

Minutes of the regular meeting of CHC Board of Directors, June 26, 2007

CALL TO ORDER 7:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: All Programs except (number in parentheses indicate absences): CT. N. Lights (1); CT Stars (1); Enfield (1); Grn. Blues (1); Griffin (3), Kent (3); Middlesex (1); Salisbury (3), Simsbury (3), Wallingford (2); Watertown (1); Yale (1). The attendance log, reflecting tonight's attendance, is made as an attachment to the minutes.

The following member Programs are hereby notified that they have three (3) recorded absences, and that their next absence will result in loss of Good Standing:

**Griffin
Kent
Salisbury
Simsbury**

Board Officers Present: President, Jim Lanza; Vice President, Mike Meakem; Secretary: Glenn Van Moffaert; Treasurer, Jason Pniewski.

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: Eligibility Chairperson (District I Commissioner), Kathy Ludwig; District-III Commissioner, Barry Zalcman; District-IV Commissioner Glenn Van Moffaert; Mite Coordinator, Joe Erico; Squirt Coordinator, Brian Oatway; Women's Coordinator, Joe Dymarczyk; Coaching Director, Mike Powers.

USA Hockey Appointees (non-voting) present: Referee-in-Chief, Randy Zaritsky

USA Hockey Officials (non-voting) present: none

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

The May minutes were approved without objection.

REPORTS

President (Jim Lanza)

USA Hockey's Annual Congress

USA Hockey's Annual Congress concluded and while this year's legislative cycle was predicted to modify certain playing rules, little was ultimately changed.

Spirited debate was in regard to the proposal to adopt the "tag up" offside rule in youth hockey. While the motion to adopt "tag up" failed, it will be allowed in high school hockey.

The motion to modify the rule for icing on a penalty kill also failed. The MA-District will continue to pilot this change, acquiring data and empirical evidence. The NE-District is also considering piloting this initiative and would provide MA any data it collects. It is not yet been determined what type of data to collect or the process to collect it.

Other motions that failed include:

- assess a minor penalty for deliberately shooting a puck out of the rink in the defensive zone;
- eliminate/reduce the penalty assessed against coaches whose team records 15 penalties in a game.

One change that did pass, was that USA Hockey now adopts an official policy denouncing the practice of "locker boxing."

. [post-meeting note: full minutes from the Congress can be viewed on the NEW VERSION of the USAH website, once they are available in the near future:
http://www.usahockey.com/Template_Usahockey.aspx?NAV=NO&id=176858&USAHockeyType=ICE).

DISTRICT NEWS

Growing the Game

A recurring theme at the Congress, and something which CHC has long recognized, is how to encourage growth of the game of hockey to the youngest generation of children. Although registration numbers are increasing, the details show that Adult and Women are responsible for this growth, and NOT YOUTH Hockey. This situation cannot sustain growth into the future. In order to rectify the situation the NE District is taking the lead to address this issue, by promoting such things like x-ice hockey at Mite level, in order to reduce the cost of the programs, encourage the discipline of DEVELOPING SKILLS, while retaining a high degree of “fun factor” with the kids at their most impressionable age.

MIDGET T-1 change

There has been a change for the Midget T-1 requirement. The former “counting” qualifying policy was the 10-20 rule: 10games/player, and 20 games per team. That has been changed to 8-15. However, in order to advance out of the District, the 10-20 rule applies. (note: Tournament games DO NOT COUNT toward qualifying minimums)..

Jim elected as NE Director

Jim was pleased to announce that he has been elected to as USA Hockey New England District Director. The NE District by-laws do not allow him to serve as a District Director and as CHC President. Jim announced that he will resign as CHC President at the conclusion of this evening’s meeting. By the succession rules of the CHC Bylaws, Mike Meakem will be taking over the position of President for the remained of Jim’s term.

Vice President (Mike Meakem)

Mike mentioned that there has been a paucity of update information reported back to CHC (either to Glenn or Mike). Currently 5 of the 38 programs have responded with changes to their Board structure and scheduler’s information. Key information which is intended to be included in the Guidebook is the identification of: President, CHC Rep, Registrar, and Schedulers. This information is also key to keeping lines of communication intact and current to promote activities of CHC. Please be sure to complete and return this form to Glenn (district_IV@yahoo.com) and to (mmeakem@cftatlantic.org) ASAP, but by no later than July 15th. The form is attached as a document to the e-mail sent with these minutes.

Treasurer (Jason Pniewski)

No significant change from last reported accounting.

Secretary (Glenn Van Moffaert)

Attendance at CHC Meetings is critical to maintaining a healthy organization. Please sign-in using the attendance sheet, as this is the method to verify your program’s attendance a the meeting. FOUR ABSENCES result in loss of Good Standing.

REITERATION: Please be sure to complete and return the form for updated contact information (IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT A NEW

FORM) of the member programs to Glenn (district_IV@yahoo.com) and to Mike (mmeakem@cftatlantic.org) ASAP, but by no later than July 15th. The form is attached as a document to the e-mail sent with these minutes. A sample of that format was included as Attachment #2 to the May minutes.

Eligibility Committee (Kathy Ludwig)

To date, approximately 180 releases have been issued, largely due to the fact that about half of the programs have conducted Spring tryouts. The running list of releases will be made available as soon as the USAH-version for the CHC website is made operational.

District III GOOD NEWS! Carry-over suspensions that were handed out last season have all been served and fulfilled.

District-IV: how interesting --- no news!

Registrar (Patty Garcia)

In Patty's absence, Jim gave the following report:

This season the \$5 CHC team fee has been WAIVED!

The date for the Registrar's meeting not yet determined, but it will e held in the beginning of August. CHECK THE WEB-SITE for news, and also a e-mail will be sent out once the date and venue is confirmed.

Girls (Joe Dymarczyk)

Joe reported on the continuing success of the girls' program, and in the chart below shows those teams that have declared T-1.

2007-2008 Girl's Tier I Teams				
	12U	14U	16U	19U
Darien		X		
CT Polar Bears	X	X	X	X
CT Stars	X	X	X	X
Mid-Fairfield		X	X	
Northern Lights	X	X		

Coaching Director (Mike Powers)

The clinic for L4 is less than one month away, and so far only 5 coaches have registered. Based on an earlier poll (informal) it was expected to have a much greater turnout, and 75 seats have been reserved. L4 may be cancelled if there is not further interest. Send an e-mail to Mike if you are interested (powersdm@hotmail.com) In an e-mail from Mike dated June 13, he gave this information:

“The Level 4 Clinic will be in Vermont on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of July 2007. Bill Corbo is the primary point of contact for this clinic. Bill's contact information is: bcorbojr@together.net

If you contact Bill he can give you the registration process, the lodging information and the cost of the clinic.”

ACE CORDINATOR NAMED: Brandon Johnson has been named the ACE Coordinator.

Referee in Chief (Randy Zaritsky)

Schedules for all clinics can be found on the website, when available. Soon the URL may be changed to NEREF.com (likely in July).

Dates area s follows (all times are 8:30 am registration; 9:00a.m. start):

DAY	DATE	CITY	RINK
Sat	8/25	Newington	Newington Ice Arena
Sun	9/9	West Haven	Bennett
Sun	10/7	Trinity College	LEVEL 4 ONLY!!!!
Sun	10/21	New Milford (Cantebury)	Drady Rink
Sun	11/4	Shelton	Rinks at Shelton

NEW BUSINESS

A. Tiered hockey

Jim spoke on how USAH is looking to define a Tier structure. In this vein, CHC is well ahead of the learning curve. CHC’s view to Tier-1 hockey has the potential to bring a balanced approach to competitive hockey while promoting continuing development of players.

Spring boarding from this initiative, Jim proposed a new structure for the other Divisions. Instead of retaining Division hockey, create a formal structure of Tiered hockey, whereby all teams would declare their eligibility in the State Tournaments into respective Tier-2, -3 and -4 (formerly “Supplemental”). Jim laid out a structure where it is envisioned that T-2 and T-3 would comprise about 12 teams, the only cap being that each member program could designate only one team per age group in Tier 2 or T3. It is thought that T2 would be principally comprised of those teams that historically rank into D2 and upper D3. Tier-3 would be principally comprised of those teams that historically rank into lower of D3 and D4. The remaining teams could declare into D4 (without limitation), and the State tournament for D4 would be handled similarly as the Supplemental Tournament was made this past season.

MITES would be handled separately.

Discussion was made around the basic structure and rules regarding eligibility of teams, how many games would need to be played to qualify, and scheduling.

A motion (seconded) was made to call the question on whether for the upcoming season a formal Tiered structure would be implemented. The guidelines and tournament seeding policies would be written up. The motion carried by a show of hands without opposition.

POST MEETING NOTE: Attached to these minutes is the written proposal for the Tier 2, Tier 3 and Tier 4 Tournament Guidelines.

B. VACANY of Office of Vice President

By Jim’s resignation as President to take on the duties as a Director of the NE District, Mike succeeded to the office of the President, and the office of VP is now vacant. In accordance with our Bylaws, the BOD has the power to fill any vacancy among its officers. The BOD could either hold a special election, or wait until the end of the current season with elections for other Board Officers.

A motion was made (seconded) to call a special election to fill the office of Vice President. Said election would be held at the September CHC Regular Meeting. The motion passed by a show of hands without opposition.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Jim appointed a nominating committee of Brian Oatway (briano@progressiveeng.com), Bob McCoy from Watertown Youth Hockey (bmccoy@mccoyprinting.com), and Tom Macken from Greenwich Blues (teamjr@optonline.net). Nominations should be sent to the Nominating Committee, however, as provided for in the By-Laws nominations from the floor are accepted.

C. “Super League”

A question was raised regarding the status of the “Super League” (Tier-1). Jim said that scheduling alliances are being formed with the neighboring leagues, with the notable exception of Massachusetts. Currently envisioned is competition for the “Ranger Cup” and the “Whalers Cup”.

D. Action against former Officers

A question was raised regarding the progress made since the pre-judgment award of money damages to CHC against some of its former Officers. Jim said that this type of litigation is a slow process, and no significant movement on this point has been made.

E. PASSING OF THE GAVEL Jim tendered his resignation as President of CHC, and the gavel was passed to Mike Meakem who succeeds to this office.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn (seconded) passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEXT MEETING:

“PRESIDENT’S MEETING”

August 28, 2007

7:30pm

Italian American Club

35 Chase Road, West Haven.

/Attachment #1 to June 26, 2007 minutes
Attendance Log

Program	GS	Total Absences	April 2007	May	June	August
Avon		0				
Central		0				
CT Clippers		0				
CT Northern Lights		1			x	
CT Polar Bears		0				
CT Stars		1			x	
CT Wolves		0				
Darien		1		x		
East Haven		1		x		
ECHO		1		x		
Enfield		1			x	
Gr. Bridgeport		0				
Gr. New Haven		0				
Greenwich Blues		1			x	
Greenwich Skate		1	x			
Griffin		3	x	x	x	
Hamden		0				
Kent		3	x	x	x	
Middlesex		1			x	
Mid-Fairfield		0				
New Canaan		2	x	x		
Northeastern		0				
Northwestern		0				
Pawling		0				
Ridgefield		2	x	x		
Salisbury		3	x	x	x	
Simsbury		3	x	x	x	
South Windsor		1	x			
Southeastern		0				
Southern		1		x		
Stamford		1		x		
Wallingford		2		x	x	
Watertown		1			x	
West Hartford		0				
West Haven		0				
Western		1	x			
Wonderland Wizards		2	x	x		
Yale		1			x	
Members Present (38)			28	25	26	
LOSS OF STANDING			0	0	0	0
Good Standing			38	38	38	
Quorum			10	10	10	

/Attachment #2 to May 23, 2007 minutes
 Sample of Update form and information

TABLE-1
 General Program Information

<u>Program</u>	<u>Contact Type</u>	<u>Contact First Name</u>	<u>Contact Last Name</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Work Phone</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>AdditionalEmail</u>	<u>Program Website</u>
	President												
	CHC Rep												
	Registrar												

Table-2
 SCHEDULERS'S Information

<u>Program</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Contact First Name</u>	<u>Contact Last Name</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Work Phone</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
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