in adult and coach issues, some are supplementals. CAHA will start getting heavier handed.

There are currently hearings 3 times per week, with 4-5 hearings per night.

Tom will work with Rosemary regarding spectator and coaching issues to start holding associations more accountable.

Select Camp – Rosemary Voulelikas

Rosemary was unable to attend. Camp will be held April 11-13 in Irvine. Boys camp is invitation only.

ADM – Rob Foster

Rob was unable to attend. He will have a 10U ½ ice proposal for the next meeting.

Director of Officials – Matt Zucker

There are currently 1099 registered & complete officials. 35% are level 3 or 4. There are more registered that are missing something – ie SafeSport, screening or clinic.

We need 40 AAA qualified officials for the Tier I & Girls Tier I/II tournament at the end of January. 20 officials need to be on the ice by 11am on Friday. As preparation, 16AA CAHA weekends are using 4-man as prep.

Matt and Shane Galaviz will work on a way to get more SHSHL players to move into officiating.

There are no concerns with High School playoffs.

Youth Council – Chris Hathaway

Youth Council has been quiet. The goalie situation is quieting down. We need to try to operate with common sense. There have been a few issues with players not on the bench, but on the scoresheet because the coaches “forgot” to cross them off. This has led to some investigation.

Girls Commissioner & Tournament Director – Bridget Hopkinson

All playoff locations have been confirmed and the website has been updates.

Girls Camp will be April 12-13 in Irvine, the same weekend as the Boys. Registration will open mid-January. No more out-of-district waivers will be allowed due to the change in date (ie after Nationals).

Tier Commissioner – Kevin Culbertson {report submitted}

TIER I –

All mandatory games are scheduled.

As mentioned this time last year, with the new alignment to take place starting next season 2025-26, and that being only 3-teams per division, we might want to start discussing the game counts for regular season play (i.e. min 3-games v each opponent for a total 6 games per team?), as well as playoff qualifications (top 2 only?), and playoff format (best of 3?) with all Game #1s on a Friday, game 2s on Saturday and potential game 3s on Sunday. AND, might want to take into consideration what format changes, if any, to put into place when one of the CA teams is a host for Districts?

There have been two games for which I identified and reported internally on non-rostered players having appeared on scoresheets in those two games. One notification on 11-12-24, and the most recent on 12-2-24. As of this writing (11:50am 12-5-24), I have no report back on my prior notifications of the matter.

Nothing more to report, but of course will entertain any questions.

TIER II -

All SCAHA required AA games have been scheduled for the balance of regular season play for all teams that advanced to Cross-Over Weekends, as well as all Cross-Over Weekend games have also been scheduled. As of this writing, not all NorCal games have yet been scheduled, the original deadline having been Dec. 2. Will let NorCal explain situation they are dealing with on this topic.

Regular Season Standings for 14AA and 16AA have been adjusted to reflect the removal of games from non-qualifying Cross Over teams.

Nothing more to report here either, but of course will entertain any questions.

TEAM MANAGEMENT –

All Boys Tier Team Administration continues to be overall good and smooth yet seems there will always be some level of lack of attention to details, which sometimes winds up costing a player or coach a suspension. For example, no matter how many times you tell them, some coaches are not paying close attention to the scoresheet they are signing.

High School Commissioner – Rosemary Voulelikas

Rosemary was unable to attend but plans to send a report out in the next few days.

Adult Commissioner – Rick Hutchinson {reports submitted}

USA Hockey Meetings-

- **USA Hockey -Jan 2025 Nashville-I'll be attending.**
 - **PENDING awaiting USA Hockey- Gold Standard Blueprint with NHL Clubs and Affiliate Relationship**
 - **Learn to Play Hockey** vis USA Hockey/NHL to better serve the rinks not directly associated with NHL teams or areas.
 - **Expand Try Hockey for Free days- pending (CAHA is now doing this! 😊)**
 - Potential pilot programs: 3-4 weeks for LTPH FREE sessions to assist entry level grassroots families.

Growth Opportunities

CAHA Grassroots Goalie gear applications

- 2024-25 Goalie Vaughn quick change sets pending CAHA board Sept 2024 meeting and approval.
 - Recommendations moving forward
 - **Offer applications every other year for clubs that have participated, criteria and association must demonstrate gear usage, growth and need.**
 - Final allocations this weekend.

"GROW THE GAME" (GTG) Grassroots Hockey Program Proposal for Hockey Gear Sponsorship-CAHA

- **Action items:**
 - **Website updates pending-**
 - **Email blast and application approval-by board.** Please see the link below for the draft application for the Try Hockey For Free gear we approved at our last CAHA meeting:
[Try Hockey For Free Gear Application](#)

▪ *Approved \$30k on 9.28.24*

- ***I'd like to see other affiliates in district follow***
- CAHA help the "Grow the Game" gear initiative.
- **"Try Hockey for Free"** USA Hockey initiative is not just two times a year. This platform can be utilized year-round for multiple sessions (not 1- day)
- Create your own program, schedule and use their registration platform to build your program. All the resources are there to use. We don't need to reinvent the wheel.

"Learn to Ref" Pending- Matt Zucker is taking the lead. CAHA has approved funds.

2024 CAHA Adult State Tourney

- **2025 Dates and facilities to be put out for bid. - *In progress***
- **DRAFT HOST BID APPLICATION 2025 Adult State Championship Tournament**
<https://form.iotform.com/243407307584155>
 - Request bid procedure from CAHA for host rinks interested.
 - CAHA's level of support financially.
 - \$1000 per team. Approved by the board 2024.
 - Options for three locations North, Central, South (SD)

Pacific District – Wendy Goldstein

At the USA Hockey Winter Meetings, there are legislative proposals to include Tier I 16U, 15U and Girls 19U in the 22-player roster and vertical movement. There are also proposals to have the submission date for all Tier I rosters in October as well as a moratorium on new Tier I programs for the next two seasons.

The Coaches Section is proposing a new clinic level for 8U coaches.

Our membership numbers are increasing.

National Office – Ken Martel

The new LMS (Learning Management System) should be up for the new season.

District & USA Hockey HS Representative – Rosemary Voulelikas

Rosemary was unable to attend.

District Disabled Representative – Matt Zucker

Disabled section is working on getting rules into the USA Hockey documents.

The Warrior Classic was canceled due to a hurricane.

Matt attended the Special Hockey event in Minnesota.

In the Pacific District, more teams are registering with ASHA (American Special Hockey Association) vs USA Hockey because ASHA allows players to use an apparatus while USA Hockey does not.

District Referee in Chief – Dan Ellison

Officiating clinic held in Mammoth had a good turnout. Mammoth will be reconfiguring their Olympic rink to an NHL rink.

Dan is working with the NHL Sharks to hold an Officials program in April/May timeframe similar to one previously held by the Kings.

Dan would like to thank Tom for his support.

There are plans to continue to explore the Learn to Play type programs for Officials.

California is a leader in follow-through with discipline of issues towards Officials.

District Girls Rep – Alex Morrison

For the Girls Player Development camp, players need to try out in their state of residence. There will be waivers for this year due to the short notification.

Tom will discuss this with Kris Knauss as this is now discriminatory to the Boys.

Old Business:

Tom will be coordinating with Chris Carcerano to work with Cross Bar to transition our website as soon as the season ends.

Motion to approve the distributed budget with amendment made by Bridget Hopkinson, 2nd by Rick Hutchinson
– **MOTION APPROVED**

The Youth Tier I Restructuring Committee has 1 more meeting to finalize and an email will be sent out within the next 30 days. Tier I players who have been playing out of district will be allowed to submit a waiver to continue to play out of district.

Tom asked for a motion to have the Competition Committee to allow grandfathering for 1 (one) season for current high performing Youth Tier I teams. MOTION not made, therefore not moved to a vote.

New Business:

There was a suggestion to look at a Team California for Girls 19 Tier I. Caroline Marchant suggests 2 (two) California teams vs just 1 (one) as there would be logistical issues. Cam Higley would like to suggest an exploratory committee to look into interest.

Committee will be formed to look at a possible Team California tournament team(s) to focus games at the start of the season to attend key tournaments and show cases.

Caroline believes that clubs need to have growth underneath.

Rick Hutchinson motioned to include the Girls in the new Districting rules, Districting Statewide at ALL levels, 2nd by Randy Meyer – **MOTION APPROVED**

Competitive advancement waivers will be considered. Caroline agrees that this is a step to making Girls teams grow.

PGHL financial data previously requested has been provided.

Tom will be formally reaching out to Kristi Kehoe regarding her removal notice due to non-participation. Formal approval by the board will be done at the next meeting.

Next Meeting will be February 8 in El Segundo

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm. Motion by Caroline Marchant, 2nd by Rick Hutchinson – **MOTION APPROVED**

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