

Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, February 24, 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): Grn. Skate (3); New Caanan (3); Pawling (2); Salisbury (10); W. Hartford (3); and Yale (2). The attendance log, reflecting tonight's attendance, is made as an attachment to the minutes.

Board Officers Present: President, Mike Meakem; Treasurer, Mike Federico; 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; Women's & Girls' Dev'l Director: Joe D; Midget Director: Amy Landino; PeeWee Director: Rich Dibble; Squirt Director, Tom Regan; Supplemental Director (Tier-4): Art Blakeslee; Women's & Girls Tournament: Carolyn Holt.

USA Hockey Appointees (non-voting) present: Patty Garcia.

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

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

A motion (seconded) to accept January minutes passed without objection.

REPORTS

Registrar (Patty Garcia)

Patty reminded everyone that a Credentialing BINDER is not an envelope, nor a paper bag; please use a binder, preferably with indexing tabs that is organized. If the current registrar of your program is NOT returning next season (2009-10), then please inform Sue McCullough whom within your organization is taking that position, as the next version of CyberSport is delivered to the registrar on record with USAH.

Referee in Chief (Randy Zaritsky)

In Randy's absence Kevin Carr reported that referee scheduling for the State Tournaments is made such that L2 (or higher) refs are at T2/T3 games, and L3 (or higher) refs are at T1 games. Approximately 600 games are sought to be covered this post-season!! Before you call Randy in a panicked state because there is no referee in the building, please check places like unused locker rooms --- they may be hiding there. If there is an issue of absentee referee, please Randy and Mike know, since there are financial considerations regarding this occurrence.

Mike Meakem made mention of a player assaulting a referee --- this carries a minimum 1 YEAR SUSPENSION from USAH activities of the offending player.

Treasurer (Mike Federico)

Mike thanked everyone since the Tournament Fees have been received, and some programs are due refunds (the check is in the mail!). To date, there is about \$487,000 in gross receipts, with about \$127,000 in expenses NOT INCLUDING tournament ice costs.

President (Mike Meakem)

There is apparently a full moon every day that brings out the torrid zaniness among the parents of youth hockey players. ECHO parents in particular are quite venomous in their words and actions. Barry's SQ team has also run amok with lunacy. Will this bad behavior ever end?

USAH had acquired about 50 tickets for a Sound Tiger – Wolfpack game, and they were distributed to those volunteers who made CT Hockey Day a great success!

A reminder regarding tryout rules: T2 can conduct their tryouts at any time other than a date which conflicts with a T-1 tryout in their region. Also, all T2 programs must refund any program fees (other than a tryout fee that is generally charged to all prospective players) if any T2 player that is selected to a T-1 team.

Similarly the girls rules mirrors that for the boys, whereby if a player chooses to play with a T1 team prior to May 1, any payment (other than a tryout fee) to a Tier 2 team is fully refundable.

Nuisance lawsuits are threatened against the CHC. This time the issue arises from the imposition of a Ru401 supplementary discipline made upon a coach. Prior to the threatening letter, the suspension was relieved with stipulations put into place regarding the coach's behavior. However, that reasonable arrangement was apparently not satisfactory for this coach, who now escalates to involve lawyers. Ridiculous!

Report of the nominating Committee is that so far no nominations have been received for the Board Officer elections (President, Vice President and Secretary are in play). Likely the nominations will flow in once the Tournaments are finished. Mike had also suggested that given the amount of time that his office consumes, it may be time to consider hired help.

Secretary (Glenn Van Moffaert)

Two proposals for amendments were received.

1. A proposal from the Darien program to change the Rules & Policies by re-instituting a version of the Release and Quota Rule. Darien requests debate and vote on their proposal at the March meeting. Glenn suggested that the proposal (shown below) be reviewed by the Tournament Committee. Darien's written proposal reads as follows:

DARIEN'S PROPOSAL FOR RULE CHANGE

Tier II and Tier III boys' teams will only be allowed 3 releases per team per season. For purposes of this rule a release is defined as any player that lived in the state of Connecticut and played for another youth hockey Program the previous hockey season and now wants to participate in a different CHC Program. Players that are returning from Tier I to their original Program (program that the player played with prior to taking a spot with a Tier I team) will not count towards the quota of three players. All other reasons for player movement will count towards the quota. It will be the responsibility of the Programs to report the number of releases on each of their Tier II and Tier III teams to CHC by November 1st. If a team has more than three Releases they will be ineligible for State Tournament play and will not be able to participate in any Regional or USA Hockey National tournament.

Darien believes this rule is necessary based on the last two seasons where we have had several teams "load up" in tier II. This not only makes for a competitive in balance with the team that has the releases it also hurts the programs that lose the players making for fewer teams that are competitive (especially at Tier II) We also believe that by instituting this change programs will feel less pressure to over declare themselves because players will have less opportunity for movement. This will allow Programs to develop their own players and we believe create more competition. We have excluded Tier IV from this rule so that we do not hand cuff teams that need to add several players in order to fill out rosters.

2. A proposal by Mike Federico, to amend the Constitution and Bylaws by make a further eligibility requirement of a Board Officer that such Board Officer may not hold an executive position with a member program during their term in office. This proposed amendment will be reviewed by the Standing Rules Committee, presented to the BOD at the March meeting, and voted on in April, in advance of the elections.

Grow the Game (Ken Dixon)

In Ken's absence (he's a new daddy!) Mike Meakem reported that if you have equipment from CT Hockey Day, then please return it to Ken.

Eligibility Committee (Kathy Ludwig)

At long last! All coach screening has been submitted for review.

CEP certifications. Remember, the deadline for applying for your Coaching Card was 12/31! Without proof of proper coaching qualification, coaches will be barred from further participation with that team. USAH does NOT KEEP a record of temporary cards. All cards destined for CT were mailed on January 17, so coaches should have received their card by now if they had properly, and timely applied.

Game Misconducts, these are served on the next scheduled game. You cannot "work in" an intervening game into the schedule to relieve this penalty. The next scheduled game can carryover into advancement through Tournament play.

As anticipated, there is a spike in MATCH penalties in all districts, including District-I.

District-II: Match penalties being investigated

District-III: at least two Match penalties

District-IV: Once again, these guys are ANGELS! Only GM, no MATCHES!

Women's and Girls' (Joe Dymarczyk)

The Festival schedule is available online (newhockey.org).

Be advised that there is a change in the procedure for Development Camp; invitations are being sent by mail, and included are instructions for registration.; this is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Girls' Tournament (Carolyn Holt) T2 games are played at Shelton Rink. Rules are on the web.

Tournament Committee (Brian Oatway)

In Brian's absence (he is recovering from surgery), Art Blakeslee reported that the T-4 Tournaments are running smoothly, and the hosts are happy with the format. In other divisions, the T2 SQ division was very competitive!

There is discussion in the committee regarding the "play-in" scenarios. The current structure does present a burden on the Tournament Committee to manage. There is ample room for debate on all sides of this issue, and the off-season will be used to work through this issue.

Tier-1 (Jim Lanza) Tier-1 Ba-Mn, Mid-Fairfield captured the crown. The T1 Committee may move away from a BA-Mn division since there were only three teams in that division.

Tryout schedules for the T1 programs is being finalized.

Team-CT Registration is made on-line. Please remember to book your lodging at the reserved hotel.

New England District Director (Jim Lanza)

The American Development Model is being pursued. Interview for qualified personnel is presently being made., These person(s) will be charged with developing a curriculum. Affiliate and Member programs are strongly urged to incorporate the ADM into their operations. The USAH website has more details: http://www.usahockey.com/ADM/default.aspx?NAV=AF_04&ID=252288 .

What this may mean for CHC is a greater emphasis on x-ice style practices/play. Mike Meakem concurred in this assessment stating that CHC's "Revitalize Hockey Initiative" aligns well with the ADM. Jim and Mike encouraged all Member Programs to make this a reality.

National Tournament Committee. The NED is proposing that it act as it is presently, rather than as National proposes in its pilot program.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

NEXT MEETING:

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

/Attachment #1 to February 2009 minutes
Attendance Log

Program	Total Absences	Annual Meeting April 2008	May	June	August Presidents' Meeting	September	October	November	December	January 2009	February
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		
Greenwich Skate	3	x				x					x
Griffin	3				x			x	x		
Hamden	3	x				x				x	
Kent	1					x					
Middlesex	1			x							
Mid-Fairfield	0										
New Canaan	3				x			x			x
Northeastern	3	x			x				x		
Northwestern	1							x			
Pawling	2								x		x
Ridgefield	3	x				x		x			
Salisbury (8)	10	x	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	3	x					x				x
West Haven	1				x						
Western	1									x	
Wonderland Wizards	1							x			
Yale	2								x		x