Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, March 1, 2016

Postponement of February 23, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL** Mike McCullough brought the meeting to order

Directors Present: All except: Central, N. Lights, Polar Bears, Wolfpack, Greater New Haven, Greenwich Blues, Griffin, New Canaan, Salisbury, Simsbury, and West Hartford. Notwithstanding these absences, a Quorum is satisfied. The attendance log reflecting tonight’s attendance is made as an attachment to these minutes.

Board Officers Present: Vice President, Michael McCullough; Secretary, Art Blakeslee; Treasurer, Michael Federico

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: Registrar, Mary Turner; Eligibility Chairperson and District-I Commissioner, Kathy Ludwig; District II Commissioner, Brad Conlan; Tier 1 Director and District-III Commissioner, Art Blakeslee; District IV Commissioner and Bantam Director, Bob Walker; Girls Director, Joe Dymarczyk; Tournament Chair, Chuck Wilkerson; Grow the Game Co-Director, Leslie O’Brien; Referee In Chief, Barry Zalcman

**ACCEPT THE MINUTES**

The December minutes were revised and approved. January minutes were not yet available for approval.

**REPORTS**

**President:** Absent

**Vice President:** Nothing to report.

**Secretary:** Nothing to report.

**Treasurer:**

* A reminder that tournament fee amounts are pending and will be posted to the website shortly.
* Host programs are instructed to review and are encouraged to use the ice fee invoice template that has been posted to the Documents section of the Website. Invoices presented without the required information, as well as invoices directly from rinks, will not be honored.
* Funds are still available for programs for their Grow the Game efforts, with a match of $1 for $1.
* CHC will be taking out a full-page ad in the USA Hockey Tier 2 Girls program in Vermont.
* The RefPay system is operating as expected. Programs will begin using the RefPay associated program to load and pay their referee fees, so that as much automation is utilized to ensure timely payments and reconcilement.

**Website:** A survey for the ’03 birth year girls is being sent out to obtain interest in the Development Camp in New Hampshire in June. Players must live in the state and play for a CHC program to participate.

**Disabled Hockey:** No report

**Grow-the –Game / Marketing**: The Backyard Rink contest is winding down. Despite the poor weather, a number of entries have been received, and a winner will soon be announced. Tournament Central has been extremely popular, with the most hits ever on the website.

**Referee in Chief:** There are significant numbers of tournaments occurring over the next two weekends. Please be patient and understanding with the referees, as they are stretched thin to provide coverage.

Next season, associations will have three options for paying referees: 1) allow the ref association to sweep the organizations account for fees (preferred method - 50% of programs do that now); 2) provide the organizations access to RefPay ($35 annual fee) to send their fees via EFT; or 3) Pay by check one month in advance for anticipated games and then reconcile and adjust once games are completed.

**Girls:** Regional tournaments are coming up, and girls are encouraged to participate in the survey

**Registrar:**

* Credentialing of books is required only for the following:
* Bantam Tier 1, top 2 teams; Bantam Tier 2, winner of States; Girls 19U Tier 1 & 2, top two teams; Girls 16U Tier 1 & 2, top team; Girls 14U Tier 1 & 2, top team.
* Teams advancing to Regionals and Sectionals need only to receive a certified roster with birthdate verification from Mary to present at the tournament.

**Coaching Education Program.** Level 4 clinics in CT and NH have been posted to the USAH site.

**New England District/Team Connecticut:** No report.

**Tournament Director:**  Tournaments are underway, tournament fees will be finalized soon.

**Eligibility (Kathy Ludwig):**  Releases will not be granted without a destination program. There are no “wildcard” releases, and no second releases without CHC approvals. Preliminary rosters are due to Kathy as soon as possible after tryouts and placement so that releases can be tracked accordingly.

**Safe Sport:** There are four ongoing issues under investigation, mainly involving coaches & language including behind closed doors, with verbal and emotional abuse of players a major concern.

**District Commissioners:** Things are running about normal. The number of coach/parent suspensions under the new rules seems to be decreasing, hopefully due to an understanding of the new rule and the intent of the Commissioners to enforce them.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* **Shoreline Sharks:**  The vote for full membership will be held on-line with results posted by email and added to the minutes for the March meeting.
* **Mites:**  Massachusetts has decided to request an exception, so there is a new proposal for most New England states for a limited, smaller number of full ice games plus a tournament.
* **Putnam Youth Hockey Declaration Proposal:** Discussion was held, and it was determined that this issue falls within the Tournament Declaration process, to be discussed at a later meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* **2017 Tournament Formats:**  A discussion was held regarding the proposed implementation of CT Hockey Ratings to determine tiers. The issue was tabled, and an on-line survey of the membership will be conducted on three options: Status Quo; utilizing CHR for Tier 2 and below, except for Bantam; or utilizing CHR for Tier 3 and below, with all Tier 2 by declaration. Results will be announced and included in the minutes for the March meeting.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A Motion to Adjourn (seconded) PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

**NEXT MEETING: March 22, 2016, 7:30 pm**

 Italian American Club

 35 Chase Lane, West Haven