

MN Hockey-District 16
Spring 2024 Meeting-Monday, May 6, 2024
Spud Jr. East Grand Forks

- I. Meeting called to order at 4:02pm
- II. **Roll Call:** Bagley, Bemidji, Crookston, East Grand Forks, Hallock, Red Lake Falls, Roseau, Thief River Falls, Warroad, Lake of the Woods, and Walker
- III. **Associations Absent:** NA
- IV. **Agenda Additions:** Squirt District discussion – Huewe. Bemidji moved; Roseau seconded.
- V. **Approve Winter Minutes:** Bemidji moved/Walker-Second. Motion approved.
- VI. **Spring MN Hockey Recap:** Dragich and Elliott recapped the April 26-28 meetings. The Girls 12/13U Pilot Program will remain intact as run the past two seasons. The MN Hockey VPs said they would be very accommodating in waivers with the 1/3 rule and the A/B playing level for 13-year-old players. A solid effort was presented to make a permanent change, but the majority was not in favor. Locker Room monitors continue to be an issue everywhere in the country. The 2025-2026 season will be a rule-change season, so talk has begun for bringing back tag-up offsides along with other changes. Neck guards were discussed and beginning August 1st all players and referees 18 and younger must wear neck guards in some form. Mark Elliott was awarded the President's Award at the yearly banquet.
- VII. **District-Region-State Hosts:**
2025 District Tournaments:

Bantam AA – East Grand Forks	Bantam A – XX	Bantam B1 & B2 – Warroad
Peewee AA – XX	Peewee A – Thief River Falls	Peewee B1 – Bagley
Peewee B2 – Walker	Girls 12U A & B – Roseau	Squirt A – Bemidji
Squirt B – Roseau	Squirt B – Crookston	

Region Tournaments:
Girls 15U B – Bemidji
Northern MN Championships:

Bantam B2 – Crookston	Peewee B2 – Thief River Falls
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The group went over prospective teams for 2024-2025 season at each playing level. A lengthy discussion followed with Roseau questioning current policies with A & B level teams. A number of ideas were discussed on attempting to make each level as competitive as possible. Pre-season jamborees and post season jamborees were among the ideas discussed. This issue has been around for many years without a great solution. One obstacle currently is teams registering for tournaments next season at levels they think their teams should be playing at. Mark E. asked for any association not agreeing with levels others are playing at to please discuss with him. Also discussed moving up the date of our Spring meeting to try to determine playing levels prior to tournament registration beginning.

- VIII. **Committee Reports:**
1. Stats-Mike Peterson No Report
 2. District Web Page – send any information to Mike P. or Mark D.
 3. Coach-in-Chief (CEP)-Jay Hardwick MN Hockey pushing on-line clinics, clinics are supposed to begin earlier in 2024.
 4. ACE Coordinator: Nothing
 5. Goalie Coordinator: Still need one – Keith Severson from Roseau will help.
 6. Referees-Ron Laturi-not present. 18 and younger need neck protection for 2024-2025 season. Solberg reported he and Tyler Hagl are doing Referee Clinics for level.

7. HP Programs - a few more complaints this year than the last few. Complaints typically in regard a player not making a roster. Teams are not pre-determined but maybe the player didn't have a great tryout. Looking at a few changes for next year. Can have up to three coaches per level so can use help at all but 15 Boys.
8. Awards- EGF will provide awards for 2025 district tournaments.
9. Tournaments - Mark D. reported no changes for 1024-1025 season. Will send out information when completed by MN Hockey.
10. Risk Management-Continue to report injuries if you have them. USA Hockey is working with a new insurance company. No longer K&K. Accident reports will now be completed online.
11. Girls Hockey – no update
12. Retention-Recruitment-Keith S. was not present but reported money still available to associations through MN Hockey grants – Pass the Puck & Gear Up Minnesota

IX. Old Business:

1. Mark Elliott's address 2030 Harding Ct SW, Bemidji, MN 56601 218-766-4433 & 218-759-9411
2. Locker Room Monitors – Major focus for 2024-2025 season through MN Hockey. Issues and lawsuits continue to happen across the country because of locker room issues.
3. Waivers – must have for players moving, changing schools, 13U playdowns, etc.
4. Girls 12U/13U Pilot Program – MN Hockey will keep the program setup as is. The VPs of the Maroon & Gold Regions said at the state meeting that they would be accommodating with waivers if associations can provide information on playdowns being the best for player development, maturity and remaining playing hockey. TRF did not like how district teams manipulated rules last season.

X. New Business:

1. CEP Certifications – the date for coaches completing certifications is being changed to December 15th. Registration is now open for the 2024-2025 season and clinics are supposed to begin earlier.
2. District Director Election – Mark Elliott was nominated by Bemidji and seconded by Roseau. No further nominations. Elliott will serve another three-year term to expire in 2027.
3. Squirt District Tournaments – discussion was had on moving the squirt and 10U tournaments up a week or two in February to avoid conflict with the regional tournaments. Most receptive to the idea and will discuss for future years. The dates will remain the same for 2025 as some associations have teams playing in tournaments those weeks in February.
4. The Fall meeting will be held in Roseau at Gene's – 1095 3rd St NW - 4pm on Monday, September 9th, 2024.

- XI. With no further business, Roseau moved to adjourn the meeting and Crookston seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment: 6:41pm