



CAHA Board of Directors' Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting

Date: September 24, 2022

Location: LAX Marriott, El Segundo

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR	Present	Abs	Total # Abs	DIRECTOR
X			Thomas Hancock, President	Z		1	Cameron Higley
Z			Rosemary Voulelikas 1 st V.P.	X			Pat Manzer
X			Chris Hathaway, 2 nd V.P.		X	2	Lillian Marchant
X			Rick Hutchinson 3 rd V.P.		X	1	Randy Meyer
X			Bridget Hopkinson, 4 th V.P.		X	1	Alex Morrison
	X	1	Dave Bigelow	X			Mark Petrovich
	X	1	Curtis Brown	Z			Vaughn Reuter
Z			Kevin Culbertson	X			Craig Sterling
X			Robert Field	Z			Chi-Yin Tse
X			Rob Foster	X			Becki Winckler
X			Dan Granata				
NON VOTING DIRECTOR				NON VOTING DIRECTOR/ GUEST			
Teresa Attebery, CAHA Secretary				Lameka Bell, CAHA Diversity & Inclusion			
Wendy Goldstein, Pacific District Registrar				Ben Frank, CAHA ADM & Pacific District			
Matt Zucker, Official & Disabled Section				Flint DOUNGHAK, Pacific District CIC			
Rick Walden, CAHA Legal (Zoom)				Dan Ellison, Pacific District RIC			
				Thi Tran, CAHA RIC			

X: in person; Z: via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 9:07am. Quorum in attendance. Bob Field motioned to approve both June meeting minutes; second by Rosemary Voulelikas – **MOTION PASSED**

President – Tom Hancock

The Tier II season has started. There have been some parent concerns with venues. See discussion in new business.

Thank you to Matt Z and Mark M for their work with officials for the CAHA weekends. With using officials from out of state, there have been no shortages for Tier II weekends.

This will be the last board meeting with a Zoom option due to cost and disruptions.

*Note: Tom is now solely using president@caha.com email

Treasurer – Chris Hays

Chris was unable to attend – refer to email sent to board regarding Financials.

We will table the budget to the November meeting. Submit any questions to Chris Hays, Tom & Teresa.

Member Services – Karen Hackett

Karen was unable to attend – report sent via email:

Membership renewal email sent Thursday evening to all clubs registered last year. Will need to work with Wendy and Teresa to see if there are any clubs that I missed in my outreach. Deadline to register is 10/1. Within 24 hours, we have 22 registrations, \$8770 revenue collected. Still no decision on what to do with disabled teams. Spoke briefly with Zucker at AGM but nothing decided. Have some new clubs or extensions of existing clubs reaching out with questions/inquiries. Thanks to Tom and Wendy for their support since I am still learning the ropes.

Mammoth wants help with gear, they will have a permanent rink by next season.

Coachella Valley wants to be a member. Per Nancy the Desert Blaze are starting back up. Tom will discuss further with Nancy. Wendy questions if the Blaze are becoming the Jr Firebirds.

Folsom is building a new facility.

Legal Counsel – Rick Walden

Rick was unable to attend.

There are a few appeals pending.

SafeSport – Scott Gray

No report provided. Per Tom there have been a few submissions.

Disputes – Rosemary Voulelikas

There have been 32 match penalties since June – 27 adult and 5 youth. 22 hearings have been held.

During the summer, the USA Hockey standard discipline formats were used.

There are still a lot of 601e3 hateful/hurtful language penalties.

CAHA Selects – Rosemary Voulelikas

CAHA Developmental Camp will be in January. Out of District requests are already been submitted. Girls will be included with the Boys for one more years. Next year, the Girls camp will be separate and longer than 1 day.

Wayne Sawchuk is discussing an expanded event for Girls Districts.

High School Commissioner – Rosemary Voulelikas

There have been a few bumps with declarations. There are 7 - 1A teams and 6 – 2A teams declared.

Rosemary held a separate Managers meeting with the NTB teams last week.

There were 3 new High School rules approved in June regarding districting and playing in the local league.

There have been 12 Youth Council waivers pertaining to these new rules. 10 were approved and 2 were not; 1 was for a college student and 1 for a middle schooler.

ADM Report: Ben Frank

Ben is working on communication and education on ADM for Coaching Directors and coaches.

Officials – Mark Mauro

Mark was unable to attend – report sent

Coordinating officials for 3 CAHA preseason weekends. Significant undertaking given the shortage of officials, especially in northern CA. This has necessitated import of officials from Chicago, Tampa, Las Vegas Oregon, Montana, and Colorado in addition to travel of officials from LAHOA, San Diego, and Reno across the 3 events. Weekend #1 achieved all but 1 game in Vacaville with 3 officials (dye to final game injury). Weekend #2 fully scheduled including Simi Valley 16AA division. Weekend #3 staffed with schedule pending development.

AA regular season weekend scheduling has begun. Early January weekend in LAHOA portends to be the biggest challenge with 4 venues, PGHL girls event, and AAA series in San Jose will likely require travel, but still early planning stages.

Thanks for the financial support to make these events achievable with officials.

Youth Council – Chris Hathaway

Multiple 10U play ups have been denied. Goalie play ups approved with stipulations of the player not being allowed to skate out. 1 – AA minimum roster waiver temporarily approved and will be reviewed if the team moves on to the regular season.

Tom asked Rick H to reach out to the GDC's regarding the low number of goalies. Rick is meeting with Ken Martel, Steve Thompson and the NHL. Looking into a grass roots goalie program.

SCAHA 8U teams have set goalies. NORCAL purchased Quick Change gear to have at all 8U Jamborees for teams to use.

Chi asked about scholarships for goalies. Tom will have Chris Hays add this to the budget. Kevin mentioned that the cost of hockey is really increasing. The leagues need to help with scholarships, then CAHA – perhaps CAHA does a match. Rosemary mentioned that SCAHA has increased their scholarship amount. Chris Hathaway says the onus is on the clubs to for dues.

Tier Commissioner – Kevin Culbertson

FINAL Team counts compared to prior season –

Tier II		Diff		Tier I		Diff
2022	2021			2022	2021	
12U – 17	20	-3		11O – 3	3	0
14U – 21	20	+1		12U – 5	4	+1
16U – 20	18	+2		13O – 5	4	+1
18U – 11	13	-2		14U – 6	5	+1
				15O – 6	6	0
Total - 69	71	-2		16U – 6	5	+1
				18U – 6	6	0
				Total - 37	32	+5

Scorekeeping – As you are aware, like game officials, game scorekeepers are hard to come by. And many of the scorekeepers are not just new, but of course are inexperienced and can easily get intimidated by the game itself. We are finding numerous mistakes, which in and of themselves may not be all that important, EXCEPT when an error leads to the wrong player having to serve a suspension or serve a suspension for a call that was not actually made, or a player that should have to serve a suspension allowed to play. Such mistakes can be made by any scorekeeper, but in particular those that are new to the effort.

Might suggest that at least at venues that will allow, that a representative (manager/parent?) from one or both teams either (A) keep score of the game or (B) be allowed to monitor the recordation of scoresheet entries by the assigned scorekeeper at the venue?

And, the Head Coaches need to also take the time to carefully review game sheets as soon as practical after each game. If nothing else, should they see an egregious error, they have a better chance of finding the game official at THAT time and request a correction, rather than having to try and track the ref down days later.

Referees – As noted above, we need to implore game officials to take a little extra time when making a call, to be confident that the scorekeeper is recording the call properly. And, at the end of the game, take the time to review the sheet and be confident that the sheet, as accurately as possible, reflects the calls that were made during the game

Tier I Game Scheduling – With the deadline of Oct. 15 to have all games scheduled, we are approx. 76% complete with 143 the 189 games scheduled as of this writing.

Tier II Game Scheduling - All three AA 12U, 14U and 16U Pre-Season Weekends are scheduled and posted, and the entire 18U schedule is posted.

Next season, would like to suggest that Tier II team declarations, and specifically for Clubs that field two teams at any specific age group, be asked to identify their teams by primary colors of the club. For example, Ducks ORANGE and Ducks BLACK. This will help both the league scheduler, as well as the Tier Commissioner, reduce instances of confusing teams identified ala “Ducks(1)” and “Ducks(2).” While that might otherwise appear to not be much of an issue to those not elbows deep into scheduling, when looking at a schedule that has as many as 120+ games at a given age group, the “1s” and “2s” can become a blur on the page and easily mistaken one for the other.

Team Managers – After a VERY ROUGH initial start of the year, the vast majority of the Boys Tier Managers are doing a VERY good job since!

Conduct – At the risk of jinxing it, as of this past weekend, I am not aware of any spectator ejections involving any Boys Tier teams this early part of the playing season. Player conduct as far as suspensions does not seem much different than prior seasons, however it does appear that “Match” penalties have subsided compared to this time of the season versus prior seasons.

SCAHA clubs not fielding 16A teams is a problem. We should re-think 16A because teams are being forced to play 16AA. Per Tom, the issue is not SCAHA, now with teams being relegated from AA that may facilitate them declaring A from the starts. Per Rosemary, many of the SCAHA teams have moved to High School. Some families may not be able to afford participating in both High School and travel leagues. Rob Foster commented that High School is cheaper and more relaxed then travel. Tom mentioned that the biggest issue is lack of ice and that High School is the answer and will lead to more ice. 16 of the 20 16AA teams this season are from SCAHA. The teams that do not make the CAHA AA season will have games scheduled in the SCAHA 16A schedule. There was a suggestion that the 16A season should start later to formally include the teams that did not make the CAHA AA regular season.

Rick Hutchinson commented that playing in a High School league is more convenient for some students. Also, the Ducks are working on a Junior High School league for a spring season. Per Rosemary, this is also on the table with the USA Hockey High School Committee. Mark Petrovich commented that there are a lot of 8th graders interested and in the spring, the Kings has over 350 players and 15 teams.

CAHA now has 1 official Girls High School team.

There needs to be further discussion on season alignment. There was a comment to start a High School league this coming spring.

Girls Commissioner – Bridget Hopkinson

We have the following Tier Girls Teams:

12 AA – Three teams: LA Lions, LD Ducks, and SD Angels

12U AAA – Three teams: Jr Sharks Girls, LA Lions, Lady Ducks

14U AA – Three Teams: Jr Sharks Girls, Lady Ducks, SD Angels

14U AAA – Three Teams Jr Sharks Girls, LA Lions, Lady Ducks

16U AA – One Team: Lady Ducks

16U AAA – Two Teams: Jr Sharks Girls, Lady Ducks

19U AA – Three Teams: Jr Sharks Girls Lady Ducks SD Angels

19U AAA – Two Teams: Lady Ducks, SD Angels

PGHL Games are starting 09.23.22 Teams are looking forward to a great season.

Pacific District Meeting will be held on October 15th so we should know how many of our girls teams advance to PD playoffs and if we need any CAHA playoffs this year.

We need ALL board members to volunteer at playoffs. Sign up information will be sent some time in November.

CAHA Girls camp is open. There has been a lot of abuse this season from families regarding late registration requests. Next season those emails will not be responded to.

Bob Field mentioned that the Girls are being short changed with the Girls camp this season. Reminder that CAHA approved a change to separate the Girls and Boys camps but to a Girls conflict we had to postpone that to next season. Bridget will look into additional off-ice components for this season.

Wendy asked who the main contact is for the PGHL and for a copy of the rules to be sent. Bridget will send out the rules to the Registrars by Monday.

Pacific District Registrar – Wendy Goldstein

Membership numbers thru July are at 68% of last year. Hopefully we catch up.

Registrars have been very busy this season. There have been a lot of technology issues with USA Hockey.

Pacific District CIC – Flint Dounghak

Stephanie Yates has been named Pacific District Associate CIC (Coach in Chief). Looking for a Goalie CIC.

Coaching Clinics levels 1 thru 4 are staying virtual. Coaches need to get their level 4 in their 4th year of coaching. CEP clinics are being posted in phases this season, next posting will be October 1, then December 1. Coaches can attend any online/virtual clinic. The Pacific District website as link to the clinics. Advanced/private registration information is sent to coaches in the district ahead of the public posting.

Reminder of the Continuing Education program now in place. Coaches need to earn 5 credits/hours within 3 years. There will be many online options for this that will be similar to the Age-Specific modules. Hopefully these will be going live in January. Looking into how the Goaltending clinics and Referee seminars can/will count. The USA Hockey 14 camp counts for all 5 hours as does the Level 5 CEP. In the Pacific District, if a club would like a specific training done for their coaches, that is available. One option is teaching coaches how to handle parents.

Pacific District Disabled Section – Matt Zucker

The NHL Sled Classic will be held in November in Irvine. Last year there were 27 teams in New Jersey.

Due to an ethics house cleaning within USA Hockey, Jim Smith and JJ are out and Maureen Thompson-Siegel from New Jersey / Atlantic District is the new Chair for the Disabled Section.

If any clubs or rinks have any Special Hockey groups, please reach out to Matt. Chi mentioned that Oakland has a Special Hockey group and will be reaching out to Matt.

Adult Section – Rick Hutchinson

Rick plans to move forward with an Adult tournament. There is interest in a 50 over league among adult players in CAHA.

Tom is working with USA Hockey for approval to work with other sponsors for adult tournaments.

Match penalties are high with adults. There needs to be communication from CAHA to adult players. Tom will work on a point of emphasis to send to the Adult leagues.

Rosemary suggested that Adult leagues need to start banning players with issues and not leave that to CAHA.

Officiating – Dan Ellison

USA Hockey has created the Jamie Huntley-Park award to recognize a female official who has made outstanding contributions to the growth of officiating and represents what it means to be a great teammate.

Jamie is being inducted into the San Diego Officiating Sports Hall of Fame.

There is a nationwide officiating task force to look at recruitment, retention and abuse.

There are currently 874 registered officials in.

Chris commented that the officials are doing a great job following new standards.

Old Business

Tom and Lameka will have a formal meeting with each group regarding the equipment proposal discussed at the June meeting.

New Business

Currently Tier II clubs do not need to provide ice slots. We will start a dialogue to require Tier II programs to provide ice/host CAHA weekends. Tier II ice allocation and availability needs to be addressed.

12-16 Tier II costs for this season are \$7100 for preseason and \$5600 for regular season. 18AA cost is \$8800 since there is no preseason. Costs are being driven up by clubs fielding AA teams that just don't belong in AA. There are 5 16AA teams that definitely do not belong playing AA and should have declared A. We need clubs to stop declaring teams that are not competitive. Clubs need to start having these discussions. A big issue is that coaches' pay is higher for Tier teams, so that is not helping dissuade them.

Bridget suggested that we do some sort of elimination process before Labor Day to eliminate some of the non-competitive teams prior to the start of pre-season. Tom believes this should also include Tier I. If a team is not eligible for Tier I, they should move to Tier II. We need to look at roster dates and tryout dates. Maybe we do something the weekend after Labor Day.

Clubs need to do an honest assessment of their teams. If an organization is fielding miserably performing teams, we do not want them at the Tier level taking advantage of and abusing our rules. Perhaps non-competitive clubs should be limited to only 1 Tier team per age division.

USA Hockey is discussing adding a 13O NTB division and possibly eliminating 18U NTB. USA Hockey discussions around birth year teams is only at the Tier I level. Kevin posed a question about CAHA going to birth year only teams. Per Chris, this requirement would cause NORCAL to fold. Rick suggested that CAHA send surveys to clubs for feedback. Chris suggested coaches only then parent only meetings for feedback.

Becki mentioned that SCAHA Tier II teams are commenting on the number of school days missed due to so many CAHA weekends in NORCAL. There was a comment that is the travel is too much then perhaps Tier hockey is not the right choice.

With respect to Girls High School teams, once CAHA has another team, then districting comes into play.

Tom would like to start an Anti-bullying focus group. We need to better educate our player base. If interested in participating, reach out to Tom.

Tom reported that both legal matters that were open have concluded.

Next Meeting will be November 12 in San Mateo

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