

## NAI Committee Meeting Minutes - December 14th, 2016 7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order** - 7:00 PM

2. **Attendance - From 1660 Executive:** Randy Mak, Dody Kluttig, Karen Gabel, Jim Wood

**Associations** - Darcy Elder - Wetaskiwin, Ian Berg - Josephburg , Rick Marcinkowski - Camrose, Mike Beckett - Redwater, Steve Jansen and Sterling Tiessen - Tofield, Wayne Gatza - Sturgeon, Susan Anderson- Calmar, Kelly Montgomery and Karoden Shwetz - Smoky Lake, Brent Parno - CR, Derek Knight, Brett Cox, Marcie Mazurenko - Fort Saskatchewan, Dale Druar - Pembina, Warren Williams - Strathcona, Darren Ainsworth - Stony Plain, Drew Hiltz - Devon, Chad Kellgren - Winfield, Brad Holgate - Onoway, Travis Galenzoski - Fort McMurray, Randy Gabel - Westlock, Tina Warawa - Vegreville, Rob MacDonald - Lamont, Rob Critch, Brendan Zaporosky - Leduc, Ryan Warawa - Mundare, Jeff Laberge, Shaun Lauer - New Sarepta,

3. **Interlock / Interleague Status** - Down to three leagues due to changes after our deadlines, etc., NEAHL decided to pull out the Atom and PeeWee from interlock. The NAI committee decided to pull all of the NEAHL teams out of the NAI. We have never said you cannot play against a NEAHL team, it is just that from now forward, it will no longer be a league game, it will be exhibition and you will have to follow exhibition rules for the game - ie: getting proper permits from HA to play the game

4. **NAI Website and schedules** -

a. **Issues website** - not all contact info up to date - reminder will be sent to teams with missing information, please check the "click here" box on NAI website, reason we went with NAI website was to better streamline all games and stats in one place; easier to look things up and to use for reference, RAMP is working on a list of things we require the website to do and to get back some of the features we used in the older version

b. **Issues schedules - short notice changes unavoidable due to NE pull out, not quite done yet, Nick is working on it couple days yet, please continue to check website**, encourage teams to book the TBA's ASAP, if cannot book the games or teams are having travel issues look at tournaments to use for league games, contact Governor to figure things out, the release of the first schedule gave back the ice slots so that complicated things, there are too many changes to send out notice to each manager that there is a game change - we will send out a message to say Nick is done with the juggling and the rest will be normal game changes as per team requests

5. **Travel concerns** yes there have been lots of concerns, some teams have agreed to travel more than agreed upon at the AGM, governors to work through it and the governor will contact Randy Mak to work it out - team manager can do this, we will try to work some accommodations out between the two teams...accommodations such as possibility of not playing the game, taking the game to a half way travel point if there's ice, contact the team that you are not travelling to with lots of advance notice so they can book something else, at committee's discretion through Randy Mak some games will be approved to not play and enter game sheet as 0-0 tie, but some may end up in a loss, may be more allowance for 4-point games, lots of issues with travel time more than game time and using up the whole day, lack of ice is an issue going forward, try to get a couple of teams together and get a bus, mini tournament style weekend for booking games (note - cannot be a tournament, cannot charge fees or make money at it as per HA regulations). Note: we could advertise if ice is available in your community. Q - How do we promote benefits of interlock / interleague when we are no longer

playing close associations? A- because of the tiers - Nick is trying to keep teams more equal calibre to play each other more often, as well look at plan for future

6. **Path forward (next season) mid-February we are working a plan - we will invite some of you to a group discussion/ brainstorm to iron out issues so you have something to bring back to your own AGM's** we have a list of improvements, HA changes for minor hockey next year including standardized tiering
  - a. NEAHL requested in for next year, but to be granted that they will have to have firm timelines and criteria met for them to even be considered
  - b. NAI will firm up our timelines and include two bye-weekends to throw in extra games but tiering will be tightened and finalized earlier
  - c. Outer rim associations will be hosting home games within their home league, we will clean up the region teams play in to address travel issues and ask teams to see if they are willing to go there
7. **Positive feedback-** appreciation for what we've tried to do
8. **Adjournment 8:25 PM**