Arizona Amateur Hockey Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2014

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| **Name** | **6/9/2014** |
| Jon Brooks – President | V Present |
| Kevin Meuchner – AHSHA | V Present |
| Tim Reckell – AHSHA | V Present |
| Brendan Shaw – CAHA | V Present |
| Bob Platt – AHU –proxy to Jason Evahnenko | V Absent |
| Bill Wright – AZ Runners | V Present |
| Joe Petruzella – CAHA – proxy to Tony Radke | V Absent |
| Tony Radke – CAHA | V Present |
| Brian McBride – DYHA | V Present |
| Mike Cook – DYHA | V Present |
| Mark Manone – FYHA | V Absent |
| Evan Gavrilles – Mission | V Present |
| Jim Rogers – Vice President/Treasurer | V Present |
| James Goon – VOSHA | V Present |
| Geoff Pashkowski – Director at Large | NV Present |
| Matt Shott – Coyotes – Director at Large | NV Present |
| Adam Mims – Adult Hockey | NV Absent |
| Donnalee Jerome – Associate Registrar | NV Present |
| Larry Gibson – CEP | NV Present |
| Paul Crane – Sled Hockey | NV Absent |
| Bryan Eisentraut – State Supv of Officials | NV Present |
| Herb Haley – State Safety Director | NV Present |
| Bruce Urban | NV Present |
| Sarah Dennee – Director at Large | NV Present |
| David Lieb – Director at Large | NV Present |
| Ed Carr – Director at Large | NV Present |
| ***Guests*** |  |
| Stacy Shupe – AHU | Present |
| Mary Stewart – AZIOA | Present |
| Jason Evahnenko – AHU (Bob Platt Proxy) | Present |
| David – FHYA (Mark Manone Proxy) | Present - Telecom |
| Mark Lackey – AZLCHA | Present |
| Kevin Lough – VOSHA | Present |
| Bill Mosienko – AHU | Present |
| Mike Harris – | Present |
| Ken Nagel – | Present |
| Austin Nagel – | Present |
| Wayne Kennedy – VOSHA | Present |
| Stephen Kennedy – VOSHA | Present |
| Deb Shepard – CAHA | Present |
| Mike O’Hearn – CAHA | Present |
| Becky Taylor – Mission | Present |
| Jeremy Goltz – Mission | Present |
| Tom Bibbs – USA Hockey Official |  |

Meeting Minutes

* Call to order, Verification of Quorum and Introductions
* 6:30 pm MST meeting called to order
* 11 Voting members present ( 3 proxies present) 0 Vote absent

**Approval of Agenda:**

**\*Motion:** To approve June agenda

**Presented by:** Brendan Shaw **Second by**: Mike Cook **Vote:** All Favor

**Approval of Minutes**

**\*Motion:** To approve minutes from previous month’s meeting

**Presented by:** Tony Radke **Second by:** Bill Wright **Vote:** All Favor

**Treasurers Report:** Presented by Jim Rogers – Financial reports were handed out. Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual and Bank Statement. Money for the upcoming season is coming in. 14-15 deposit is $7500. The AAHA budget runs from September 1 to August 31. With the former Polar Ice Rinks now USA Hockey, that will increase the revenue. The money from the RMD HS Girls team has been collected. Block grant $11709.75 used to offset the cost of player development camp. 14-15 block grant will be approx. $11,727. That number is based on the ’12 season. The block grant is 2 yrs behind so there should be approximately a $600 increase for the 13-14 season. Allocations to regional camps will increase for the ’15 season since they are based on the ’14 season. Coaches’ stipends were over budget for development camp this year. Jim will analyze to pinpoint were the overage occurred and report back next month. AAHA paid for district tournament fees and budget may potentially need to increase to cover the expense. All bills have been paid up to date.

**\*Motion**: To approve Treasurers Report and Handouts which include Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual and Bank Statement

**Presented by:** Tony Radke **Second by**: James Goon **Vote:** All Favor

**Coaching Report:** Presented by Larry Gibson – Coaching clinics for the upcoming season start Sept. 1st. One level one has already been held to help accommodate the increase in need due to the former Polar Ice Rink coaches now requiring the USA Hockey CEP to coach. The tentative plan is to hold three more Level 1, two Level 2, and two Level 3 in Phoenix. Flagstaff is hosting a Level 1 and Level 3 on Sept 29th. If a coach is a Level 3, they may repeat online for the 1st time only. Following, they must go to a Level 4. Level 3 may not expire. Level 4 is being held in Dallas July 25-27th. Level 5 is being held in Las Vegas. To host a Level 4, AAHA would want to have as many as possible attend. Revisit next month to discuss Incentives for coaches to go? Coaches of Tier II must go to Level 4 if they are currently a Level 3. **DO NOT** contact Larry in December asking for waivers. Coaching clinics are discussed at every meeting and everyone has ample time to attend one. AZ clinics will be posted by next meeting. Larry and Jim will attend the training seminar in Colorado Springs on Aug. 16th. District is paying for Larry, AAHA is sending Jim

**Officiating Report:** Presented by Bryan Eisentraut – USA Hockey officials will need Safesport at the National level to register. Safesport certification is good for two years. Background checks will be at the affiliate level. Hybrid seminars will be done. Part online and part ice. The times and availability varies with different levels as follows: Level 1 classroom is 5 hours, online is 2 hours and ice time is mandatory. Level 2 classroom is 4 hours, online is 3 hours and ice time is mandatory. Level 3 classroom is 3 hours, online is 4 hours and there is no ice time mandated. Level 4 classroom is 5 hours, online is 3 hours and ice time is mandatory. This will decrease the cost of the seminars by reducing the cost of classroom rental as well as ice time rental. USHL – Brent Hooks lined the finals. Request for reimbursement of the 2014 Annual congress airfare and registration. Total was $346.

**\*Motion**: To approve reimbursement to Bryan Eisentraut for the above mentioned amount of $346.

**Presented by:** Mike Cook **Second by**: Brendan Shaw **Vote:** All Favor

**Registrars Report:** Presented by Donnalee – There are 2026 total unclaimed players at this time. There is a new registration system being put in place. All hockey registrars will be able to manage their teams through the web based program. Cybersport is no longer. All history will carry over and it is live as it happens. All coaches need Safesport and background screenings. All age modules need to be at the correct level. Coaches can just be deleted if needed due to non-compliance. Transfers for non-citizens need to be done 10-14 to upload. Spring and summer teams – Canadians do not need a transfer but only for spring and summer leagues. Rosters may carry 25 for spring/summer. No new teams can be Tier I/Tier II – can register as AAA but not Tier. All associations need to provide name, email and phone number of their registrars to Donnalee.

**Disciplinary Report**: Mike Cook – Nothing new to report. HS Match Penalty assessed at HS League game, Disciplinary committee still has not met since occurrence but will get together. Jon directed Mike Cook to speak with Bruce Urban since he is now the chair.

**Presidents Report**: Presented by Jon Brooks – Will be covered during the other topics listed on the agenda.

**Old Business**

**Update on Annual Meeting of the AHOA:** Presented by Bryan Eisentraut – General meeting to vote in board and finalize name was last weekend both in Phoenix and Flagstaff. 27 were present. That is 12% of registered officials and several guests were in attendance. The official name is the Arizona Hockey Official Association. Board Elections results are: President, Herb Haley // VP of Scheduling, Mike Sarter // VP of Operations, Brent Hooks // VP of Administration, Chris Zorza // Secretary, Paul Withee // Directors at Large (2), Colin Besch and Zach Reese // Alternate, Eric Thiem. Positions staggered every two years. The board is scheduled to meet within the week to discuss online schedule system, establish pay system, contact leagues and association and hire schedulers. By-laws will be submitted – a change was made so that scorekeepers can be a member. Off-ice officials will register as an affiliate official. Cost is $25/yr and they are required to have Safesport and background checks. Bruce cautioned that we need to be careful not to lose scorekeepers. Under 18 years of age does not require Safesport. It was suggested to give a big advance notice to all regarding the change. The AHOA would schedule and pay the scorekeepers. The thought is that it will provide a consistent level of scorekeepers. The AHOA will train the scorekeepers as well. If associations have scorekeepers that volunteer, it could be noted that they be scheduled but no pay issued to help keep individual teams/association cost lower. Dues for all members will be decided and charged by the board.

**\*Motion**: To approve mandating all off ice official to join the AHOA.

**Presented by:** Brendan Shaw **Second by**: Jim Rodgers **Vote:** \*9 for 4 opposed

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

Mary Stewart stated that she has contracts with associations for years remaining that are exclusive and requested information on if those would be bought out by the state or how those would be handled. Jon stated that the state would not buy out the contacts and under the new state policy, associations cannot use any outside sources for officials. Only the AHOA is approved by the state board to provide officials. The state board has asked for months regarding current contracts. The questions was once again presented and no associations stated that they would have any issues with current contracts. Becky Taylor with Mission stated that they have one contract with approximately year remaining however will not have an issue with termination due to a clause in their contract with regards to changes in USA Hockey or AAHA policy that allows them to be released. AHU stated that they had one contact in place but offered no further information.

**Arizona State Youth Hockey League for all travel programs:** Presented by David Lieb – At the league committee meeting AHU would like the state to consider waiving the limits on the number of teams by each association. They question the need of more players to feed the upper teams. The vote at the committee yielded a 3/3/2 from Arizona teams. Stacy Shupe stated that the vote for Tier I and Tier II passed at a meeting without the proper amount of time required by policy to have the reps from the state board bring back the information to their associations for consideration. It was noted by Jon that the discussions had been ongoing for months before the vote. Becky Taylor noted the same and stated that the purpose of limiting the teams to one each at the levels of A, B and Elite was to stop robbing players from the house league and to increase the development of the players. She stated that the discussion had been in Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., and March. CAHA solved their own problem by creating another association and that AHU was represented at all of the meetings. Guest Coach from AHU states that he thinks he has enough players to create another team. These are players who did not make a travel team at another association or coming from selects. It was stated by another association that tryouts have a purpose which is to field the best players for that level and cut players because they are not developed enough to play at that level, not to just create enough teams for all of the players that show up.

**\*Motion**: To approve and allow AHU to field a 5th non-tier Bantam team for this year only

**Presented by:** Jason Evahnenko (by proxy) **Second by**: Brian McBride **Vote:** \*7 for 6 opposed

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

Discussion continued related to allowing each association 4 squirt teams, 4 peewee teams per state league committee recommendation. For the purpose of the current state league rules, associations may only have 3 teams at squirt (minor, major, elite) and 3 teams at peewee (minor, major and elite). Concern was expressed at changing the rules after tryouts.

**\*Motion**: To allow associations to add a 4th team at squirt and 4th team at peewee. One team at minor, major, elite and one in any division. Bantam and Midget to remain with one at A and B, 2 at Tier II and Tier I according to current AAHA policy.

**Presented by:** Tony Radke **Second by**: Jason Evahnenko (by proxy) **Vote:** \*9 for 2 opposed 2 abstained

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

There will be no preseason seeding for Tier I. It was stated that they will not be part of the league and are responsible for satisfying the state requirements on their own. Question was raised if a change to the current rule was needed since at this time it is stated that they are part of the league. Either way, David stated the league is willing to be a venue for keeping box scores as well as documenting the number of games played to verify and satisfy AAHA policy. According to policy, all Tier II declared teams have to play each other four times, but that has no bearing on the state league structure and Tier II teams can be moved to a different division to promote good competition within the state league in the same manner as the non-tier teams. The division in which the Tier II teams are placed in for the state league have no effect on their declaration as a Tier II team. This will promote associations to be accountable to their players and parents at the level of play they are stating their teams will be at which was one of the reasons for a state league. Tier II teams will also be responsible for satisfying the state requirements if they are moved to a non-tier division in the state league due to being unable to compete at that level. Tier I and Tier II teams will not be subject to forced competition against each other, however, if they so desire, they may play games against each other if it is mutually desired. State League standing can be used to determine seeding for the state championships if so decided by the board. Out of state Tier II teams as well as non-tier teams will be allowed to participate with the state league in the appropriate divisions to promote good competition as long as the required agreement is signed by both affiliates (more information regarding the agreement follows further). Discussion followed regarding whether or not to allow out of state teams to complete in an end of year championship tournament for the league or to just have a league champion.

**\*Motion**: To have AAHA host an AZ State Championship tournament for AZ teams only and have the state league champions determined by the final standing at the end of the season.

**Presented by:** Mike Cook **Second by**: James Goon **Vote:** \*All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

Declarations for state league teams due to David by June 15th. Associations are allowed one team only per each division – minor, major, elite and then one in any division for squirts and peewee. One team only per each division – minor, major, and two teams for Tier II and Tier I according to AAHA policy for Bantam and Midget. (AHU is allowed an additional non-tier Bantam team for this upcoming season – see prior vote)

**Approval of the membership application of the Arizona Lady Coyotes Hockey Association and policy change:** Presented by Sarah Dennee – All of the paperwork was filed per requirements. AZ Lady Coyotes Hockey Association is an approved non-profit in the state of AZ. 501c3 is still in progress. Questions were brought up regarding tryout age requirements. The AZLCHA is working with the HS to field an all-girls team for the JV division. Tryouts were held to meet those requirements. AZLCHA will eliminate the restriction. The policy change would state, “The Arizona Lady Coyotes shall be recognized and designated as the single official Girls Travel Association Hockey Organization for the State of Arizona. While any member organization can register girls on any youth teams, the AZ Lady Coyotes will be the only organizations allowed to register Girls Tier teams in Arizona.” The question regarding the length of time the policy would be in place was raised. Any association can request a review of the policy at any time but the change would need to be voted on by the board once in place. If membership is approved, the AZLCHA will have a vote on the board starting in Sept. of this year.

**\*Motion**: To approve the Arizona Lady Coyotes Hockey Association membership application.

**Presented by:** Jim Rogers **Second by**: Tim Reckell **Vote:** \*All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

Policy wording was changed from the May meeting regarding the policy to reflect that other associations can register non tier teams such as house and rec.

**\*Motion**: To approve the policy as stated above.

**Presented by:** Jim Rogers **Second by**: Tim Reckell **Vote:** \*All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

**Tier II Committee:** Associations were required to submit their Tier II teams. Geoff complied the list. Geoff will continue to manage the Tier I and Tier II state play downs, however the state league standings may be used for seeding and home ice purposes if agreed upon by the board.

**Point Streak:** There are a few associations that have made the transition to the website platform that is being provided by the Phoenix Coyotes. The state league is also going to utilize the platform for live scoring and updates. Will follow up next month

**New Business**

**Recap from the USA Hockey Annual Meeting and RMD District Meeting:** Presented by different members of the board –

~Larry Gibson – thanked the board for sending him. Stated that there has been a good deal of thought into the coaching programs along with compassion and commitment by all involved.

~Bryan Eisentraut – also thanked the board for sending him. The District/ National 4 man system was approved. At the state level the 4 man system is a question.

~Herb Haley – Safesport will have a central agency to deal with sexual abuse. It will not be done on the local level. This will help ensure privacy concerns. Parent and player module is in the process of being completed. Hope to have it sometime in July. Along with a refresher trainer that would be approx. 30 minutes. Training module is good for 2 years. Effective for everyone that has access to children is the required Safesport training as well as background check (18 and older) Any complaints of a non-sexual manner will be forwarded to the executive committee which will render a decision. If the complainant is unhappy with the results, they can bring the complaint to the board as a whole.

~Brendan Shaw – USA Hockey is discussing a big marketing and membership campaign shift. Brendan brought back several ideas that he is sharing for a potential marketing campaign local. Refocus the efforts on recruiting from other sports instead of players moving from one association to another. He stated that the problems that AZ has are not unusual and are very similar to what other states are experiencing.

~Geoff Pashkowski – For girls there is a proposal for a west coast/east coast development camp in addition to the National. RMD and Pacific District will move away from hosting a female district camp separately and host a combined camp. The plan is for both to send 105 players ages 14-17. This will allow for more teams and better competition. The plan is for it to have all female coaches and staff. National selections would still take place and each district would retain their respective allotments.

~Bruce Urban – sports concussion management systems was a topic of discussion. Each affiliate is going to be responsible for it’s own system. For the 15-16 season (starting next year), 8U appeals will need the exception in place by Jan 31st and must come from the affiliate organization. 25 players will be allowed per team for summer only. For more information/clarification you may contact Bruce. Player misconduct will follow players and not the team. Rule 411 is to be a nationwide system. For teams competing in a multi affiliate league, an authority and governance agreement must be signed by both affiliates. For example, AZ and NV for our state league. 6U policy is consistent and defining for mini mites. Look up line is a yellow line painted 40” out of the circumference of the rink. The goal is to decrease injury by a player being checked into the board. It is not completely endorsed by USA Hockey at this time. There is a trial period being conducted by several rinks in the MA region. The District and National handbook will go online shortly. This should provide greater access.

~Jim Rogers – RMD Tier I and Tier II boys can send pure and combined HS teams.

**Bid to Host Nationals in 2016:** Will resubmit for 2017

**Implications of Rule 411:** There is concern that both HS and Travel coaches may not want to have players on both teams. Monitoring and insuring compliance needs to be addressed.

**Safesport requirements:** Recommendation of all Board members, all coaches, team managers, volunteers, on ice and off ice officials. Discussion for next month.

**State ADM Coordinator:** Larry Gibson has agreed to be the AZ State ADM Coordinator. He has a video for next month and also sent the link to all members during the meeting. Here is the link. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXhxNq59pWg>

**\*Motion:** To appoint Larry Gibson as the AZ State ADM Coordinator.

**Presented by:**  James Goon **Second by:** Evan Gavrilles **Vote: \***All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

**\*Added to the Agenda at the meeting**

**Ice Den Chandler New Association Application:** Presented by Michael O’Hearn – Ice Den Chandler is submitting their application for consideration to become a new association member with AAHA. Packets were handed out with their documentation. Jon noted that all membership approval must be in place for a minimum of 15 days prior to the vote. Ice Den Chandler would like a tentative approval pending full review of their application for the new association due to the tryout schedule already in place.

**\*Motion:** To give Ice Den Chandler tentative approval pending full review and if appropriate final approval at the July board meeting.

**Presented by:**  Jim Rogers **Second by:** Jason Evahnenko **Vote: \***All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote

**\*Motion:** To Adjourn meeting at 9:36pm.

**Presented by:**  Brendan Shaw **Second by:** Tony Radke **Vote: \***All Favor

\*FHYA no longer on telecom for vote