

**DISTRICT 10  
Regular Board Meeting - February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010  
7:00pm - Champlin Arena**

Members/Officers not in attendance:

Associations not in attendance:

Guests in attendance: Dan Cusnierek, Kevin Bourassa

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Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Mark Osmondson

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes from the January meeting as written.

Roger Sundeen reviewed the treasurer's report. **A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Treasurer's Report.** A full - itemized Treasurer's Report is available for review at the conclusion of the meeting.

Missing checks from 5 associations from the first half of the ref fees. 2nd half billing will be coming out right at the end of district play. These bills will be coming out by email.

No league fee for Squirt C team but there WILL be a \$100 fee per team for playoffs - to help offset ref costs.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to include Irondale as an active association into District 10.

### **D10 President-Mark Osmondson**

- We are experiencing a large number of parent issues since the holidays. It causes nothing but embarrassment for the players and a load of work for you and our board. We're looking for ways to avoid these problems, first I think we need to learn why some of them happen. Is it the economic times that parents feel over stressed? If you would look at you association, try to figure out why they may have happened and bring those thoughts to the Presidents meetings.
- You'll notice the agenda has changed a bit. Thursday I sent an email to the Presidents, asking them or their association reps (you) to be prepared to discuss one of the topics below that your association may be experiencing:
  - Teams that are not having a good season, should have played at a lower level?
  - Problems with parents in your arena.
  - Ice needs for practice and what you did to resolve the problem.
- **Squirt and Girls 10U team rankings were due yesterday. Any that are missing, those teams will be placed by the district board.**
- To bring us in line with the rest of the State, we informed you last month that we will be changing the Mite Level designation for the 2010/2011 season from D being the highest to A being the highest, D will now be the lowest designation and B & C will follow in order.
- **League play ends Feb 12<sup>th</sup> for Bantam, Peewee, Girls 12U, 14U.**
- **League play ends Feb 18<sup>th</sup> for Squirt, Girls 10U, Jr Gold B and 16U.**

District 10 Youth and Girls playoffs start Sat Feb 20<sup>th</sup> and run through Sun Feb 28<sup>th</sup>. No D10 teams Squirt/Girls 10 and above will be allowed to participate in any invitational tournament during these dates. Please review page 10 of the handbook for further explanation.

- **ALL SCORESHEETS MUST HAVE START TIME WRITTEN ON IT AFTER BOTH TEAMS AND OFFICIALS AGREE THE TIME YOU'RE HITTING THE ICE.**

### **D10 Director - Tim Timm**

1. HEP Newsletter:
  - District 10 leads in HEP quizzes taken.

- 25% of all HEP emails are opened. National average is 3%
  - Please take time to look at this email it has a lot of good information
2. Minnesota Hockey website:
    - 3M Coaches nomination. Last year we had 35 coaches nominated. To Date this year only 7. Please have your team managers go to the MH web site to nominate their coach. Assoc. boards may also nominate a coach they feel has done an outstanding job for the kids in your Assoc.
    - The web site has a lot of information for your Assoc. for fundraising, and coaching materials.
  3. District 10 has no arenas in it that are sled hockey accessible. Please ask your arena board or city to provide this opportunity to this level of player. If you make this change to your arena please let me know ASAP. Sled hockey is looking for ice to rent.
  4. Rec. League:
  5. D10 is looking for an association. or two to host the Rec. League next year. This league has one game and one practice per week. If you have any interest let me know. This program had great success in D6, D1 and D3 last year.
  6. Redistricting:
    - This passed, please see the handout on the table to see all the changes.
    - This was the largest move in MH in over twenty years. MH also passed that it will look at movement of Assoc. every two years.
    - This also created a whole NEW District in the south central. This is a move that has been needed for years. Travel will be reduced for most of this area greatly.
    - District 10 will lose St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids and Becker Big Lake. These Assoc. will move to D5 with the 2010-2011 season. We wish them the best of luck in their new district.
    - D10 will gain the Irondale Association and we welcome them to D10.
  7. Age change: Did not pass.
    - Please let John Miller @ d10miller@yahoo.com know how moving the birth date up one month to June would affect your Assoc. Would it help or hurt.
    - Do you have a move up policy? What are the parameters for move up?
    - How many kids would this effect in your Assoc.?
    - Would your Assoc. be in favor of changing the date to June 1?
    - MH will be contacting 20% of the Associations in the state asking these same questions. If you are contacted please respond to them.
    - Tim covered the spare goalie issue.
    - D10 had a player that suffered a neck injury. He took a skate blade to the neck. Neither USA Hockey nor MN Hockey will mandate wearing a neck guard. It is still up to the association as to whether or not neck guards are mandatory.
    - New book out about girl's hockey. 'ICE' The first hockey magazine for girl's hockey.
    - Needs to see Blaine and Centennial after the meeting.
    - If your coach's registered online – you are possibly due some money back. Have your registration coordinators contact Carol Carlson to get the correct printout to find out how to fill out the expense form and get the money back.

#### **D10 VP Administration - Bill Andrus**

- Reported under Youth Coordinator

#### **D10 VP Scheduler - Jeff Zwerdling**

- District playoffs will be starting February 20<sup>th</sup>. Brackets will be posted as soon as they become available. League coordinators – get you final rankings in to Kim and Jeff so that teams can be listed in the book and brackets can be finished. Needs to see some associations to hand out workers passes for districts.

#### **D10 Coach-in-Chief - Mike Denardo/John Lawson**

- Nothing to report

#### **D10 ACE Coordinator - Donn Berkeland**

- Not in attendance

### **D10 Supervisor of Officials - Bruce Carlson**

- David Weisjahn reported in Bruce's absence - said to continue sending game reports to Bruce.
- Kelly Rolstad (a former D10 ref) - will be a representative on the state side for the woman's Olympics as a linesman.

### **D10 Referee Scheduler - Tom Nergard**

- Coaches coach, players play, refs ref and parents need to sit back and watch.
- Needs the information for the moved Jr. Gold games that are switching from Fogerty to Super Rink.
- If you change a game, please make sure the game has also been changed on the website.
- If you want to call Bruce - leave him a message or email him. Too many of the calls are coming in to the hotline which is for refs. Not the supervisor of officials.

### **D10 Playoff Coordinator-Rick Wesp**

- Needs to see Centennial, Anoka, BBLake, St. Cloud and St. Francis

### **D10 Youth Coordinator-Bill Andrus**

- Bill sees all the game reports and is really disappointed in all of the game reports that are coming in. Very concerned about any kicking penalties. Please make sure your coaches are aware of the severity of kicking!
- Wants to thank the staff/parents at Grantsburg that helped out at the arena when the skater was cut in the neck.

### **D10 Special Hockey Coordinator-Sue Andrus**

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### **D10 Girl's Coordinator-Jay Fladebo**

- Not in attendance

### **D10 Jr. Gold Coordinator -Hank Wuertz**

- No report

### **D10 Invitational Tournaments-Bill Gable**

- Totals on the back table with associations and how many tournaments they have had.
- 19U tournie will be held in St. Cloud.
- Talked to Tim Sweezo and Kevin Dickie - if you want to have a tournament filled with NO problems....go outdoors! Those all filled right away and they have all been successful.
- Not as many A Bantam tournaments were held this season.

### **D10 Hall of Fame Tournament-Craig & Hank**

- No report given

### **Association Reports**

- CINB - Corey Buström - Struggling a bit as to where teams have been placed. This will be looked at and discussed for next season.
- BBL - Brad Weber - Peewee and bantams skating with Princeton. Mites - Made sure all of the kids are getting a chance to play goalie. They have worked with the players to make sure they have practiced at least once at goalie before they have had to play the position in a game.
- St. Cloud - St. cloud will be taken out of D10 - they have appreciated the opportunity to play us and please let's keep the relationship going for next year. St. cloud put on some 3 on 3 mini mite jamborees. This has generated a lot of new excitement within the association. This has been a very positive addition to the association.
- St. Francis. Bill Karas. - 2 years ago - they revamped the program. They took a poll amongst the members and it was decided that they wanted more ice on the off-season and they have seen a noticeable difference in the talent.
- Tim Cashill - North Branch (Camb-Isanti) - they put together a goalie clinic and invited all to attend. Cambridge books A LOT of ice and they have scheduled 150 hours of outdoor ice. They have had a bit of a shortage and this seems to be helping out.
- Brent Olson - Sauk Rapids - 4 years ago - they were getting less than 10 new skates a year. They put a program together to recruit player and they have over 6 mite teams skating and they have gained interest in the community.

- Coon Rapids - John Keller . Worked hard at boosting mite numbers. Copied Andover's Jr. Huskies program and have been allowing kids to come and skate as Junior Cardinals with used equipment and try it all out for a very nominal fee. 91 mites skating this year.
- Champlin Park - peewee C team put on an outdoor tournament. It was AWESOME. John introduced Dan Cusnierek and he told us how well this tournament went. Sent out 150 invitations - had 8 teams in the tournament and ended up having to turn away some teams. They had 35 sponsors come forward and donate items. It was a huge success and over \$3600.00 was raised.
- Rob Savini - Anoka -have one head coach for all A mites/B mites, etc. They have different stations where learning happens with some fun games at the end. Mite numbers are down a bit but still over 100. Squirt numbers are doing well.
- Tom Lindbloom - Pine City - they have made some outdoor rinks and it's been very successful. They have a hockey rink on one side and public skating on another. Struggled with goalies the last couple years. They do donate equipment to the goalies if they need/want it but they are having trouble recruiting. Wanted some feedback as to what other associations are doing in regard to recruiting and retaining.
- Stephanie Balynas- Centennial - they get at least 40 new kids each year. They have really focused on keeping players together based on skill rather than age, grade, etc. They have had some issues with retaining bantams. This will be looked at for next season.
- Sean Noble - Spring Lake Park - also - touched on the 'C' problem. Tim Timm indicated that it was the associations that wanted the B1 / B2 designation. This WILL be one of the agenda items at the Presidents meetings that will begin next month.
- Todd Erne - Blaine - also agrees that the C league needs to be looked at. Especially at the bantam level. It seems to be the issue with many associations
- Lyle Slawson - Elk River. One goal was to bring the association back to the numbers before the split with Rogers. This happened with the mites as they grew by nearly 100 skates.

### League Reports

B1SQ - scores are evening out. Things are going well.

12UA - needs score sheets asap. These sheets will be needed in order to determine which teams will be making playoffs.

PWB2. Top ten are all about the same - while we are getting close to playoffs - please make sure you are playing smart, not taking anything out on the refs and that your kids are playing smart as well. As it gets to the end of the season, it seems like things are getting a bit rougher.

PWA -Echos what Heidi (PWB2) said regarding keeping the play fair and clean at the end of the season.

BB1 - really urges boards/associations to take a closer look at where teams are being placed.

JRG - A's are doing really well. 3 D10 teams in the top 6 and will be well represented in Regions. Has a couple teams that have not won a game. Really would like to see teams placed at the appropriate level.

BNA - Season has gone well. Scores coming in fine.

14UA - all teams will make playoffs.

10UA - two teams that have only won one game so the question would be - are they are the right level?

### Items from the floor -

Jeff Zwerdling mentioned Allied Charities was at the MN State Hockey meeting and mentioned an idea for charitable gambling association "Electronic Bingo". Association can contact him for more information. It was also suggested the managers of these association might want to get together to share ideas during off-season. He will get some information together and send out an email regarding the meeting.

Billy Gable will be going in for surgery in a week - just wanted us to know that he will be gone and if you need something important.....call another board member as he will be out for a while.

Kevin Bourassa from Irondale - they are very excited to be a part of District 10. They appreciate the opportunity to join the District!

A question was also brought up about how and who determines a blue/green peewee level. (Split leagues) This will be added to the agenda for the president's meetings.

Tim Timm indicated that he needs all score sheets from League Coordinators. Plan on bringing them to Super Sunday or before.

John Keller indicated that he would like the first presidents meeting to be set for Monday - February 15<sup>th</sup>. John will send out an email to the presidents to try and find a date in February to meet instead of waiting until March.

**Handouts given at this meeting:** Presidents Report, Agenda, Directors Report, Treasurer's Report, New Districts format, USA Hockey Report of Registered Players and Coaches, Degree Jersey Program, USA Hockey Coaching Application, Great 8 Outline, Ace midyear Report, HEP Report, Safety Committee Report, Minnesota Coach in Chief Report, CEP Report, Messier Report, Supplementary discipline handout, Zero Tolerance handout

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. - Minutes recorded by D10 Secretary, Kim Mellem