

Minnesota Hockey – District 8

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Meeting Time: 7:00

Meeting Location: Moose Lodge, Inver Grove Heights, MN

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

D8 Board Members:

Present: Rak, Dave, Kate, Zac, Mickey, Paul, Chris, Andy

Absent: Andy, Bill, Julie, Jamie, Elliot,

Association Representation:

Present: Apple Valley Burnsville, Cottage Grove, Eagan, Eastview, Farmington, Hastings, IGH, Lakeville, Red Wing, SSP, WSP, Woodbury

Absent: Rosemount

III. Previous Meeting Minutes Approved

A. Passed

IV. New Business:

A. The following teams have been approved to play in D8 league play for 2026-27 season

- Rochester: Squirt A, PW AA, Bantam AA, 10U A & 15U A
- Mankato: PW AA and Bantam AA
- Edgemoor: PW C and Bantam C

B. Dates for March tournaments are confirmed for March 8 to 15, 2027 (details under tournaments)

C. Mite full-ice discussion – up to 10 full-ice games are allowed at the Mite/8U levels after January 15 per MH rules; does D8 want to change that limit to a different amount?

D. LiveBarn update – Kate to inquire about a discount for D8 to have access to LiveBarn in real time

V. Officer's Reports:

A. District Director (Rak):

- MH Rules Committee will meet Sept 12 to 14 along with other MH meetings
 - Rak has requested the word “primary” be added before the term “legal dwelling” under the waiver section
- District Director committee will discuss affiliate arrangements. Districts are allowed to define the service areas as needed. District 8 abides by high school service areas.

B. District President (Dave):

C. District Director of Officials (Paul):

- Mouthguards have been a big discussion and remain firm. Skaters that get form-fitted mouthguards will need to figure out a way to tether them.
- First year officials will now be wearing green armbands.

- All green-stripe officials will have a higher-level ref working games with them until at least mid-January. There should not be any games officiated with two “green stripes”
- There was some movement in ratings in older refs; some have been dropped to a lower rank so they will not be officiating JG or Bantam AA games
- Of last year’s ref team, all but 30 will be coming back. Of the 30 that will not be officiating in D8, 10 will be officiating in different districts to align with college addresses. Others chose to retire or not come back to do abusive environments
- For the refs needing to attend a ref session – they will need to find the D8 session from all the options on USAH website.
- New ref rates have been posted on website

[2026-27 D8 Referee Rates](#)

D. District VP Girls (Jamie):

E. District VP Squirts (Julie):

F. District VP Peewee (Chris):

G. District VP Bantam (Mickey):

H. District VP Junior Gold & U16 (Kent):

I. District Coach in Chief (Bill):

J. District VP Tournaments (Zac):

- Invitational tournaments can now be sanctioned with Minnesota Hockey
 - Zac needs to be notified at the same time as MH that you have requested a sanctioned tournament. He and Paul need to approve prior to MH sanctioning. MH does not send a notification to Zac when a form has been completed
 - GameSheet fees for tournaments will be included in the sanctioning fee
 - Tournaments need to be sanctioned at least 21 days in advance – get them in as soon as possible
- Playoff Hosts
 - Thank you to everyone for getting most of the host sites secured early this year; it is very much appreciated.
 - Remaining tournaments needing a host are –
 - February 21 – 28: Bantam B1 & Peewee B1
 - March 8 – 15: Bantam C and Peewee C

**Eastview is willing to host one of the March tournaments but would need to trade an association for a smaller league. If open to this – talk to Zac*

- The ice at the MET rink in Woodbury has not been sanctioned by USAH yet, therefore it has not been sanctioned by MH, which means that no D8 teams are allowed to play in tournaments there. It is unsure when or if this will change.
 - If you notice a tournament with games played at the rink, you will need to “un-register” to avoid penalties
 - Woodbury has a discussion scheduled with the owners to review items that need to be addressed for the ice to be usable for practices
- MH will now be sending out a sanctioning form for all tournaments that have been sanctioned. A copy of this form needs to be posted at every rink that tournament has games scheduled.
- March tournament dates have been confirmed as March 8 to 15. There may be some conflict with the MNHSL state tournaments, but it is the best week for D8 participants due to spring break schedules. Reminder that a team can opt out of the end of season tournament – to do so, they must complete & submit form on D8 website.

- Mite and 8U Jamborees hosts need to fill out the request form on the D8 website. If a Mite or 8U tournament is hosted, the host needs to go through the traditional sanctioning process with MH.
- For more information on Mite/ 8U Jamborees – pages 31-32 of MH handbook
- For more information on Mite/ 8U Tournaments – page 57 of MH handbook
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- K. District Treasurer (Dave):
 - All 2025-26 bills have been paid including taxes
 - One Association is outstanding in league fees
 - There is \$88,704 in the checkbook which right where we need it to be for the beginning of the season invoices such as Avario, GameSheet, and the first ref bill
- L. District 8 Hockey Director (Elliot):
- M. Goalie Coordinator (Andy):

VI. Discussion Topics:

- A. Associations shall not penalize any Tier 1 skater for missing a tryout due to a game. USAH requires a specific number of games to be played prior to playing in National series. An exemption will be provided to a skater that needs to miss practice to attend a tryout
 - Associations to look at Tier 1 rosters and schedules to try and avoid overlapping. Both are available on the D8 website.
 - This does not apply to any other situation; The Tier 1 program is under the USAH hockey program, which means it is under Minnesota Hockey and therefore District 8.
 - Discussion was had about potentially having other parents get upset about showing favoritism or opening other conflicts that may arise.
- B. Squirt net proposal passed effective Sept 1, 2027
 - Lakeville has suggested D8 setting a net size standard for all D8 league games until September 2029. Discuss with associations and bring back input.
 - For reference, associations can use the 42' x 36" net or the 54" x 36" net
 - Effective September 2029, all nets will be required to be the new size.
- C. District 8 Affiliate Borders discussed with an association expressing interest in moving back to zip codes.
 - District 8 maintains that high school service areas are the best for our associations
 - Any official requests to make changes can be sent to Rak

VII. 19U – Girls Junior Hockey League

- A. Lakeville has secured ice time for this season and has about 10 players who have expressed interest in coming back.
 - Talk to high school coaches about kids that don't come back or don't make a team
 - Not a lot of information in community – share as you can on social media, websites, etc.
 - The D8 Website has more information on the program
[Girls Junior Gold Hockey](#)

VIII. Close

Next D8 Board Meeting: September, 2026, 7:00 pm @ TBD