**HPHL Annual Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2024
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Original Brooklyn’s**

**1. Call to Order**

* **Meeting called to order by Mark Wildrick at 7:15 PM.**

**2. Clubs Present**

**Arapahoe, Arvada West, Black Widows, Boulder Knights, Cherokee Trail, Greeley Freeze, Longmont, Mountain Ice, Mountain Militia, Mustang Hockey, North Alliance, Parker Knights, Polar Bears, Sabercats, Storm, Ranch Grizzlies, Rock Canyon, WLTV.**

**3. Introductory Remarks & Board Role Updates**

* **Mark Wildrick is assuming the role of President, as Ralph Bammert and Tom McGann had conflicts due to new CAHA rules prohibiting CAHA members from serving on boards governed by CAHA.**
* **Hannah Valadez will serve as Vice President while continuing her role as North Division Director for the 2025 season.**
* **Continuing Board Members: Dina Fieweger, Randy Watler, Steve Hickman.**

**Welcome New/Interim Members:**

* **Josh Cronk – Coach/Club Coordinator, Front Range Rangers**
* **Amy Herbert – Club Coordinator, HTB**
* **Brook Freeman – Club Coordinator, Greeley**
* **Mike Koutecky – Coach, Parker Knights**
* **Jason Brand – Coach, Mountain Ice**
* **Darren Fouts – Coach, North Alliance**

**New Staff:**

* **Mandy Narum – Administrative Assistant**
* **Craig Stinehour – Scheduler**
* **Kaitlyn Narum – Crossbar Website Manager**

**4. Congratulations to 2024 Champions**

* **Wales Division: Denver Hockey**
* **Campbell Division: Mountain Ice**
* **Smyth Division: Bruins Hockey**
* **Norris 1: Fossil Ridge**
* **Norris 2: Longmont/Coyotes**
* **Lady Byng (Girls): Storm**

**5. Approval of 2023 Minutes**

**6. Elections**

* **Steve Hickman – At-Large Director**
* **Mark Wildrick – President**
* **Ralph Bammert – CAHA Liaison (Non-Voting)**
* **Hannah Valadez – North Division Director / Vice President**
* **Josh Cronk – South Division Director**
* **At-Large Directors: Mike Koutecky, Jason Brand, Darren Fouts, Brook Freeman, Amy Herbert**

**7. Budget Overview**

* **Current Reserve: $126,000**
* **Team Fees (No Change for 2025):**
	+ **Varsity: $9,750 (12 games + 6 ice touches, including tryouts)**
	+ **JV / Girls: $6,200 (10 games + 6 ice touches, including tryouts)**
* **Security Deposit: $900 per club**
* **Individual Registration Fee: Increasing from $20 → $30**

**Fee Updates:**

* **Ice fees increasing ~7% for 2025**
* **Officiating fees increased ~10% as of August 2024**

**8. Scheduling & Tiering**

* **Ice Touches: 6 per team (includes tryouts)**
* **Additional Ice: To be arranged and paid directly by teams.**
* **Season Timeline: March 15 – May 11 (Championships)**
* **Playoffs: Included in team fees; single-elimination format (two rounds on Saturday).**

**Tiering Process:**

* **Players earn points based on grade and play level.**
* **“Bubble” teams may be reviewed for placement adjustments.**

**JV Guidelines:**

* **Single-team clubs generally compete in lower varsity tiers.**
* **Players in grades 10–12 rostered on Junior or AAA teams may not play JV.**

**9. Rule Reminders & Updates**

* **Dual Rostering: Allowed only for girls rostered on both co-ed and girls’ teams (must be in good financial standing with both).**
* **Playdowns: Not permitted under USA Hockey roster rules.**
* **Eligibility: Lower-team players become ineligible after playing 4 games on a higher-level team.**
* **Overtime Rule:**
	+ **Regular-season ties → 5-minute, 3v3, stop-time overtime (if curfew allows).**
	+ **If still tied, game ends as a tie (each team earns 1 point).**
* **Fines & Forfeits:**
	+ **$900 fine for game cancellation with <1 week’s notice (due before next game).**
	+ **$200 fine for game misconduct (abuse/fighting).**
* **Penalty Verification: Coaches must review and verify penalties post-game.**

**10. Guest Speaker – Referee Overview**

**Brian Willie, Referee-in-Chief**

**11. GameSheet Scoring**

* **Scoring via the GameSheets app (iPad).**
* **Offline scoring should still be done live and uploaded once connected.**
* **Rosters import automatically from USA Hockey; players default to “Not Playing” until marked active.**

**12. Credentials & Grades**

* **Training Requirements:**
	+ **Coaches, Managers, and players (born 2007 or earlier) must complete SafeSport.**
	+ **Coaches & Managers require background checks, CEP, 13+ module, and concussion training.**
* **Academic Requirements:**
	+ **Grades checked before the season and playoffs.**
	+ **Players with IEP/504 plans who don’t meet minimum GPA must provide counselor confirmation of progress.**

**13. Player Placement**

* **Players must try out for their school-affiliated team unless an exception is board-approved.**
* **Requests must be submitted in writing.**
* **Clubs must inform the league of player releases post-tryouts so the league can assist in reassignments.**

**14. Goalie Assignments**

* **Released goalies will be placed where needed.**
* **For teams without a goalie:**
	+ **Dress a skater as goalie**
	+ **Play with six skaters**
	+ **Borrow from the Goalie Pool**

**15. Crossbar Transition**

**The League is moving from SportEngine to Crossbar for improved efficiency and communication.**

**a. Enhanced Team Management**

* **Club Coordinators will receive detailed player info on team pages.**
* **Eliminates the need for TeamSnap.**
* **Player info prefilled during registration; optional fields for coaches/managers.**
* **Once assigned, families receive team invites and grade upload reminders.**

**b. Communication & Event Management**

* **CCs can email, message, and schedule events via the Crossbar app.**

**c. Integration with GameSheets**

* **Crossbar auto-populates scheduled games into GameSheets.**

**d. Mobile App Features**

* **Manage availability, game assignments, and messaging through the app.**

**e. Rollout Timeline**

* **CC invitations: Next month**
* **Staff registration opens: December**
* **50% registration discount for staff children through December**

**16. Locker Room Monitor Requirements**

* **Minimum of 2 SafeSport-certified monitors (with background checks) per team.**
* **Must appear on the official roster.**
* **A coach must remain until all players have left the locker room.**
* **At least one USA Hockey/HPHL registered coach must be present at all practices.**
* **Unsupervised captain practices are not permitted.**

**17. Disciplinary Committee**

* **Comprised of 3 members, following CAHA/USA Hockey disciplinary standards.**
* **Committee decisions will not overturn referee calls.**

**18. Scheduling Updates**

* **Avoid Big Bear Rink due to cost ($595/hr).**
* **Some rinks closed for maintenance in spring.**
* **Midweek games (Wed/Thu) may be scheduled to meet demand.**
* **Craig has begun spring ice scheduling.**
* **Clubs may submit blackout dates for 1 prom and 1 spring break week.**

**19. League Integrity & Culture**

* **Culture Improvement Initiative: Emphasize respect and communication among coaches, managers, refs, and rink staff.**
* **Coaches set the tone for players and parents.**
* **Better league reputation → more desirable ice slots and experienced referees.**

**20. Door Prizes**

**21. Adjournment**