

Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, January 27, 2009

CALL TO ORDER 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: All Programs except (number in parentheses indicate total absences this season including this evening): East Haven (3); Greater Bridgeport (1); Hamden (3); Salisbury (9); Simsbury (2); Wallingford (2); and Western CT (1). The attendance log, reflecting tonight's attendance, is made as an attachment to the minutes.

Board Officers Present: President, Mike Meakem; Secretary: Glenn Van Moffaert.

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: Eligibility Chairperson and District-I Commissioner, Kathy Ludwig; District III Commissioner, Barry Zalzman; District-IV Commissioner, Glenn Van Moffaert; Supplemental Director (Tier-4): Art Blakeslee; Midget Director: Amy Landino; Squirt Director, Tom Regan; Women's & Girls Director, Jacqui Campero and Carolyn Holt.

USA Hockey Appointees (non-voting) present: none.

USA Hockey Officials (non-voting) present: Jim Lanza.

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

A motion (seconded) to accept December minutes (as corrected) passed without objection.

REPORTS

President (Mike Meakem)

1. Mike is troubled that "concerned" parents and coaches continue to raise the ante regarding the amount of abuse that volunteers absorb. Consider these latest acts of outrage:
 - a 1 a.m. phone call from a parent to the home of the Referee in Chief to contest a penalty
 - a parent who, despite having their Member Program yield to their demands thereby satisfying their complaint in full, continues to rail against them. This time their ire was brought up to the National organization. It should be noted that USAH was gracious to extend their deepest sympathy and condolences to the Member Program and Mike.
 - a parent of a PW-C players makes phone calls to Brian Oatway, who is recovering from surgery, to argue about scheduling and fairness of the Tournaments.

With sadness, Mike made known his intention to step down as President, effective with the conclusion of this CHC Year; (see Secretary's report for details).

2. In the category that every dark cloud has a silver lining, comes this GOOD NEWS --- Hockey Day across Connecticut was extremely well received! Congratulations to all who helped make this inaugural day a success!

Other good news: Central and Wallingford worked out their differences on a particular issue WITHOUT resorting to escalation to CHC or beyond. This is a fine example of how ADULTS behaving as ADULTS using direct, simple discussion can resolve issues.

3. Revitalize Hockey initiative was a bit sidetracked with the myriad of goings on, but it remains a priority of the Board, with meetings scheduled.

Vice President (Jason Pniewski)

In Mr. Pniewski's absence, it was noted that he will not seek election to another two-year term.

Secretary (Glenn Van Moffaert)

Glenn gave a brief overview on the terms of the respective Board Offices, and the call for Election of Board Officers for the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary. Mike will announce a Nominating Committee.

The Board Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) serve for two year terms, with a limitation that the President shall be limited to three consecutive terms in office. The bylaws are written such that Board Officers serve in staggered terms, with the President and Treasurer elected in even years, and Vice President and Secretary are elected in odd years.

The election of Board Officers occurs on the date of the Annual Meeting, in April; this year it is April 28, 2009. The Offices of Vice President and Secretary are up for election. Due to Mike Meakem’s announcement that he is resigning as President effective at the end of this CHC season, an election for President shall also be held to fill the remaining year of Mike’s term. The table below summarizes these matters:

Board Office	Current Term	Next Term	Election
President	April 2008 – March 2010	April 2010 – March 2012	Yes; to complete the remainder of Mr. Meakem’s current term, Apr 2009 – March 2010
Vice President	April 2007 – March 2009	April 2009 – March 2011	Yes; New 2-year term
Secretary	April 2007 – March 2009	April 2009 – March 2011	Yes; New 2-year term
Treasurer	April 2008 – March 2010	April 2010 – March 2012	No; Mr. Federico is serving his current term.

Treasurer (Mike Federico)

In Mr. Federico’s absence, Mr. Meakem highlighted that the balance for Tournament Fees is due and payable by Feb. 15, since the Tourney starts on Feb. 20. You can deliver your checks to Mike Meakem this evening, or mail your checks to the Treasurer. Your balance must be fully satisfied in order to permit your teams to play in the State Tournaments; call Mr. Federico if you disagree with the amount owed.

The Finance Committee has been formally appointed by Mike Meakem based on interest from Member Program Presidents. The Finance Committee consists of Mssrs. Tom Hennessy (Wtn), Larry Sodokoff (Grn. Sk.), Mike Kingston (Avon), Mike Cunningham (E. Hv), Mike Federico and Mike Meakem.

Grow the Game (Ken Dixon)

In Ken’s absence (he’s a new daddy!) Mike Meakem gave big kudos to Ken, and thee effort he and other volunteers made to make Hockey Day a success – a total of 330 skaters across CT were involved!! Ken is hopeful that this initiative will continue in the future, but equipment storage is an issue. Right now Ken’s barn is serving as a storage facility, but this is not an acceptable long-term solution. Any ideas, give Ken a call.

Eligibility Committee (Kathy Ludwig)

Coaches issues continue to stir problems -- Coaches SCREENING – this is a REQUIRMENT! Programs must screen all their coaches! At this time about a dozen programs have not submitted proof of

screening! This is abhorrent! **PROGRAMS HAVE 48 HOURS TO COMPLY OTHERWISE THEY ARE SUSPENDED FROM FURTHER ACTIVITY.** Any questions call KATHY – not Patty Garcia; Patty is the Registrar, and is not involved with coaches screening program.

Other COACHING ISSUE -- Improper CEP certifications and improper roster management. Remember, the deadline for getting CEP / Roster amendment WAS 12/31! Without proof of proper coaching qualification, coaches will be barred from further participation with that team.

The consequence to the member program for not using coaches that are compliant with Screening and CEP, is more than just loss of games. Consider that in this litigious society, these actions may be regarded as such glaring oversight to declare certain insurance provisions void. As board members of your local organizations, you can be facing personal liability.

The District Commissioners report that all is NOT quiet:

Dst-I: a MITE MATCH penalty!

Dst-II: remains nightmarish for MATCH assessments.

Dst-III: one MATCH and multiple GM for bad behavior. The helmet rule is enforceable against Coaches.

Dst-IV: no matches to report, but several acts of Chx-behind.

Registrar (Patty Garcia) In Patty's absence it was highlighted that credentialing is underway. Sue McCullough will be taking over all the reins from Patty beginning next season.

New England District (Jim Lanza)

Jim reported that Regional and National Tournament directors will apply strict scrutiny to upfront qualifications of teams (including coaches), and that your credentialed book must be in good order. T-3A also needs a credentialed book as Sectionals are in play.

There is discussion at the National level to promote that National Development Team using the High Performance Club model. There is growing evidence that there is a finite window in a child's development to accentuate athletic ability. This weekend in Nashua is a pivotal district meeting where the values of such a developmental program will be debated, with an eye toward the 2009-10 season as the inaugural year. However, USAH does recognize that a phased rollout may need to be implemented in order to accommodate local Teir-1 programs and their scheduling commitments.

At the Winter Meeting, discussion was made to expand the T2 National Tournament for each of the 48 states, with the expectation that each state would be represented by a State Champion. The NE-D is against this idea, and it will continue to send its District Champion. One of the issues being debated is that the population density of some states does not lend itself to a one state-one team philosophy. Another proposal is to regionalize into four Sections/divisions, but this too would need iron out scheduling issues. In either scenario, cost is a factor. as travel expenses alone can be considerable.

Women's and Girls' (Carolyn Holt; Jacqueline Campero)

Jacqui will populate and upload results of the Festival tryouts (2nd week of Feb) to the web. See the website for full details.

Referee in Chief (Randy Zaritsky)

In Randy's absence Mike Meakem reported that for the State Tournament, referees are scheduled through the R-I-C and not the local referee organizations. Randy advised that now is the time when a jump in GM/Match

penalties occur. Presumably this is because the player thinks that there is no carryover to the next season, or if they leave CHC. However, this is FASLE. Penalties can carry-over into the next season, or follow the player wherever they may be if they are under a USAH banner.

Tournament Committee (Brian Oatway)

Art Blakeslee gave the report in Brian's absence. The regular season ends on Sunday. If your games are not all in, please call Mike Meakem and the respective Tournament Director to rectify this situation. The Tournament schedule is on the website. The dates are set; the notations like Mite T4, #1, is merely a placeholder ---#1 does not designate a ranking.

Each Div Director has been asked to finalize the T4 placements, and publish the results Feb. 8 or 9.

Tier 3B and T4, each host program is confirming ice times, and any adjustments will be made through Art only.

T2-SQ needs all scores posted by the end of this weekend!

Tier-1 (Jim Lanza) Tier-1 players are being contacted directly. Schedules re being arranged, but dates are subject to change. See the website for full details. Try out dates are not settled upon. However, the consideration of T2 tryouts is that if a player is selected to play with a T1-team, then that player must be allowed to move to T1 without any financial liability, other than the payment of a tryout fee. Also, Member Programs cannot have T2 tryouts on the same day as a T1 tryout, and T1 tryouts will begin after the National tournament.

Team-CT Results for BY 92 / 93 will be posted in February.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

NEXT MEETING:

February 24, 2009
7:30pm
Italian American Club
35 Chase Lane, West Haven.

/Attachment #1 to January 2009 minutes
Attendance Log

Program	Total Absences	Annual Meeting April 2008	May	June	August Presidents' Meeting	September	October	November	December	January 2009
Avon	0									
Central	1			x						
CT Clippers	2					x		x		
CT Northern Lights	0									
CT Polar Bears	0									
CT Wolves	3	x			x		x			
Darien	2					x			x	
East Haven	3			x		x				x
ECHO	2	x						x		
Enfield	2	x		x						
Gr. Bridgeport	1									x
Gr. New Haven	0									
Greenwich Blues	2				x	x			x	
Greenwich Skate	2	x				x				
Griffin	3				x			x	x	
Hamden	3	x				x				x
Kent	1					x				
Middlesex	1			x						
Mid-Fairfield	0									
New Canaan	2				x			x		
Northeastern	3	x			x				x	
Northwestern	1							x		
Pawling	1								x	
Ridgefield	3	x				x		x		
Salisbury (8)	9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Simsbury	2	x								x
South Windsor	0									
Southeastern	0									
Southern	1	x								
Stamford	2	x						x		
Wallingford	2	x								x
Watertown	1							x		
West Hartford	2	x					x			
West Haven	1				x					
Western	1									x
Wonderland Wizards	1							x		
Yale	1								x	