



CAHA Board of Directors' Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting

Date: November 12, 2022

Location: San Mateo Marriott, San Mateo, CA

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR	Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR
X			Thomas Hancock, President	X		1	Cameron Higley
X			Rosemary Voulelikas 1 st V.P.	X			Pat Manzer
X			Chris Hathaway, 2 nd V.P.		X	3	Lillian Marchant
X			Rick Hutchinson 3 rd V.P.		X	1	Randy Meyer
X			Bridget Hopkinson, 4 th V.P.		X	2	Alex Morrison
	X	2	Dave Bigelow	X			Mark Petrovich
	X	2	Curtis Brown	X			Vaughn Reuter
X			Kevin Culbertson		X	1	Craig Sterling
	X	1	Robert Field		X	1	Chi-Yin Tse
X			Rob Foster	X			Becki Winckler
X			Dan Granata				
NON VOTING DIRECTOR				NON VOTING DIRECTOR/ GUEST			
Teresa Attebery, CAHA Secretary				Dan Ellison, Pacific District RIC			
Wendy Goldstein, Pacific District Registrar				Wayne Sawchuk, Pacific District Director			
				William Stone			

Meeting called to order at 9:01am. Quorum in attendance. Rob Foster motioned to approve September meeting minutes; second by Rosemary Voulelikas – **MOTION PASSED**

President – Tom Hancock

Presidents Report - USA Hockey Affiliate Presidents are now a committee. At Winter Meeting, there will be a representative voted to the board. Other affiliates have a lot of the same issues. This is a great group and there are plans to meet twice per year in person and twice per year on Zoom.

Officiating task force is working on multiple issues – abuse of officials – if any ref is a minor, the penalty is double. We want to look into adding this to CAHA.

Tom plans to attend upcoming officials organization board meetings – he feels CAHA needs to show our support.

Anti-bullying committee (Tom, Becki, Mark P, Flint, Rick, Nancy, Lameka) are putting a letter together by Monday and are working on education training which they will present by the February meeting for approval.

Treasurer – Chris Hays

Proposed budget distributed and reviewed. Kevin Culbertson motioned to approve; 2nd by Vaughn Reuter – **MOTION APPROVED**

Member Services – Karen Hackett

Karen was unable to attend and no report was submitted.

New entities have been approved for the Coachella group – Jr Firebirds.

Diversity – Lameka Bell

Lameka was unable to attend and no report was submitted.

Per Rosemary there is a new policy in hearings for racial slur – Lameka will reach out to the affected family to create empathy.

Next season CAHA will require sensitivity training for players and coaches.

Kevin asked about a written Code of Conduct. This is no longer a separate form that is signed, it is now part of the online USA Hockey registration.

Legal Counsel – Rick Walden

Rick was unable to attend and no report was submitted.

SafeSport – Scott Gray

People are going straight to the US Center for SafeSport. Short of sexual misconduct, the Center will decline. When this happens, the affiliate does not receive any information. CAHA needs to send out a point of emphasis regarding the correct process to follow. There need to be more regular touch points with the clubs. Bridget suggested that clubs should include their Safe Sport Coordinator on their websites contact info.

Disputes – Rosemary Voulelikas

There have been 13 hearings since September. It is a disaster! 50% of the hearings are bullying/racial.

ADM Report: Ben Frank

Apologies I cannot be there for this meeting as I am traveling. I am linking below a power point presentation that Ken Martel gave at the pacific district meeting to share with the board on some exciting updates that I feel impact ADM adoption. <https://we.tl/t-4MDxBqCvIs>

Some highlights are:

- 1) coaching development courses and updates including goaltending, teaching skating, and off ice materials that will be a great help to programs implementing ADM best practices.
- 2) half ice 10u adoption in Dallas, Nashville, and Seattle
- 3) try goalie day helpful materials that I know Hutch has been working on as well and would be great to see roll out for CA.

Officials – Mark Mauro

Much of the focus during the first three months have been on staffing various CAHA preseason weekend events (3 x 120 or 80 games) + CAHA regular season weekends which have recently begun

- Volume has been unprecedented and overwhelming resource capacity from CA's three officiating organizations (LAHOA, SDHRA, and NorHOA)
- This has necessitated coordination and collaboration not only among the three CA organizations but outside the state
- Last year, we utilized officials from Texas. So far this season, we have routinely relied on officials from Tampa, FL, Chicago, Oregon, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Washington, and Montana, in addition to the three CA associations + two Nevada (Las Vegas & Reno) associations to cover games
- To execute on this strategy for expanding officiating resources, we have been supported by a generous travel budget, higher CAHA rates that surpass any of the three state associations' rates, cooperation from other state organizations' RICs and Presidents, and the amazing travel facilitation talents and extended officiating relationships provided by Matt Zucker • Soon, we will begin the process of developing rosters for AAA (Irvine), HS (Anaheim), and AA (Valencia) state playoffs in early 2023 through coordination with the three organizations' Presidents/Boards for qualified candidates for these events. • A/B/BB state playoffs will follow.

My apologies for being unable to attend as I am still recovering from surgery, but expect to be back in service fully within a month.

Youth Council – Chris Hathaway

Currently reviewing Tier I game that had no officials.

Tier Commissioner – Kevin Culbertson

Tier I Game Scheduling – All games were scheduled by the deadline of Oct. 15. But, no matter how many times you tell clubs/teams/managers/coaches to READ the rules, alas in one ear and out the other. We have had two games go a foul and will require action. A game played that ended in a tie, which of course is against the rules, and a game where the home team failed to secure game officials, only to have both teams ready to take the ice, but not able to proceed. Both these matters are not yet fully resolved as of this writing, but likely will be within the next few days.

Tier II Game Scheduling - All three of the AA 12U, 14U and 16U Regular-Season Weekends are scheduled and posted, and the entire 18U schedule is posted. On the 18s, working with the teams to fill the voids left by the folding of the Condors to use those games slots as either exhibition games or practice slots. Tyler was able to adjust the schedule to help ease and facilitate the ability of the teams to do so at their option.

Team Managers – Until THIS week, we really were having just a few hiccups with tardiness of game information entries and uploads. This week is like a virus broke out or something as seven teams missed their deadlines. Prior to that and since the beginning of the season, the total was only 18, thus near a full 28% of the missed uploads in just one week, and that does not include the two teams who at least gave me a heads up they were going to be late and thus not part of these counts. Also, and Coaches are part of this, we are again seeing teams relying on “tournament” officials’ interpretations of penalties listed on scoresheets and the enforcement of those penalties/suspensions, and much to their dismay shall we say reflect and recite their “disappointment” when they are informed that they relied on bad info? One club President going so far as to say that I am “punishing” their team for their acceptance of that bad information by enforcing the correct position.

Teams Playing at the Appropriate Level? We all know that there are, and that there will be lopsided scores. Should that be happening at the Tier Level? Admittedly I do not have statistics to back this up, but I have reviewed

in the thousand's games so far this season, and some of the current crop of lopsided scores appears to be reaching new heights in terms of both frequency as well as lopsidedness, with some teams regularly getting hammered game in and game out. So far the worst was a Tier II score of 24-1, but we also had a 22-0 Tier I score. Think about that! Those games went into run-time in the 3rd period and still those were the final scores. I would not even expect to see such scores at "A/B," but at least at that level I would not be shocked to see such scores.

And while most of the blame rest solely with the Clubs themselves, CAHA is in a small way complicit. Some serious re-think needs take place on sanctioning the ability to field such teams that are way in over their heads, to hopefully turn such scores back to a very rare occurrence instead of the near weekly occurrence we are seeing now. We all, Clubs and CAHA, talk a big game about "building the game," but what is happening to the kids on those teams that get pummeled on the scoreboard game in and game out, and in a few instances season in and season out? Is THAT "growing" for them?

Conduct – In my notes for the prior BoD meeting of 9-24-22, I indeed jinxed us noting at that at that time I was not aware of any spectator ejections involving any Boys Tier teams. That of course quickly came back to haunt me as we have had at least two.

More concerning to me personally is my perception in a significant rise in demeaning, hateful and racist language directed towards players. I do not think it is simply a matter of a focus to be aware of and noting such incidents. It IS getting worse! And, such conduct is not just the players, but allegedly spectators/adults amongst themselves AND towards players on opposing teams. I have read that in at least one incident that the victim of such language expressed his strong desire to quit the game of hockey due to repeatedly being the target of such language. IMO, I would much rather see the perpetrators of such attacks be banned from the game rather than a victim quite over it. In such matters, clearly one of the parties does not belong in not just ice hockey, but youth sports entirely. IMO, we simply must get tougher on sanctioning such behavior, no matter who engages in that behavior.

Again, ***leadership without a backbone is spineless.***

Girls Commissioner – Bridget Hopkinson

State tournaments are coming up and Directors are required to help.

PGHL is going well.

We do not need to hold State playoffs for Girls teams – all teams will go to Districts.

High School Commissioner – Rosemary Voulelikas

Kings HS schedules their own hearings. Rosemary still reviews from a state level.

There are still some HS teams that need to schedule games. We have a potential issue with a team that may not be valid due to non-full time students.

Pacific District Registrar – Wendy Goldstein

We are still having technology issues. The next District Registrars call will be regarding credentials for Nationals. Jodie Penn is no longer the USA Hockey tournament admin, it is now Liz Cohen.

District election – Kris & Wayne are running. California cannot put in a candidate this year.

There are issues with Hockey Canada. Teams coming here need to be part of Hockey Canada – no independent teams are allowed.

Membership numbers are up 4% from last season as of 9/23.

Pacific District – Wayne Sawchuk

USA Hockey Youth Council is suggesting 3 pilot programs which will be voted on at Winter Meeting.

- 18AAA roster size increase to 22 – all 22 players can dress & play
- 13O Tier I to be NTB – 1 team per District will advance to Nationals; no at-large
- 15; 16 & 18 Tier I Vertical Rostering – players within the same club can play up to 8 games on other team without being rostered through Feb 1

San Jose is hosting Pacific Districts – super site all Tier I and Tier I & II Girls. There will be 49 teams. Going forward we will need 3-4 sheet facilities.

There are 2 Nationals in CAHA this year. In 2024, Nevada will host 16 & 18 Youth.

Level 5 coaching clinic is May 4-7.

14 Camp starts June 14 – contact Wayne if interested.

17 Nationals camp is back to doing district teams.

Adult Section – Rick Hutchinson

- Point of Emphasis – safety
 - ♣ Due the increased violence, suspensions and safety issues surrounding adult league players. I drafted a letter to be distributed upon review and approval for executive committee. Attached Points of Emphasis I'd like this to go out to all rink contacts and all adult players.
- Adult state tourney – looking ahead for potential summer dates -attached DRAFT Tourney info sheet
 - ♣ North date tba
 - ♣ South date tba
- Goaltender Development
 - ♣ My team met with Ducks marketing, USA Hockey, and NHL regarding a pilot program with the NHL with the emphasis on grassroots goalie development. NHL Proposal is pending
 - ♣ The pilot program to include:
 - ♣ Coaching/ training with USA Hockey goaltender development
 - ♣ NHL and USA Hockey messaging campaign surrounding the goalie shortages national wide
 - ♣ Gear funding grassroots efforts for goaltenders
 - ♣ Goaltender road map and additional parent/player education for potential new goaltenders.
- CAHA- request – GOALIE GEAR FUNDING
 - ♣ I'd like to make a motion to approve funding "Quick change style" pads for grassroots clubs and programs that demonstrate a legitimate need for assistance within their programs.
 - I suggest we require an application process to demonstrate each clubs' specific grassroots needs. I can assist with this as needed.

Officiating – Dan Ellison

There are currently 1043 officials in CAHA. Current registration ends Nov 30. 580 have re-registered.

Good things are coming from the Task Force. Support from CAHA is tremendous. Spectator abuse needs to be documented.

Old Business

Tier II weekends – need to require teams to provide ice allocations.

SCAHA board wants to change Tier II to have each league run separately then have teams go to States – ie eliminate CAHA weekends. There could be a few crossover weekends. Cost & logistics are crazy. We are rewarding poor decisions by clubs – we need a competitive barometer. If there is no competitiveness then we need to limit Tier teams.

CAHA needs to re-look at rule changes and re-alignment. Tom will sit down with league presidents.

New Business

Per Bridget, we need to vet the Girls Tier I application process. We need to address the process for Girls Tier teams and establish a process if we have more teams interested than we are allowed per USA Hockey.

Hutch is suggesting that we separate HS seasons – NTB & non-NTB. Tom and Rosemary will meet with Ducks, Sharks and Kings.

Director attendance – starting with the February meeting, there will be strict enforcement to CAHA bylaws regarding attendance.

CAHA needs to look at a rule review re: removal for non-performance.

Next Meeting will be February 11 in El Segundo

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm as motioned by Dan Granata with 2nd by Bridget Hopkinson

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