

NORCAL Hockey Board Sign-In Sheet  
May 21, 2005 Meeting

Pete Toft	NORCAL President	P
Ann Wade	NORCAL VP/Penalty Review	P
Carla Dickerson	NORCAL Secretary	P
Irene Kercher	NORCAL Treasurer	
Chuck Collins	NORCAL Scheduler/Webmaster	
Stephanie Richardson	NORCAL M.A.L.	P
John Hamer	NORCAL Gen. Manager	
Open	NORCAL Girls Chair	
Lori Diaz	NORCAL Roster Manager	P
Melissa Fitzgerald	CAHA Director	P
Mark Mauro	NORCAL Referee In Chief	P
Open	NORCAL Director of Coaches	
Todd Llewellyn	IHONC President	P
<b>NORCAL Club Representatives</b>		
Liesl Songer-Nelson/M. Fitzgerald	1. Berkeley Iceland	P
Chris Hathaway	2. Cupertino – Pres.	P
Bobby Barlow	3. Fresno – Pres.	P
Todd Morgan	4. High Sierra – Pres.	
Andre Lacroix/Mark Balsi	5. Oakland Ice Center	P
Ray Monks	6. Sacramento/Roseville Skatetown	P
Joe Lundy	7. Santa Clara – Pres.	P
Stephanie Richardson	8. San Jose – Rep.	P
Deanna Branski	9. Santa Rosa – Pres.	P
Anna Lane	10. Stockton – Pres.	P
Mike Stoley	11. Tri-Valley - Pres.	P
Jennifer Clark	12. Yerba Buena/S.F. – Pres.	P
Shane Hicke	13. Vacaville Skating Center	
<b>Others in attendance</b>		
Bernt Jonzson	San Jose parent	P
John Radke	Berkeley parent	P
Non attendance notation	High Sierra	
	Vacaville	

## NORCAL BOARD MINUTES FOR MAY 21, 2005

General session called to order at 10:05am with introductions.

Some items may not be reported in the order by which they were presented.

### REPORTS

1. President – Pete Toft

- Invited Carla as Nominating Chairperson, to review the candidates being considered for 2005-06 executive board positions. A ballot was distributed to each of the club president's present, and the results are as follows:

President - Pete Toft

Vice-President - Ann Wade

Treasurer – Vacant

Secretary - Carla Dickerson

Member-at-Large - Jennifer Clark

Pete also noted additional appointments of Mark Mauro/Referee In Chief and Lori Diaz/Roster Manager.

- **Action Item:** Pete will send out the Director of Coaches criteria to all club presidents. He noted that if anyone had any interested individuals in the open position of DOC, please contact him directly.
- Pete reminded club presidents that several board members for the 05-06 season will most likely not be returning for 06-07. He encouraged them to go into this year with an open mind and look toward the possibility of opportunity to get involved in 06-07.

2. GM – John Hamer – not present

3. Vice President – Ann Wade

- **Action Item:** Ann noted that she will create and distribute a report, showing a breakdown of penalties heard in review and what action was taken.
- Ann noted that she was very happy with the response to media solicitations made during playoffs in San Jose. ESPN2 came out and taped several interviews, which allowed them to create a good piece to promote youth hockey. **Action Item:** Ann will locate a hard copy of the video, so as to reproduce copies for each club to use as a tool during August tryout sessions. Ann thanked the San Jose Sharks for their assistance in creating and distributing a press release to various local media.

4. Treasurer – Irene Kercher – not present

- Balance Sheet distributed which currently indicates \$92,873.65 bank balance.
- There are no outstanding invoices to be paid by clubs.
- **Motion** to reimburse the Berkeley club \$100.00 for a coaching seminar presented by Deanna Branski, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jennifer Clark. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Secretary - Carla Dickerson

Asked for approval minutes from the March 19, 2005 meeting with the noted corrections reflected in the 4/17/05 draft.

**Motion** to accept as presented, by Joe Lundy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie Richardson, motion to accept minutes as prepared carried unanimously.

6. Scheduler/Webmaster – Chuck Collins – not present
7. Roster Manager – Lori Diaz
  - Lori previously requested that clubs provide information as required by CAHA, regarding 04-05 delinquent players to assist her in creating her report that will be distributed to all club presidents. **Action Item:** She asked that they provide her with club name, player's name, amount owed, level of play and club contact.
  - Mark Balsi asked about player's who are currently delinquent, who are playing on summer teams. Pete responded that the club's have a "gentleman's agreement" that if player's are reported on the list who they know are playing on summer teams, contact is encouraged to be made between club presidents to resolve.
8. Referee in Chief – Mark Mauro – no report
9. Director of Coaches - none
10. USA Hockey Report – none
11. CAHA – Melissa Fitzgerald
  - CAHA rules meeting to be held June 4<sup>th</sup>. Rankings for tier will be a hot topic of discussion. **Action Item:** Submit to Melissa or Pete by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Discussed upcoming CAHA elections. 6 candidates from the north running for positions include, Eileen Castagna, Carla Dickerson, Chris Guerra, Jon Gustafson, Chris Hathaway and Liesl Songer-Nelson. Melissa described the voting process. Ballots have been mailed and club presidents began receiving them the week of May 16<sup>th</sup>. **Action Item:** Email Melissa how you have voted, so she can track all the ballots to make sure all NORCAL votes are sent in.
  - Bid packets for playoffs will come out in July.
  - Stephanie Richardson asked about tier scheduling. Has it been determined only CAHA scheduled games will count towards rankings? Melissa said it hasn't been decided yet.
  - It's estimated that Midget tier teams will be \$5,000-\$6,000 to CAHA.
  - Melissa noted that she'd like to see a proposal that nothing counts before October 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be decided at the June 4<sup>th</sup> rules meeting.
12. IHONC – Todd Llewellyn
  - No major incidents.
  - Distributed new fee structure according to the terms of the current contract to get more in alignment with southern California rates.
  - Reminded clubs that IHONC senior officials are available to come speak at club/team group functions.
  - Asked outlying areas (Santa Rosa, Vacaville, Sacramento, Tahoe, Stockton, Fresno) for assistance in the need for recruiting new officials. Because of the lack of higher level officials, they did less than 160 officials evaluations this past season. Details about upcoming seminars on the IHONC website at [www.ihonc-ca.com](http://www.ihonc-ca.com) . Seminars currently scheduled are 7/30 in San Jose and 8/30 somewhere in the north bay.

- Excited that IHONC has been contacted by southern California to provide 4 names from the top 4-6 officials, to line the new Stockton minor league games.
13. Sharks Fan Development – Rob Jaynes – not present

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. NORCAL Playoff Update – Pete commended San Jose for doing a great job facilitating playoffs at Logitech Ice. He also was pleased that 6 of 9 state titles were awarded to NORCAL teams.
2. Grass Roots Program Update – Ray Monks presented a second draft of his Parent Survey. **Action Item:** Any additional comments or corrections should be emailed to Ray Monks no later than Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup>. Ray will then contact John Radke, who offered to set up the form on-line with a link to it posted on the NORCAL website. All surveys submitted will go to Ray Monks to compile information. Melissa asked about involving other sports to respond to this. Ray commented that we need to focus this season on rink run programs only, including hockey, figure skating, broom ball, curling and public skate sessions.
3. Jordan Kocian Award Update – Pete announced that the 2005 recipient was San Jose Jr. Shark Andy Dickerson. He thanked Ann for her efforts in publicity, noting articles in the San Jose Mercury and Hockey & Skating Magazine. Pete suggested inviting past recipients to attend the annual Kocian Tournament, hosted by Berkeley in December/January. **Action Item:** Melissa Fitzgerald to inform the board when plans begin to be put in place for this event, so that proper notification can go out to past recipients.
4. Pacific District Camp Update – Congratulations to the 3 players from NORCAL who have earned the right to advance to upcoming national summer camps. Additional information on overall results can be obtained by going to the Pacific District web site [www.pacificdistrict.com](http://www.pacificdistrict.com).  
  - 1990 - Forward - Dalton Speelman - SJ14AAMajor
  - 1991 - Forward - Daniel Radke - BK14A
  - 1991 - Forward Alternate - Jason Methot - SJ14A
 Pete noted again the importance of coaches getting involved in the Pre-Select and Select Camp process to assist in getting northern California representation when players advance outside of the district.
5. Kevin Constantine Clinic – The executive board is recommending that we proceed with hosting the annual Kevin Constantine Clinic. The clinic will be held July 29-31. Pete has been in contact with Kevin and has received some background information on how the clinic has been handled in previous years. **Motion** to approve a base cost of \$5,500, with expenses not to exceed \$1,500 with a NORCAL credit of \$100 per the first 5 coaches per club. Presented by Liesl Songer-Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Monks. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Carla to coordinate clinic with assistance from Lori, Liesl and Ann.
  - Two levels of certification can be obtained at this clinic.
  - Warren Smith to do a June clinic for Level 1, in preparation for attendance at Kevin Constantine to obtain Level 2 & 3.
  - Reminder about Level 4 clinic, 1 time per year certification to be held August 18-20 in Reno, Nevada.

- More information on coaching seminars can be obtained at [www.pacdistcoaching.com](http://www.pacdistcoaching.com) .

## NEW BUSINESS

1. NORCAL Elections – See Report Item #1.
2. 2005-06 Calendar – **Action Item:** Pete will send noted revisions to Chuck for “Preliminary” posting on the NORCAL website.
3. 2005-06 Bylaw Changes – **Action Item:** Pete to update minor cosmetic changes, including date alignments and eligibility section revisions. It was decided by unanimous show of hands to revise Article VIII, Section 2. Eligibility from a minimum of three years to a minimum of two years. It was also suggested that staggered two-year terms be implemented for the executive board. President and Treasurer are elected one year and the Vice President and Secretary are elected the following year. **Action Item:** Pete will distribute draft revisions to club president’s for review when completed.
4. 2005-06 Playing Rule Changes – Pete noted several small revisions, in addition to some more big discussion points.
  - Fee Increases – It was presented that there were three reasons to consider a fee increase.
    - A. Act of God – It was decided by majority show of hands, not to increase NORCAL team registration fees to cover incidents deemed to be Acts of God. Specifics cited were winter weather situations that affected home and away games vs. High Sierra as well as a broken down Zamboni. Pete will attempt to draft a rule that covers both scenarios.
    - B. Playoffs – It was decided by majority show of hands that club presidents were against any consideration of possibly raising NORCAL per team registration fees for the 05-06 season to cover playoff entry fees. Several clubs include this annually in their club registration fees and the consensus echoed the importance of not raising the cost of the sport of hockey, more than was necessary. This may possibly be revisited for consideration for the 06-07 season.
    - C. General Expense – It was decided that because of the reduced game season from 26 to 20 (described in the below motion), raising team registration fees was not necessary at this time.
  - Boundaries – USA Hockey will not support a league-wide boundary implementation.
  - Tier Playoff Scheduling – **Tabled discussions until July 16** as information vital to this discussion needs to be presented by John Hamer.
  - Length of Season –
    - Melissa mentioned not having B teams participate in championships.
    - Discussed a possible Sept-Dec and Jan-March split season.
    - Discussed starting games in October and dropping the number of games to qualify for post-season.
    - Deanna Branski tournament style format.

- Discussed October start, 20 game season, 3 practices a week would offer 1 month shorter travel, possible mid November for final team declarations.
- Melissa would support a proposal to Chuck with the idea of reducing the schedule by delaying the start of the season.

**Motion** that the season begin October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005 aimed at a 20-game per team season, a 4 to 6 game preseason with the games aimed at maximizing the number of preseason weekends based on the number of ice requirements needed to complete the regular season game rotation with a minimum of 2 rotations in the regular season. Presented by Melissa Fitzgerald, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Monks. With a vote of 10 in favor and 1 opposed (San Jose), the motion carries.

- Teams should submit 13 slots per Squirt-Midget team to Chuck for ice allocation.
- Mite Hockey –
  - Chris Hathaway noted that Mites should have to play in the same proximity as where they live.
  - Melissa Fitzgerald would support a possible proposal for an application. If your drive distance is more than 30 miles you must complete an application stating your intention to leave. Our message should be to foster development and educate a philosophy. **Action Item:** Melissa said she would be glad to draft the application.
  - Stephanie voiced a concern about returning players and requested a “grandfather” clause, and that it be extended current members in club associations who will be Mite age. Unanimous agreement about continuing to allow those in programs this past season to continue, should they choose to.

**Motion** to require any Mite age player who desires to play during the 2005-06 season further than 30 miles from their residence, must submit the Application to NORCAL. Presented by Melissa Fitzgerald, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Monks. With a vote of 8 in favor, 2 opposed (Oakland and Tri-Valley) and 1 abstention (San Jose), the motion carries.

5. US Juvenile Hockey League – Chris Hathaway – **tabled to July 16**

6. Capital Thunder Junior B Team – Ray Monks

Ray distributed posters to all clubs to hang at their rinks promoting the tryouts. Cost will be \$4,500 per player. Billet families, educational coordinators, job opportunities for the players, etc. have all be pre-arranged. The farthest away this team will travel is Phoenix, Arizona.

#### ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

1. Advanced Level Coaching Certification – **Motion** to reimburse 1 coach per club, up to \$500.00 to attend Level 4 certification. Presented by Chris Hathaway, withdrawn for lack of a 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Motion** for NORCAL to reimburse 1 coach per club for the registration fee up to \$300.00 to attend a Level 4 seminar. Presented by Chris Hathaway, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Monks. With a vote of 12 in favor and 1 opposed (Tri-Valley), the motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

***Motion*** to adjourn the meeting made by Ray Monks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Hathaway at 2:50pm.

Next meetings – Saturday July 16, Roundtable Pizza, Pleasanton

Saturday August 20, Roundtable Pizza, Pleasanton

Respectfully Submitted by Carla Dickerson, NORCAL Secretary  
Draft With Revisions 5/27/05