

USA HOCKEY, INC.
2015 WINTER MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2014-15 Season
MINUTES (of Record)

CALL TO ORDER

Ron DeGregorio opened the meeting with a letter from Walter Bush.

Unfortunately, I am unable to be with you this week, but I do want you to know how proud and thankful I am for all of our volunteers who do such an amazing job for USA Hockey.

From my perspective, you are all leaders. As I've stood next to Digger recently, I realized that what used to be a big, sprawling goalie is now a couple of inches shorter and I assume that must come from all the hard work he's put into his job! I also applaud the valuable work of Peter Lindberg and Tony Rossi, recently retired Executive Board members to name two. I appreciate the respect, hard work and friendship they have given me and USA Hockey.

The ADM program has been an amazing project - far exceeding what I thought might take much longer to succeed - CONGRATS to all involved!

As far as I am concerned, we have so much to be thankful for as we strive to keep our sport #1 in the world.

As to my health, I tell people I'm in really good shape from the neck up! Overall, I feel I'm doing pretty well. I thank you for all the respect and friendship you have given me. I wish you all the best in 2015.

Welcome. I call this meeting to order and turn it over to our President, Ron DeGregorio to continue. Good luck to all and God Bless.

ROLL CALL

Bill Hall, Secretary, called the roll and gave the following results to Ron DeGregorio. There are 91 eligible voters. Bill noted that it is a majority or 2/3 of those who vote on any particular issue.

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Voting Directors | Present: 69 |
| | 2/3rds: 46 (if all are voting) |
| | Majority: 35 (if all are voting) |

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT (VOTING MEMBERS)

OFFICER DIRECTORS

Ron DeGregorio
John Beadle
Bill Hall
Dave Klasnick
Charles Fuertsch

Larry Reid
Gavin Regan
Jim Smith
John Vanbiesbrouck

SECTION DIRECTORS

Tom Branden, Registrars
Donna Guariglia, Girls/Women
Mike MacMillan, Coaches

Bob Mathson, High School
Al Murdoch, College
JJ O'Connor, Disabled

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Shawna Davidson
Sarah Fraser

Dave Meisner
Bruce Urban

ATHLETE DIRECTORS

Chris Clark
Pam Dreyer
Chris Ferraro

Peter Ferraro
Shelley Looney

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Jay Finnigan, Atlantic
Tom Koester, Atlantic
Frank McGady Atlantic
Gene Palecco, Atlantic
Rich Becker, Central
Larry Hellwig, Central
Don Mulder, Central
Norm Spiegel, Central
Mike Bonish, Massachusetts
Don Derosia, Massachusetts
Thomas McGrath, Massachusetts
John Tobin, Massachusetts
Gordon Bowman, Michigan
Larry Johnson, Michigan
Ray Kraemer, Michigan
Roger Mauritho, Michigan
Tom Cline, Mid-American
Paul Day, Mid-American
John Karolcik, Mid-American
Scott Gray, Minnesota
Dennis Green, Minnesota

David Margenau, Minnesota
Steve Oleheiser, Minnesota
Keith Barrett, New England
Cheri Bonawitz, New England
Bob Crawford, New England
Tom Regan, New England
Joe Baudo, New York
Joe Eppolito, New York
Gary Lebrun, New York
Mike Trimboli, New York
Dwayne Dillinger, Northern Plains
Greg Evenson, Northern Plains
Jon Gustafson, Pacific
Donna Kaufman, Pacific
Kris Knauss, Pacific
Chris Kenney, Rocky Mountain
TC Lewis, Rocky Mountain
Marc Friedman, Southeastern
Tom Lenz, Southeastern
Mike Mulhall, Southeastern
Chris Powers, Southeastern

NCAA/PROFESSIONAL SPORTS ORGANIZATION DIRECTORS

Joe Bertagna
Mike Snee

Bill Daly

PRESENT (NON-VOTING MEMBERS)

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Alan Ashare
Peter Lindberg
Karen Lundgren

Bill Spohn
Dave Tyler
Allen Wright

ABSENT (VOTING MEMBERS)

Chris Van Timmeren, College Section
Mark Wilkins, Referees
Joan Mariconda, At-Large Director
Phil Verchota, At-Large Director
Don Fehr, NHLPA
Taylor Chace, Athlete Director
Julie Chu, Athlete Director
Ted Drury, Athlete Director
Meghan Duggan, Athlete Director
Tricia Dunn Luoma, Athlete Director
AJ Mleczko Griswold, Athlete Director

Bill Guerin, Athlete Director
Manuel Guerra, Jr., Athlete Director
Jamie Hagerman, Athlete Director
Dan LaCouture, Athlete Director
Kevin Miller, Athlete Director
Jenny Potter, Athlete Director
Blake Sloan, Athlete Director
Kaye Pinkowski, Dist. Director Mid-American
Dru Hammond, Dist. Director Pacific
Dean Brandstetter, Dist. Director Rocky Mtn
John McKibbin, Dist. Director Rocky Mtn

ABSENT (NON-VOTING MEMBERS)

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Walter L. Bush, Jr.

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Brad Bekkedahl
Al Bloomer
Dick Coombs
Ron DiFilippo
John Dotte
Jerry Edwards
Bob Fleming
Mark Kumpel

Frank Lang
Jack McCatherin
Jim McGlynn
Bob O'Connor
Tony Rossi
Neil Sheehy
Jerry Wilkins

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ron DeGregorio requested a moment of silence to honor those who have passed away since the 2014 Annual Congress in June:

Eugene "Jeep" Eruzione, Mike Eruzione's Father
James Gardner, Kenny Rausch's father-in-law
Elaine Halverson, Bob Halverson's mother
Julie Hiser, Helen Fenlon's sister
Bob Driffill, California Amateur Hockey Association
Joe Ferraro, Peter & Chris Ferraro's brother
Ralph Jasinski, General Manager 1980 Men's Olympic Team

Jaime Anne Palm, daughter of Jacqui Palm (IIHF Referee Supervisor)
Eileen Coyne, Kendall Coyne's grandmother
Mark Anderson, Debbie Anderson's husband
Robert Martel, Ken Martel's father
Bob Suter, 1980 Olympic Team
Daniel Esdale IV, Dan Esdale's grandson
Dick Brinkman, Pioneer in the Officiating Program and New York State Amateur Hockey
Dominik Pettey, Montgomery Youth Hockey Association
Patrick Schoonover, Eastview Hockey Association & Minnesota Hockey
Evonne Valentic, Lou Valentic's wife
Dolores Ulatoski, Laura Johnson's mother
Anthony Romano, President of American Eagles, New Jersey
Betty Fuertsch, Charlie Fuertsch's mother
Leona Agnes McGaugh, John Silberstein's Grandmother
Rodger Moken, Atlantic District Youth Coach
Mary Eileen Orlowski, Johnathan Morrison's Grandmother
Richard Mulhall, Mike Mulhall's father
Dave Nyquist, Minnesota Hockey Officiating Association
JP Parise, Zach Parise's father
Charles Gridley, Chuck Gridley's father
Bruce Murdoch, Al Murdoch's brother

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Dwayne Dillinger moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting at the 2014 Annual Congress. The motion was seconded by Joe Eppolito. THE MOTION CARRIED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron indicated that he would present the President's Report at the conclusion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Dave Ogreaen opened his remarks by sharing the mailing addresses of Walter Bush and Bob O'Connor. He asked everyone to take a minute and drop them a note since neither of them were able to join the hockey family this week.

Dave indicated that this is the first year in which it was not a legislation year or playing rule change year; it was a great opportunity for everyone to talk about and have several good discussions on the sport of hockey.

Dave mentioned a few special guests who were in attendance. Bob Fallen, the new commissioner of the USHL Tier I league in USA Hockey. The USHL is a great partner and the National Team Development Program participates as a member in this league which has been a great experience for that program. Dave also recognized both Mike Snee and Nate Ewell from College Hockey Inc. They do a tremendous job at the Division I level. With a lot of help from College Hockey Inc. they are continuing to grow the game and next season, Arizona State is adding Division I ice Hockey to their program. This is not easy because of the expense to add sports into the college.

When launching NTDP (18 years ago) we knew at that time that not every player would become a NHL All-star. However, we did want to make certain that we were developing and producing great leaders as well as successful players. Dave told a story about Scott Monaghan contacting him last October asking him if heard about Tom Izzo and how he had to have emergency hernia surgery before the season started last year and the surgery was performed by a player from the first NTDP class, Dr. Troy Ferguson. Scott indicated that there are also two other doctors in pipe line coming up that are from the program.

Dave updated the board on the proposed acquisition of the Plymouth Arena. We are still in the due diligence process and did have a short extension of this time until the end of January. He did remind everyone that we, staff and the board, are still under the confidentiality agreement. This project will continue to move forward and there is a good chance that it will close in the early part of March.

Safety has become the number one topic and priority of this organization. Dave Klasnick had mentioned a story of a squirt player in Pittsburgh who was lying on the ice motionless. The medical staff strapped the player down to carry him off the ice and as he goes past his coach, the player said don't worry coach I'm fine, I had my head up.

After evaluation from the meeting in June and reviewing staffing for working on the subject of safety, Dave indicated that we have added to Dr. Michael Stuart's title to now be the Chief Medical and Safety Officer. Dave also indicated that we will be hiring a Safety Manager to work out of the national office. Dave will be consulting with both Dr. Ashare and Dr. Stuart on the hiring of this individual.

Dave mentioned that we just came off of a great event in Buffalo, New York and congratulated Reagan Carey, the staff in the Women's Department, Donna Guariglia and Gavin Regan on the recent gold medal win at the Women's U18 World Championships. USA Hockey has had a great relationship with the Buffalo Sabres staff after working with them four years ago at the World Junior Championships. There is a new facility in Buffalo called the Harbour Center and is ideal for the events we host. It is a Sled friendly location and capacity is about 2,000. They are continuing to add to this area and facility. Dave also thanked Joe Baudo and the New York State Amateur Hockey Association for their assistance on this event. The World Sled Hockey Championships will be hosted at this location in May. In addition, our events run extremely well and Dave wanted to thank Mike Bertsch, Kevin Couture, Dave Fischer and the staff for the marketing and organization of these events. There are many meetings and hours that go into setting up these events to have them executed so successfully.

We had a great USA Hockey Hall of Fame Event in December in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This production was organized by Dave Fischer and his staff. It was a wonderful event and the inductees this year included Lou Vairo, Jeff Sauer, Karyn Bye-Dietz and Brian Rafalski. In addition, the Lester Patrick Award was given to Paul Holmgren and Bill Daly. Bob O'Connor was also presented with the USA Hockey Builders Award that evening which was most appropriate to honor him in Minneapolis in his home area.

The staff is getting ready for the USA Hockey Annual Congress in June and in addition to the congress meetings we will be taking a trip over to the International Center at Broadmoor Hotel to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the 1980 Team as well as other celebrations that evening.

Dave announced the promotion of Susan Hunt to Manager of Member Service. Susan has done a tremendous amount of work on the Junior Hockey program and the registration for the Junior Registry. Susan was also the project lead for the online registry and roster management tool. She has streamlined the process for juniors and has done a wonderful job in her 10 years at USA Hockey.

Dave reminded everyone that we are a good organization and we have a lot of great programs to be proud of; there are a lot of other people that are in amateur sports that would love to be USA Hockey. We never get to an end point when we can stop improving but there are times that we can step back and take a look at what we are doing and be proud of that progress.

Ron thanked Dave Ogrea for his comments and also thanked him for what he does for USA Hockey as well as the staff. What is great about the organization is the collaboration between staff and volunteers.

TREASURERS REPORT

Jim Smith reported on the financial reports. The Finance Committee did meet during winter meeting and approved the financial statements. The operating company has net assets of \$19.1m, the Foundation of \$34.2m and HARP at \$5.6m for a consolidated total of \$54.3m. About 72% of these assets are from investments. Jim highlighted some items that were reported on the income statement and then reviewed the various expenses.

Jim stated that during the discussion of long range planning it would be the goal of the Finance Committee to have the membership revenues under 50% and not rely solely on membership revenue as one source of income. Currently membership revenue is 58%.

Jim detailed the expense analysis for 2014. In USA Hockey, 86% of the funds go back to direct programs and about 14% for admin cost. On the Foundation, 92% goes into programs and grants and only 8% into administration.

Jim provided information on the NHL Grant and allocation of the funds to officiating, international, NTPD, membership development and the ADM.

Charlie Fuertsch reported from the Audit Committee. The committee appointed Waugh and Goodwin to conduct the independent audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2014. In the performance of our oversight function, the audit committee has reviewed the company's financial statements, audit report, management's representation letter and has discussed this with everyone. **Gavin Regan moved to approve the audit report and financials for the 2013-14 year, seconded by Tom Koester. MOTION CARRIED.**

Jim mentioned that the budget process will begin next Tuesday after Winter Meeting. He then explained the timeline of the budget process. The budget could be challenging this year due to the long range planning goals that are being created.

Jim asked for a motion on the 2015-16 registration fee to either increase or remain the same. **Bill Hall motioned to not have an increase on the 2015-16 registration, seconded by Joe Baudo. The motion carried.**

FOUNDATION REPORT

Jim Smith introduced Paul George to present the Foundation report.

Paul indicated that USA Hockey is a great NGB and pleased to hear Dave mention that the USOC considered USA Hockey as one of the top NGB's. Paul has worked with many on staff and it is an extraordinary part of what makes this a great NGB. He also indicated that the Foundation had a good year.

Paul reported that the Foundation has \$23.8m in investment assets, \$17.7m in general funds and \$6.1m in international development funds. The August 31, 2014 balance sheet indicated a total asset of \$34.2m which is made up of investments, the building in Colorado Springs and art. The liabilities are about \$5.2m which gives a net asset of \$29.3m.

Paul indicated that things are going well from accounting and investment standpoint. Grants total approximately \$8.7m which a large portion of this is coming from the NHL. Paul also acknowledged the various gifting programs; Starts with a Stick Program, Circle of Champions and the Trustee Program. The Starts with a Stick Program was developed to get kids on the ice and 7,500 sticks were purchased. The Circle of Champions has 121 members and continues to grow. The Trustee Program is for larger donors that contribute \$15,000 a year for over a period of four years; currently there are six members in the program.

Paul mentioned some new initiatives they are working on to help the affiliates and districts with the management of their funds similar to what the United States Olympic Endowment does for its NGB's. The Foundation has \$1.2m with the US Olympic Endowment and they manage a portion of the portfolio and do not charge for their efforts.

Dave Klasnick, Chair of USA Hockey Investment Committee, reported on the Foundation. The committee comprised of Paul George, Tony Rossi, Jack Norqual, Nick Lopardo, Lane MacDonald and Bob Weldon meets quarterly to go over the funds. Dave indicated that one of the things that impact the results in our portfolio is going to 12% cash. This does not give a good total return but does able you to figure out where to go next. Dave explained the other various markets and their results.

Dave reviewed the asset target goals for the Foundation and highlighted various funds looking at long term goals and objectives. Dave complimented the directors that do contact him concerning the Foundation and having these discussions.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Ron DeGregorio reminded the board of the bylaws concerning legislative and playing rule proposals.

Amendments to the Bylaws of USA Hockey may be made at an Annual Congress in odd-numbered years if approved by the appropriate USA Hockey Council or Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. See Bylaw 12.

To be considered by the Board of Directors, Playing Rules Proposals before 2017 must meet requirements of Bylaw 8.A.(2)(b), including that it has been approved for submission to the

Board of Directors by a 2/3 vote of the Playing Rules Committee and a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee.

Ron asked Jim Smith to review the proposals submitted. Jim indicated that there is one legislative proposal from the Junior Council that was tabled at the 2014 Annual Congress which the Junior Council would like to bring on to the floor. If the other four tabled items from 2014 Annual Congress do not get brought up then they will die on the table.

The Junior Council Legislative Proposal #5 was motioned by Bob Mathson to be brought off the table; seconded by Mike Trimboli. Jim asked for a motion to put the proposal up for a vote, motioned by Tom Koester, seconded by Joe Baudo. Motion carried to put the proposal on the table.

John Vanbiesbrouck provided an explanation of the proposal which deals with contracts that are signed by Tier III programs and players. The proposal would support the ladder of development and help with upper movement in junior hockey.

Jim Smith called for any other discussion. **All in favor of Legislation Proposal Junior Council #5, Motion carried.**

The next proposal was submitted by the Legal Council and was approved by both the Legal Council and Executive Committee to be brought on to the floor. Jim reminded everyone that we are not voting on proposals today; we are only voting on amendments.

Jim indicated the amendments for Legal Council Legislative Proposal #1. Change letter E to D; change National Center for Safe Sport to United States Center for Safe Sport and the abbreviations NCSS change to USCSS in all location; delete the word exclusive on the seventh line and then add the following wording after *procedures for adjudication*; **provided that, the duty to report to USCSS and USCSS's jurisdiction to investigate shall not supersede any local, state, or federal reporting requirements or jurisdiction.**

Jim asked for a motion to put the proposal on the floor and accept the amendments in Legal Council Legislative Proposal #1, motioned by Tom Koester, sectioned by Joe Baudo. No further discussion; motion passed.

Jim reviewed Youth Council Legislative Proposal #1; this proposal has been accepted by Youth Council and the Executive Committee. **Dennis Green motioned to have proposal brought on the floor, seconded by Bob Mathson.**

Jim indicated the amendments would be to change E to D; delete the word All replace with An; delete the letter s at the end of appeals in the first line; on line 6 after *applicable Affiliate* add the wording **and/or applicable Registrar, are not subject to Bylaw 10 and**. Jim asked for any discussion. **All those in favor of accepting amendments; amendments passed.**

The Youth Council Legislative Proposal #2 was approved by the Youth Council and Executive Committee. The only amendment to this proposal is on the third line add the words after *Affiliate or Registrar*. Also to go along with this proposal under Rules and Regulations, Section 2, C. (3) (page 126 Annual Guide) would need to be deleted to conform to these

amendments. **Jim asked for a motion to put the proposal on the floor and accept the amendment, motioned by Ray Kraemer, seconded by Mike Trimboli. Amendments passed.**

Under the Playing Rules, there are no amendments. The playing rule proposal #1 (Look-Up Line) would be voted on in June.

The last item is a proposal submitted for a policy adoption. Jim explained that this policy refers to our marketing and sponsorship department to refrain from sign any contracts that would use email, social media and communication services that compete with rinks or arena related businesses; including rink owned or leased pro shops. The Executive Committee unanimously voted not to approve this policy. Jim asked if anyone wanted to speak on the proposal and indicated that it would need a majority vote to get on the table. **Jim asked for a motion to accept the proposal; the motion dies.**

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ron asked if there were any additions to the Council and Committee reports that were posted online.

Dave Klasnick wanted to share with everyone in the audience the items that the Youth Council has included in their long range planning goals.

- Rec Hockey
- No Check Nationals
- Help define Parent Modules
- Have you thought about 19U and 20U
- Coaching Modules – House/Tier II/Tier I/Rec
- Safety for our players
- Talk to equipment manufactures should older and younger players wear different equipment
- Understand hockey boards and how they are made
- National Championships – single birth year
- Tier I Standards
- Rec Hockey Standards
- 3 on 3 Rules
- Does deck hockey or floor hockey have a role in USA Hockey
- League Sanctioning
- Requirements to be a USA Hockey Association
- What are best practices for administrators and local hockey boards
- Technology – apps for magazine (current and past issues)
- Games – app about ADM to focus on player 4-12 years of age
- Help affiliates on individual websites
- Try to grow officials both girls/women and men's officials
- One goal for Officials similar to one goal for players
- National skills championships – do you coordinate with Hockey Weekend Across America

Dave indicated that this was a long list of ideas and wanted to thank the members of the council and those in the audience for presenting suggestions from the floor. The council will

plan to form sub-committees for these topics to gather additional information and discuss again in June. Dave also recognized the Girls'/Women's Section for coming up with ideas. He also wanted to recognize Kevin McLaughlin and the ADM Regional Managers for their great presentation during the Town Hall meeting.

Dave Klasnick called upon Norm Spiegel to announce the upcoming National Championship dates.

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| March 26-30 | Tier I | Amherst, New York |
| | Tier II 14 | Salt Lake City, Utah |
| | Tier II 16 | Plano, Texas |
| | Tier II 18 | Troy, Michigan |

The Girls Tier I National Championships will be March 26-30 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Senior Women's A, B & C are March 26-29 in Green Bay, Wisconsin and Girls Tier II are March 26-30 in Lansing, Michigan.

JJ O'Connor indicated the Sled Nationals will be April 9-12 in Amherst, New York.

Bob Mathson indicated the High School Nationals will be in St. Louis, Missouri March 19-23. Bob also wanted to recognize Nancy Hughes for reminding the section about a program that was called the Chicago Showcase and its importance to hockey. Nancy told the section about a player (Trevor Van Riemsdyk) who won the MVP of the tournament several years ago and is now on the Chicago Blackhawks. This event has since been renamed and is now called Americas Showcase and is headed up by Kathy Santora.

Bob indicated that they will be implementing the 4 man referee system for National Championships this year. He also wanted to thank Dave Fischer for putting together a program for the High School section to use along with Fast Hockey for the National Championships.

John Vanbiesbrouck reported on Junior Council meetings and asked Donna Kaufman to provide the dates for the Tier III Junior Championships. Donna indicated the event will be March 27-30 in Simsbury, Connecticut; seven leagues are participating with a total of eight teams in two divisions. John mentioned that members from the Junior Council did go to the International Council meeting to discuss the number of imports on rosters. John indicated that it is time for the junior leagues and council to look at keeping USA players in the US and not increase the number of imports.

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

Ron DeGregorio wanted to recognize a few individuals at the Winter Meeting and present them with the President's Award. Ron indicated that it is always an honor to recognize individuals, both staff and volunteers, for their work they have done.

The first person he recognized is one that he considers one of the young leaders who has had an impact on the meetings and on the Executive Committee. He is a very bright man, understands hockey and is an excellent business man. Ron recognized John Vanbiesbrouck and his work with the Junior Council.

John commented that this award comes as a great surprise. He indicated that this organization has great leadership and thanked everyone.

Another volunteer that Ron recognized has worked decades on serving the membership, encouraging them to register and stayed focused on what USA Hockey is all about. As head of his section, he represents several others who have also done several great things over the years. Before we had the tools we use today everything fell on their shoulders and local people who had to do the manual registration forms. Ron mentioned that we are on the cutting edge of technology and now when our volunteers process memberships to USA Hockey it's all in the cloud. This group has done a wonderful job and heading up the group is Tom Branden.

Tom commented he was very surprised. He wanted to thank everyone and gave a special thank you to the group of registrars he works with on these great plans.

In the 21st century it is about how we communicate and distribute items, change as technology changes and keeping up with this information is very important. Ron indicated that in many of the meetings the discussions included great content but how do we connect this information with the membership; it is a new era every day. The technology is there to do things that we could not do 2 to 3 years ago and we need young people with energy and vision as well as the expertise to keep up to date on technology. Ron recognized Cameron Eickmeyer, Director Internet Communications.

Cameron thanked everyone and stated that this is a great organization and he was thankful to work for an organization that was always looking forward to the future ahead.

Having great leadership in management is very important as we look forward to the next 20, 25, 30 years and beyond. It is great that we are doing long range planning to see what the vision is for the future. Ron indicated that many of us might not be here, however those that need service will be and it will be different. We have to stay up to date. This person keeps us up to date quite a bit; he has special leadership ability and does a lot of things. He has a great hockey background but his administrative performance is greater than hockey background. Right now he works in membership development and the foundation development; doing a great job in both. The people he works with and responsible for have done an excellent job. Ron stated that it is important to recognize membership development and what is happening with the development of The Foundation. For this Ron recognized Pat Kelleher, Assistant Executive Director.

Pat thanked everyone and stated it is a great privilege and honor to work with a great group of people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

New Referee-in-Chiefs

John Simmons, Alaska

Ken Reinhard, Rocky Mountain District

New Affiliate Presidents

Brendan Shaw, Arizona Amateur Hockey Association
Jary Rasmussen, Connecticut Hockey Conference

New Associate Registrar

David Polk, Southeastern District

Dave thanked Bill Daly, NHL for taking time to be with us at this meeting and expressed what the NHL has done for USA Hockey has been transformational. This was reported on during the Foundation report. USA Hockey has not been able to take the advance we have done without the support of the NHL.

Jim Smith mentioned congratulations to the Junior Select Team that won the World Junior A Challenge in December.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The 2015 Annual Congress will be in Colorado Springs at the Hotel Elegante June 3-6, 2015. We will also be celebrating the 1980 Team 35th Anniversary Reunion in June at the Annual Congress.

The next Winter Meeting will be in Orlando at the Renaissance Sea World January 14-17, 2016.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron talked about volunteers and what hockey needs moving forward. He mentioned getting volunteers more engaged. We had a lot of great information on club excellence and having more resources for the volunteers. Ron talked about a story he heard from Dwayne Dillinger who has a young team in Wyoming (16 to 19 year olds). This team goes back to work with younger kids in the hockey programs and in some cases they are just there to do what needs to be done. One example was a young player just did not want to play on the ice that day and he just wanted to sit on the bench. The older player sat with him and listened, just sitting together for about 20 minutes. The older player told the youngster that they could just sit together. The next day the youngster showed up and was happy to be there. This story reminds us to let's teach our youngsters about community service, volunteers don't just happen. This is a learning process and giving back is an important thing to teach as well as to learn. Those simple items, beyond what we have for club excellence, are important as support items. Doing something like that encourages what we will have in the future. Ron indicated that speaking of the future many of us know we are very much tied to age appropriate training starting at the 8U prospective and moving on up. Ron showed a film that showed why we are so committed on doing what we are doing today and indicated this is a great video to show parents what we are doing as well. Ron wished everyone a safe trip home and to keep up the good work.

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Baudo moved that the meeting be adjourned. Tom Koester seconded the motion. THE MOTION CARRIED AND THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.