

Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, October 25, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL Jarry Rasmussen brought the meeting to order

Directors Present: All except: CTR Wolfpack, Salisbury, Southern, Whalers & Yale. 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; Secretary, Art Blakeslee; Treasurer, Michael Federico

Absent: Vice President, Chuck Wilkerson

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: Eligibility Chairperson and District-I Commissioner, Kathy Ludwig; District-III Commissioner, Art Blakeslee; Registrar, Mary Turner; Girls Tier 1 Director, Bill Leidt; Coaching Director, Bruce Wolanin; Grow the Game Director, Leslie O'Brien; Referee in Chief, Barry Zalcman; NE District, Tom Regan

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

The August and September minutes had not yet been circulated, so acceptance was tabled.

REPORTS

President: Jarry welcomed everyone to "White Tail Deer Day" describing the unofficial holiday of his hometown. Other remarks were held until the end of the remaining reports.

Vice President: Absent.

Secretary: August & September minutes and attendance should be distributed for review shortly.

Treasurer:

- a reminder that tournament fee deposits of \$500 per declared team are due today. If a team does not qualify, their deposit will be credited against the program's balance due for other teams. If a team's deposit is not paid, they will not qualify for any tournaments.
- The 50% reimbursement is still available for any programs that have not yet taken advantage of the opportunity. The \$500 Grow the Game matching funding is also available again this season.
- Volunteers for the Finance Committee are needed and welcome.

Website: Mite re-declarations (cross-ice vs. full-ice) will be open on the website. The initial process was flawed and teams were not properly recorded.

Women's & Girls' Hockey: Bill Leidt reminded programs that scoresheets must be turned in for all games. Festival tryouts were held Nov. 8 in Hookset, NH October 22 & 23. Approximately 360 players registered, approximately 11 of whom were Connecticut players. The results should be posted on the website in 10-15 days, but will not be later than December 1.

Disabled Hockey: USA Hockey will be holding a national level event in Shelton in November.

Grow-the-Game / Marketing: Leslie O'Brien expressed thanks to all of the programs that have been working with them to produce entertaining segments. They are also looking for 4-5 programs who will volunteer to work with them in producing spots for the initiative to personalize the referees.

Coaching Education Program. This report is attached as an addendum.

Registrar:

- Goalies are a particular problem, as an unintended consequence of the ADM. Teams cannot bring a goalie down from an A to a B, or change age groups. If an urgent situation arises, teams can contact Mary or Kathy Ludwig. There are numerous options that can be explored, but they can only be implemented with the assistance and blessing of the Registrar and the Eligibility Chair.
- Midget half year rosters are frozen as of October 31. As a adamant reminder, a player not on a roster CANNOT be on the ice for a practice or game. A coach not on a roster CANNOT be on the ice for practice or on the bench for a game. A player serving a suspension for rules violation CANNOT be replaced on the roster during the time of their suspension. If that happens, they have not served their suspension, and it would be imposed when the player is added back to the roster.

Eligibility (Kathy Ludwig):

- Kathy reiterated the issue regarding goalies. It is imperative to notify Kathy as soon as you know an issue exists so that a solution can be developed that prevents any player or program suffering consequences of trying to find a solution on their own.
- For a coach to be eligible to be on a roster, they must have completed their Safe Sport training.
- An update to the screening list will be posted to Presidents shortly.

District Commissioners:

As usual, Midget season has dominated the reports, but there has been a large increase in the number of reports overall, including match penalties at a higher rate than in any recent seasons. The commissioners have been kept busy with hearings and follow up on suspensions, and would really appreciate a break in the action.

Referee in Chief: 12 seminars have been completed, with four remaining. The last session in the region will be on 11/20, and will draw lots of interest from outside of CT. Registration numbers are well down from prior years. Level 1 numbers are about even with last year, but higher levels are decreasing, including a 30% drop in Level 3 referees. The Junior Hockey level has moved to 3 & 4 man teams, pulling more of our experienced referees up and out. Other issues, such as referee abuse from players, coaches and parents, continues to discourage referees, as does the level of training that USA Hockey requires each year just to renew a level, much less to advance to a higher level.

- Several games recently have occurred with only one referee. A large part of this is caused by late addition of games, leaving Barry and Terrell to scramble and try to find coverage. These late adds and changes stress the system and the staff, and must be addressed.
- A female referee from Maine has been invited to try out for the Olympic Referee team.
- Any complaints regarding referee issues should be funneled through program presidents to Barry. He will not accept issues brought to him from parents, coaches or other parties.

New England District/Team Connecticut: Tom reported the following:

- The tryouts for the 99's will be right before Thanksgiving.
- The Festival for the 99 birth year will be held in Northford April 28-May 1, 2016.
- Tryouts for the 00-03 birth years will result directly in placement in development camps.
- Petitions for Jr Hockey program changes, moves, etc. are due by November 15. The USPHL has requested Tier 2 status, which would include the likes of the New England Jr. Rangers. It is anticipated that there will be movement between the EHL and the USPHL as a result.
- Labor issues: Employees working at the boys and girls camps in New Hampshire have been determined to be employees, subject to W-2 reporting and withholding, as opposed to 1099 Independent contractors as in the past. It is possible that this treatment may expand to other states in time.
- The USA Hockey Hall of Fame dinner will be November 30 in Philadelphia. CHC will be purchasing a table as in previous years.

- It was discovered during the recent meeting in New Hampshire that Connecticut is the only state in the district where the President has not sought reimbursement for travel expenses, etc.
- The issue with declining numbers of referees is wider than just in Connecticut. All of the District states are seeing declining numbers. New Hampshire and Rhode Island describe the situation as beyond dire.
- The mite issue has come up again. Apparently Illinois has an even broader exemption than CT

OLD BUSINESS

- **Mites:** The proposal discussed at the last meeting from the Northeast Huskies regarding a tournament declaration change was tabled.

President's Report Continued:

- Jarry reminded everyone in the room about the recent loss of Jacob Poulin, the young player from the North East Huskies who recently passed away. His love of the game gave him strength in his fight, and his desire to play kept him going to the end. This is the type of message that we need to remind ourselves that in the end, it is just a game, and we should all be in it for the love of the game.
- Jarry also told the membership that his is the Pain In The A\$\$ for the affiliate, because it is his job to ensure that we are following the rules, in order to protect teams, programs and CHC. The failure to do so can cause serious consequences, as one program is finding out with a non-rostered player who was injured in a game who now has no USA Hockey supplemental insurance, and the program is on the hook for any excess expenses.
- He is also concerned that the declining number of referees is impacting our overall product. The number of referees is declining, while the number of teams and therefore games is increasing. That causes referees to work even more games in a day, impacting their safety and their effectiveness in the games that they do work. Also, are we putting some referees out on the ice in situations for which they are not prepared, resulting in higher risk of injury, difficult game situations, etc., simply because there is no one else to work the game.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

NEXT MEETING:

November 15, 2016

7:30pm

Italian American Club
35 Chase Lane, West Haven

YTD CHC ATTENDANCE 11/15-10/16

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, Policies 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 its 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**

	11/17/2015	12/15/2015	1/26/2016	3/1/2016 *	3/22/2016	4/26/2016	5/24/2016	6/28/2016	8/23/2016	9/27/2016	10/25/2016	11 Consecutive Meetings	Attendance Percentage
Avon		A			A							2	81.82%
Central		Good Standing Attendance		A*	A - Good Standing by Appeal							0	100.00%
Ct Barons												0	100.00%
CT Northern Lights	A			A*	Good Standing by Appeal					A		1	90.91%
CT Polar Bears			A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal						0	100.00%
CT Riverhawks			A					A				2	81.82%
CT Wolfpack	A		A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal					A	1	90.91%
Darien	A				A							2	81.82%
East Haven												0	100.00%
Echo												2	81.82%
Enfield					A			A				2	81.82%
Gr NH	A			A*	A	A						0	100.00%
Greenwich Blues				A*								0	100.00%
Greenwich Skate	A			Good Standing Attendance						A		1	90.91%

**** 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**

	11/17/2015	12/15/2015	1/26/2016	3/1/2016 *	3/22/2016	4/26/2016	5/24/2016	6/28/2016	8/23/2016	9/27/2016	10/25/2016	11 Consecutive Meetings	Attendance Percentage
												Total Absences	
Griffin	Good Standing Attendance	A	A	A*	A	A			Good Standing Attendance	A		1	90.91%
Hamden												0	100.00%
Kent	A			Good Standing Attendance	A	A				A		3	72.73%
Mid Fairfield												0	100.00%
New Canaan	A			A*								1	90.91%
Northeast					A							1	90.91%
Northwestern												0	100.00%
Pawling	A				Good Standing by Appeal			A				1	90.91%
Putnam												0	100.00%
Ridgefield	A											1	90.91%
Salisbury		A		A*	Good Standing by Appeal					A	A	2	81.82%
Simsbury				A*	Good Standing by Appeal							0	100.00%
Shoreline Sharks												0	100.00%
So Windsor												0	100.00%
Southeastern	A				A							1	90.91%
Southern											A	1	90.91%
Stamford					A	A				A		3	72.73%
Wallingford												0	100.00%
Watertown			A			A						2	81.82%
West Hartford			A	A*								1	90.91%

**** 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**

	11/17/2015	12/15/2015	1/26/2016	3/1/2016 *	3/22/2016	4/26/2016	5/24/2016	6/28/2016	8/23/2016	9/27/2016	10/25/2016	11 Consecutive Meetings Total Absences	Attendance Percentage
West Haven												0	100.00%
Western								A				1	90.91%
Whalers					A							1	90.91%
Wizards												0	100.00%
Yale											A	1	90.91%