

Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, April 26, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Jarry Rasmussen brought the meeting to order

Directors Present: All except: Greater New Haven, Griffin, Kent, Stamford and Watertown. 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: President, Jarry Rasmussen, Vice President, Mike 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 4 Commissioner, Bob Walker; Tournament Chair, Chuck Wilkerson; Grow the Game Director, Leslie ; New England District, Tom Regan

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

The March minutes were amended upon the request of Yale to reflect a motion and discussion that had been omitted. Once amended, the minutes were then accepted. Revised minutes will be circulated and posted to the website.

REPORTS

President: Deferred to later in the meeting

Vice President: No report

Treasurer:

- Tournament fees have been finalized and program totals will be posted to the Documents section of the website. Adjustments for deposits paid for teams not making tournaments, etc. will be included. Mite ½ ice - \$795; Mite full ice - \$1,100; Squirt - \$1,200; Peewee - \$1,300; Bantam - \$1,400
- 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. Several have been received and are being processed now that tax season is over. New invoices will be processed as received.
- Funds are still available for programs for their Grow the Game efforts, with a match of \$1 for \$1. Those received to date have been paid.
- The RefPay system is operating as expected. Referee payments paid to the end of the tournaments.
- Apparel commissions from tournaments have been received and payments will be distributed. Thanks to Chuck for preparing a spreadsheet to help identify hosts and make allocation easier.

Secretary: Attendance for several programs required Board Appeal to reinstate good standing. The following programs requested and were granted Good Standing by vote of the Membership:
Connecticut Polar Bears, Hartford Junior Youth WolfPack.

Website: No report

Coaching Education Program. Email report from Bruce Wolanin: "Unfortunately I will not be able to attend tonight's CHC meeting. All seven clinic expense reports have been submitted to Larry Rocha; I will submit final attendance and financial numbers soon after Larry verifies the reports. Mike Kingston will not be returning to the CT CEP team, but Neil Rodman, Bill Maniscalco, Dan Murphy, and I are coming back for another year; am waiting to hear from Leon Hayward. Please be in touch if there is any further info you need from me at this time. Best, Bruce Wolanin.

Registrar: Everything is good

Girls: No report

Disabled Hockey: No report

Grow-the –Game / Marketing: Summer programming, including drills, coaching techniques, etc. will be starting soon. The Gotta Love team is looking for suggestions, ideas, and programming ideas for the coming season, so send any you have to Ken and Lisa.

District Commissioners: Nothing to report.

Eligibility (Kathy Ludwig):

- 210 releases have been received to date. Lists of the releases will be posted shortly. There will be no “open” releases without destination program unless a player is moving outside of the region.
- Preliminary rosters are due. Kathy will be reviewing releases to ensure that they match rosters. She will also be checking for citizenship issues so that all paperwork is processed timely to avoid any issues late in the season.
- A large number of releases have been to non-CHC programs. A discussion ensued about mite programs out of state, operating without USA Hockey restrictions, and in some cases operating in CT rinks in view of CHC programs.

Referee in Chief: Seminars are being posted to the USA Hockey website. The first seminars will be August 28. They are also looking at alternate days of the week and times of day to help make seminars available to more potential referees.

- CT had one referee, Nick Briganti, who worked the Frozen Four NCAA Tournament in Tampa.

New England District/Team Connecticut:

- New England Development Camps have been successful. The April timeframe has been working well, avoiding other conflicts from previous years. There were a number of college coaches specifically working with the 2000 birth year players in a mini-camp setting of drills and small games before the scrimmages. This was very successful and well-accepted.
- The Selects 17 will be this weekend in Northford, together with all levels of the Girls camps.
- NE District – A Board Meeting was held in NH. Primary discussion items were preparations for the Development camps and plans for the 2016-2017 season.

Tournament Director: Discussion to be held in New Business

President’s Report:

- CHC took out an ad in the Tier 2 National Program to support our district partner in Vermont
- There have been some family member losses in the state, and CHC has sent condolences
- USA Hockey has initiated a new ADM program for goalie development that involved providing a cash stipend to a program director who will receive training in Michigan and will be expected to come back to their affiliates and teach programs and coaches to utilize the concepts to engage young players into the skills required for a goalie. CHC has paired with RI for the first season, and will be using Jared Waimon as our representative. There is a \$2,500 stipend and a \$2,500 expense account, plus the cost of travel to Michigan, which will have to be paid by the affiliates annually. Additionally, USA Hockey is asking affiliates not to raise their fees. It is this combination of increased cost and no revenue offset that is not sitting well with many affiliates.
- Review of the Mite exemption for 2016-17, with emphasis on the likelihood that this will be the last season for such exemptions.
- Presidents’ Meeting: At the regional level, are there too many tournaments (Regionals/Sectionals, Tier 2/Tier 3)? Will be discussed within the district at the June meeting.

- Thank yous given to all volunteers who work tirelessly for their programs and for CHC. Volunteers for the Finance Committee are still being sought.
- Concerns as we look ahead to 2016-17 and beyond:
 - o Mites: The National USAH program has made it clear that they do not support full-ice play at this age level, and a renewed exemption for 2017-2018 is far from guaranteed.
 - o Dual Rostering – Connecticut is one of only two affiliates that do not allow dual rostering of players between programs. This will be somewhat addressed by a proposal from the Shoreline Sharks to be discussed in New Business.
 - o Tailgating/Alcohol use: There has been a noticeable increase in the use of alcohol and team tailgating parties. Parents and other adults have been involved in an increasing amount of raucous behavior, interpersonal conflicts and physical confrontations. It correlates to an increase in the number of tailgate parties held in parking lots before games, between games in tournament settings, and after games. Since most of the rinks in the state are privately owned, it is not possible for CHC to impose limitations or rely on municipal alcohol prohibitions to stop the parties. We need to find a way to prevent these situations before something major happens and we find one or more of our programs embroiled in a legal dispute over liability, etc. Programs should be looking at ways that they can impose restrictions and/or sanctions on their members to prevent major incidents.
 - o CHC needs to discuss, develop and implement a concussion protocol at the affiliate level. Anyone interested in working on this can contact Jerry.
 - o Unfortunately, there have been more legal issues this year than in any recent seasons. Jerry has been involved with lawyers, local and state police, Child Protective Services, all in amounts well beyond any previous season. This is a disturbing trend that we must try to reverse.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- The Shoreline Sharks presented a proposal to address issues with cross-rostering of players, particularly for girls on an all-girls team who want to play on a mixed team with another program. Considerable discussion ensued, with issues related to current CHC bylaw restrictions, etc. The discussion was tabled for further analysis at the May meeting, giving all parties time to explore alternatives, examples from other affiliates, etc.
- The Tournament Committee presented its proposal for next season's tournament format, modeled after the winning option from the previous "straw poll" of open play except Bantam Tier 2. Yale repeated its request for the rule citation that required Bantam Tier 2 declaration. Kathy Ludwig stated that considerable time had been spent by her and others trying to isolate the specific reference, and had not been able to do so. Tom Regan, in his role as both New England District representative and a member of USAH Legal Council, discussed conversations he had participated in regarding the option, previously proposed by Yale, to eliminate declaration at Bantam Tier 2 as well. Ultimately, it was decided by that group that open play would satisfy USA Hockey's regulations regarding Tier 2 play, however he cautioned that this was the opinion of this particular subset of USA Hockey, and might not meet the same decision in other, relevant areas of USAH management. That said, Yale repeated its motion to amend the declaration process to eliminate declaration at all levels below Tier 1, regardless of age group. This amendment was seconded, and after spirited discussion was approved by a 20-10 vote, with one abstention. The revised proposal was then further discussed, and a final version will be distributed electronically, and a two week electronic voting period will be utilized to ensure that programs have sufficient time to review, digest and discuss among their boards prior to making a decision.
- Tom Regan, as Past President, chairs the Nominating Committee, and brought forward the following nominations for election:

- President – Gerald Rassmussen – After opening the floor for nominations and there being none, by our bylaws, as an unopposed candidate, a single Yes vote is entered, and the nominee is elected.
- Treasurer – Michael Federico - After opening the floor for nominations and there being none, by our bylaws, as an unopposed candidate, a single Yes vote is entered, and the nominee is elected.
- Vice President – Special election to complete the term of Mike McCullough – There being two nominated candidates, Chuck Wilkerson and Art Blakeslee, each was given an opportunity to speak about why they wanted to be the Vice President. After this, a secret ballot was cast, one for each member organization. After counting of the ballots, it was announced that Chuck Wilkerson is the new Vice President.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

NEXT MEETING:

May 24, 2016, 7:30 pm
Italian American Club
35 Chase Lane, West Haven

YTD CHC ATTENDANCE 5/15-4/16

These are the rules regarding meeting attendance & good standing:

Article III Meetings

1. Each member program shall be represented at CHC Board Meetings by its designated representative, or in his absence, by an officer of the program, or by such representative designated in writing for that meeting. Duly represented member programs in Good Standing shall have the privilege to propose amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, Polices and Rules, and vote on matters raised to the Board of Directors.
2. Regular Meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM at the West Haven Italian American Club, Chase Lane, West Haven, Connecticut, unless otherwise decided by the Board of Directors.
3. The Annual Meeting shall be held in April, place and date to be determined by the Board of Directors.
4. Each member program shall be represented, as stipulated in paragraph (1) above, in at least 75% of all regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Should a member program fail to attend the minimum number of meetings, then a \$50 fine shall be added to that program's annual membership registration costs and such program shall not be considered to be in Good Standing. A member program may regain its status of Good Standing if subsequent to its loss of Good Standing, **it has attended three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled monthly meetings** or such sanction is lifted by petition to and majority vote of the Board of Directors, subject to the condition that if said member program has lost it status of Good Standing twice during the then-current season, the sanction can only be lifted by petition to and majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**** Teams highlighted in RED are not currently in Good Standing, and teams highlighted in YELLOW are one absence away from being Not In Good Standing**

	5/26/2015	6/23/2015	8/25/2015	9/22/2015	10/27/2015	11/17/2015	12/15/2015	1/26/2016	3/1/2016 *	3/22/2016	4/26/2016	11 Rolling Meeting Total Absences	Attendance Percentage
Avon							A			A		2	81.82%
Central	A			A			Good Standing Attendance		A*	A - Good Standing by Appeal		0	100.00%
Ct Barons												0	100.00%
CT Northern Lights		A			Good Standing Attendance	A			A*	Good Standing by Appeal		0	100.00%
CT Polar Bears			A	A				A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal	0	100.00%
CT Riverhawks								A				1	90.91%
CT Wolfpack				A		A		A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal	0	100.00%
Darien						A				A		2	81.82%
East Haven	A											1	90.91%
Echo				A	A							2	81.82%
Enfield										A		1	90.91%
Gr NH						A			A*	A	A	3	72.73%
Greenwich Blues		Good Standing Attendance							A*			0	100.00%
Greenwich Skate						A			Good Standing Attendance			0	100.00%

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Griffin	A	A	A			Good Standing Attendance	A	A	A*	A	A	4	63.64%
Hamden												0	100.00%
Kent	A				A	A			Good Standing Attendance	A	A	2	81.82%
Mid Fairfield												0	100.00%
New Canaan						A			A*			1	90.91%
Northeast	A									A		2	81.82%
Northwestern		A	Good Standing by Appeal									0	100.00%
Pawling	A			Good Standing Attendance		A				Good Standing by Appeal		0	100.00%
Putnam												0	100.00%
Ridgefield						A						2	81.82%
Salisbury		Good Standing Attendance					A		A*	Good Standing by Appeal		0	100.00%
Simsbury	A			Good Standing Attendance					A*	Good Standing by Appeal		0	100.00%
Shoreline Sharks												0	100.00%
So Windsor												1	90.91%
Southeastern						A				A		2	81.82%
Southern	A	Good Standing Attendance										1	90.91%
Stamford	A			Good Standing Attendance						A	A	2	81.82%
Wallingford												0	100.00%

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Watertown		Good Standing Attendance						A			A	2	81.82%
West Hartford								A	A*			1	90.91%
West Haven												0	100.00%
Western	Good Standing Attendance	A										1	90.91%
Whalers										A		1	90.91%
Wizards	A											1	90.91%
Yale												0	100.00%