

**North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association  
2007 Spring Board of Directors Meeting  
Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Bismarck, N.D.**

President Sonnesyn called the 2007 NDAHA Board of Directors Meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

Roll Call of the Board was taken by Secretary Bob Gillen.

**Present:**

President	Peter Sonnesyn
Vice-President	Greg Evenson
Secretary	Bob Gillen
Treasurer	Betty Triplett
N.D. Leagues	Scott Schafer
Junior Gold	Tim Melander
Girls/Women's	Keith Olson
N.E. Director	Dave Duckworth
N.E. Director	Julie Howatt
S.E. Director	Jay Marshall
S.W. Director	Dennis Lindgren
S.W. Director	Mike Wald
N.W. Director	Bruce Rostad

**Not Present:**

S.E. Director	Bob Gustafson
N.W. Director	Scott Ellis
Referee-in-Chief	Gary Fiddler
Minnkota Director	Brad Bekkedahl
Risk Manager	Bob Gustafson
Associate Registrar	John Colter
Past President	Jack Kleven

**Others Present: [Non-Voting]**

Coach-in-Chief	Bob Gillen
Association Executive	Gary Splichal
Player Development	Wade Storey

**Approval of Minutes [Winter 2007]**

Motion by Evenson, Seconded by Duckworth to accept the minutes as presented. MSC.

**INTRO GUESTS**

President Sonnesyn introduced two guests in attendance which included Dennis Nybo of Bismarck and Damon McLaughlin of Sidney.

**REPORTS**

Committee Chairs were instructed to provide written reports this year and were allowed 10 minutes to speak to the membership at the Community Meeting yesterday so no reports were given in front of the board.

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**OLD BUSINESS**

**Director Emeritus Plaque for Jack Kleven:**

Evenson has the plaque and will take it and Splichal talked to Kleven and he will make it to our fall meeting so we can present it to him.

**Selection Committee ND Sports Hall of Fame:**

Duckworth said a lot of the communities were not present yesterday so can someone mail out the information to them. Splichal will take care of the mailings.

**Association Executive Position:**

Nybo reported that the committee met Friday Night. The committee's recommendation is to have Gary Splichal continue with this position. Committee thoughts were that Splichal would keep both duties of Association Executive and Special Projects Financial Director and move some of the secretarial duties back to secretary and some special projects duties to the Player Development Director. Nybo reported and overall favorable evaluation on Splichal from the people he submitted evaluations to from the state. During the Friday meeting the committee looked at some duties that could be taken away from Splichal and given back to the proper areas to relieve some time from the job. For instance, the Secretary will take back minutes, sending out agendas and minutes. Duckworth said the overall hours are way too much for a person with full time job and Duckworth also said the overall time spent is more special projects and they are supposed to pay some of the bill. Duck said 1,700 hours works out to 6 ½ hours a day for 52 weeks. That is too much? Wouldn't we be better off splitting up into two positions? Howatt said if something would happen to Gary we would be in trouble as we do not have anyone to put information on the web etc. Howatt said League Secretaries need to have access to input standings and the Secretary should do the jobs that Gary is doing now. Splichal said we do need more people involved but right now we can not have more access on the web. Splichal thinks we can link to the USA Site so we can get more access but still keep our own identity of our own site so we do not look like everyone else. Evenson said stop waiting and move forward. Splichal will work with Jeff Kamstra who works with Microsoft and they will see about getting access. Evenson said we need to update the Secretarial duties and Player Development Director duties. Hope to be flying by the fall meeting. Nybo said since it is 50/50 we need to look at Special Projects funding their part. Duckworth said we need to remember that communities want to know why we are paying for this position and over half the time is spent on special projects. Splichal said for Triplett to come up with an equitable number and he will cut NDAHA a check from Special Projects. By June 1<sup>st</sup>, we need to have the duties laid out for Secretary and Player Development positions. Motion to offer Splichal a contract, S-Rostad. MSC. Evenson said that on June 1<sup>st</sup> NDAHA will offer Splichal a contract. Gillen thanked Dennis for heading up the committee and he will stay on and work with Splichal on his yearly evaluation.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**NBA—\$300 for Referee Seminars-Evenson**

Communities by voice vote wanted to pass NDAHA paying for four district referee seminars. Motion by Duckworth, Seconded by Olson. MSC.

**NBB- Budget Line Items for Annual TND & JG Minnkota Cup Financial Request-Evenson**

Communities by voice vote wanted to pass \$2,500.00 to each TND team. M-Schafer, S-Marshall. MSC Discussion followed. Rostad said it is good to give but not comfortable the way we give it out. Gillen went over Grand Forks Park District Ulland Fund money allotments. Duckworth said we need to see financials from these programs and if they become stand alone we do not need to give the groups money and can use it elsewhere. Duckworth said it is hard to go back to communities and tell them we have \$15,000 in the Special Projects account and we fund half his salary. Communities by voice vote wanted to pass \$900.00 per group [Jr. Gold and Girl's/Women's] Motion by Evenson to remove as a line item from the budget, S-Olson. MSC. Motion to put the \$1,800 total [\$900 per section] in the sections for a one time allotment made by Evenson. Evenson withdraws motion after discussion. Special Projects will handle monies for Girls and Jr. Gold after discussion by Splichal.

**NBC—Open Team North Dakota Staff Positions-Gillen**

Gillen announced his official resignation from the Team North Dakota Program as of May 7<sup>th</sup>. He has contacted his replacement David Hoff and Hoff accepted the position. The board thanked Gillen for his 11-years of service to the program.

**NBD-By-Law, Article VIII-Executive Committee-Gillen**

Communities voted to fail proposal by a vote of 87-Yes to 122-No. Motion to defeat by Schafer, S-Tripplet. Discussion. Howatt said we need to eliminate Executive Committee step in our chain of command and have full board act to keep communication open. Gillen asked if we have enough time to digest proposals? Tired of communities tabling and failing proposals as well as not showing up to meetings. Rostad said proposals should be due in by winter meeting and that will give us time before district and spring meetings to understand proposals and go over with our local boards. Duckworth said the communities can vote out a director if they are not doing their job. Lindgren said we need to sit all together as a district and handle all the business and then the board can vote right after. Lindgren said we need to have our proposals in by winter meeting and let them have time to get to local boards. Olson said we need more time to look at the Proposal and we can't piece mail it. Evenson said it is not a problem to tackle all of it during fall meeting. Schafer said don't focus just on appeals as a reason to disband. Marshall said it isn't good to do business trying to get all 15 board members to meet in person or to get on a conference call. Gillen said we need to get the full board notified even if it is an executive meeting so they are in the information loop and know what we are doing and have done with any item of business. Sonnesyn said he will take blame and we have

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new leadership so let's see what happens. Duckworth said his biggest beef is when the Executive Committee makes a decision and he does not know anything on the decisions and then the public asks him about a decision he is unaware of what they are talking about. Duckworth said if it is a 13-member board vote and a vote ends up 7-6 he will support it even if he was one of the six. We look bad when the board is not notified. Evenson said he hears what the board is saying and a change should be worked out but he is not ready to change community vote on this quite yet, but we need to do the work to get information out. Evenson said he does not want to override the communities but we will have a better communication trail. Roll Call Vote taken. Proposal Fails 3-Yes to 10-No [Duckworth, Howatt, Gillen] yes votes on proposal.

**NBE—By-Law, Article IX-Annual Membership & Board Meetings-Gillen**

Duckworth said we come to the Spring Meeting and go over proposals and vote on nothing. Discuss only during Spring Meeting and spend the summer to go back to local boards and communities and come back during the fall meeting to vote on tabled items. Nybo said he likes Duckworth's proposal as they have time to look over with local boards and meet with districts. Right now we only have a couple weeks from the time we get proposal packets and state meeting date and some boards have already met. Motion to set up a sub-committee to go over this proposal and bring back options to the fall meeting. Review and recommend changes to our meetings and operations and come with a recommendation. Duckworth nominated Gillen to chair committee and come up with options off of the proposal by July 15th. Second-Melander. Discussion: Storey asked if there is anything that comes from here that affects Northern Plains District? Sonnesyn said no! Storey also asked if voting in fall on any item that will relate to money too late as many local communities have already set fees and had registrations. Lots of affiliates register in the spring and over the summer. Motion by Schafer to table and have Gillen form a sub-committee and bring recommendations by July 15<sup>th</sup> to the board. S-Gillen. MSC to table

**NBF—By-Law, Article XV-Amendments-Schafer**

Communities by voice vote voted to table this to fall meeting. M-Olson, S-Howatt to table. MSC.

**NBG—R&Rs, Section I, Article IV-Committees/Sections, 1. Committees (Pg3)**

Communities by way of voice vote voted to pass proposal with voted and passed amendment that reads [1 from each district]. M-Schafer, S-Marshall to pass. MSC.

**NBH—R&Rs, Section I, Article IV-Committees/Sections, 1. Committees (Pg 3)-Evenson**

Communities by way of voice vote voted to pass this proposal as written. M-Olson, S-Schafer. To pass MSC.

**NBI—R&Rs, Section I, Article IX-Game Officials, A (Pg7)-Evenson**

Communities by way of roll call vote voted to pass 149-Yes to 60-No with the amendment to take out the wording.."at each age level must be used for all state tournaments at that age level and must." M-Rostad, S-Olson. To pass MSC.

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**NBJ-R&Rs, Section II, Article III, A-Youth Leagues, 5-Districts (Pg 12)-Neubauer**

Communities by way of voice vote voted to fail this proposal. M-Evenson, S-Duckworth to fail MSC.

**NBK-R&Rs, Section II, Article III, A-Youth Leagues, 11-Game Scheduling (Pg 13)-Howatt.**

After discussion by communities, Howatt withdrew the proposal from the floor.

**NBL—R&Rs, Section II, Article III, A-Youth Leagues, 13-League Rules, Item J3 & 4 (Pg 14)**

Communities by way of roll call vote voted to pass proposal with a 118-Yes to 71-No and 20-Abstentions that goes with majority so total was 138-Yes to 71-No. M-Schafer, S-Gillen to pass proposal. MSC.

**NBM—R&Rs, Section II, Article III, C-NDAGHL & Article IV, C-State Sanctioned Tournaments (Pg 16)-Olson.**

Communities by way of voice vote voted to pass. M-Evenson, S-Melander to pass. MSC

**NBN—R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, B3 (Pg 17)-Evenson**

Communities by way of voice vote voted to pass proposal. M-Evenson, S-Tripplatt. Discussion-Howatt does not like that a team is disallowed for the whole tournament if credentials are not with them. Does not want to hold kids accountable for a volunteer adult that forgets the credentials book. Sonnesyn said we have a NDAHA Representative and a Tournament Manager at each tournament so we should have it covered if we have something in question. Duckworth said we need to have one board member at each one of our state tournaments and we decide at the Winter Meeting what board member will attend what state tournament. MSC.

**NBO—R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, C7 (Pg 17)-Schafer**

After discussion at the community meeting, it was decided to withdraw the proposal from the floor. Motion Schafer, Second Gillen to withdraw proposal.

**NBP—R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, F10 (Pg 20)-Evenson**

Communities voted by way of voice vote to pass proposal. M-Lindgren, S-Olson. Discussion: Triplett has a problem with Less than 4. Amend wording: “ goal spread becomes 4-goals.” MSC. M-Schafer, S-Tripplatt to amend proposal with wording above. MSC. Motion by Lindgren, Second by Olson to pass proposal with amendment as written. MSC.

**NBQ-R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, F10 (Pg 20)-Evenson**

Communities voted by way of voice vote to fail the proposal. M-Evenson, S-Schafer. To Fail MSC.

**NBR-R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, F13-Evenson**

Communities voted by way of voice vote to pass proposal with passed amendment of adding parent and arena to propasal. M-Olson, S-Howatt. Discussion: Rostad stated that we should put spectator instead parent. Splichal said he still wants to instill nobody on ice until officials are off the ice. Discussion on parent issues. Lindgren said at SW Meeting they talked about coach being kicked out of the arena not just off the

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bench. Wald asked if we should fine affiliates for spectators coming out on the ice? Amend: Olson made motion to change parent to spectator. S-Schafer. MSC. M-Rostad, S-Olson. To pass overall proposal with new amendment. MSC. Gillen asked Evenson if we can get a sub-committee to visit the player, parent & coach conduct issues we discussed? Rostad said he will chair the committee.

**NBS—R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, K1 (Pg 22)-Evenson**

Communities voted by way of voice vote to pass proposal. M-Evenson, S-Olson. To pass. MSC.

**NBT—R&Rs, Section II, Article IV-Tournaments, K1 (Pg 22)-Evenson**

Communities voted by way of a roll call vote to pass proposal with 168-Yes to 41-No. M-Evenson to amend proposal to read Bantam B and Bantam A fees be equal. S-Gillen. Discussion: Fiddler said the Bantam A games are way tougher than Bantam B games to officiate due to speed of the game. Schafer said the 3-man works well for Minot but he does not see the young referees from other towns being trained. Rostad said state tournaments are not training grounds. We need to have other officials funneled into tournaments other than all locals. Bring 1/3 of the younger refs to officiate and not 1/3 of the good old boys. Rostad said it does not make financial sense for some tournaments due to location and some officials turn down tournament assignments. Howatt said we had a proposal for \$100.00 to go towards referee costs for state tournaments and it was defeated. Concern over referee costs but small towns don't have a choice as they need referees. Triplett asked Melander about a past proposal of a \$1.00 per player fee to go to a fund to use for help with costs of the referees for tournaments. Nybo said officials for High School regular season is \$63.00 and \$43.00. High School Regional's pay \$70 and High School State is \$75. He thinks a bump up for NDAHA state tournaments is justifiable as it is a bit higher stakes than regular season games. Marshall asked what are the board's intentions? To bring Bantam B up to Bantam A or Bantam A down to Bantam B? Amend the amendment to read: first line stays the same, second line just says Bantam and BA gets dropped out and Jr. Gold stays and 2<sup>nd</sup> line would be \$60 and \$45. Evenson withdrew both amendments. M-Schafer to table, S-Gillen. Duckworth asked if we could come with a consensus today as to what we want to do before fall? 10-Table 3-Reject to table [Rostad, Lindgren, Evenson]-Reject to table! Proposal tabled till fall meeting.

**POINTS OF EMPHASIS:**

Evenson asked when Board Members go to state tournaments if the tournament host picks up the room and the state picks up per diem and mileage as per our rates? Splichal said he is unclear on NDAHA Funding? Tournament committee needs to get a room for the NDAHA Representative at each state tournament and Schafer said it is written in the state tournament handbook.

Evenson asked about bringing up proposals at the Fall Meeting and now it is under his understanding we can bring up at the meeting but we need 75% of the Board of Directors to approve at the Fall Meeting?

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**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Sonneysn passed the gavel to Evenson and spoke to the group. Thanked all for their support and friendship and he has had some health issues and scheduled for surgery next month. It has been a pleasure to serve the state and good luck to all of you.

Director of Player Development was a no-show and Wade Storey is a guest. Brett Stockert has resigned and Wade Story has been named Director of Player Development. Duckworth said we need to get positions out to the communities as there may be others interested in running. Evenson said he is appointing Wade Storey. Evenson said we need to think about a new secretary and a new vice president so get him names of any interested candidates. Howatt told the board that she knows of an interested person who wants to be the ND Registrar and can John Colter do both state and district registrar? Right now he plans to do both? Howatt asked can both be done? We need to check with Rae Briggie if they want the District also to be the state registrar? Evenson said he will check into it and do some research on other states and districts on if the states pay their registrars or if they can do both. M-Duck, S-Evenson MSC. To appoint Wade as player development director. Wade will be stepping down as the Fargo ALL-City Rep from now on.

Treasurer-Betty Tripplet was unanimously approved

N.D. Leagues-Scott Schafer was unanimously approved

Girls/Women's Director-Keith Olson was unanimously approved

Jr. Gold-Tim Melander was unanimously approved

Directors-McLaughlin-NW, Marshall-SE, Lindgren-SW, Howatt-NE

President-Greg Evenson won in a secret ballot vote of the communities over Peter Sonnesyn

**GOOD OF HOCKEY**

Storey has a concern from Rostads statistics and we need to bring back to our local affiliates to clean it up. Rostad said he will forward an e-mail right to the District Directors if he gets a misconduct or match so they can do a follow up. Look at state tournaments have the NDAHA Rep in attendance have a meeting with team reps to address conduct. As well we can go through our avenues with Coach Clinics, Ref Clinics and District Meetings to spread the word. Lindgren said we may need to go to the local board meetings since they do not come to our affiliate meetings and we can address to them we will not tolerate the actions of the teams and players. Melander asked if we need to tack on more severe penalties at the Bantam Level to clean it up? Duckworth said coaching staffs can clean up a lot of the items. Evenson said one of the appeals we dealt with was a player and assistant coach getting suspended but the head coach had nothing done to

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him and he is the overall supervisor of the team? NDAHA Board will put special emphasis on player/coach conduct for the upcoming 2007-08 season.

Duckworth said we need a letter from NDAHA to get to the coaches at the start of the year that addresses conduct and behaviors appropriate for coaches on the ice and bench.

Fall Meeting date was set for September 15<sup>TH</sup> in either Jamestown or Carrington. Schafer will do some checking and get back to the board as to the location.

Winter Meeting date will be January 6<sup>th</sup> with the location to be announced later.

Spring Meeting will be May 2-4, 2008 in Bismarck, ND.

Splichal read a letter from Jack Kleven in regard to Nick Krebsbach who participated in the College Hockey Olympics.

Splichal asked if we can have a board retreat? We need to follow board policy procedures better. Look at around August 24-26, 2007 during Level 4 Clinic in Bismarck.

Motion by Duckworth, Second by Rostad to do Director Emeritus status for Peter Sonnesyn and get him a gavel plaque. Evenson said we need to keep Past President involved in our organization.

Lindgren asked about Point Streak Presentation? Evenson will ask Kamstra about what he thought of it?

Motion to adjourn Schafer, Second Duckworth.