



National Ice Hockey Officials Association

MINUTES of 60th ANNUAL MEETING
OF NIHOA DIRECTORS
Fratello's Restaurant – Manchester, NH
Saturday - March 28, 2015

CHAPTERS

Berkshire
Cape Cod
Central Mass.
Champlain Adirondack
Connecticut

Eastern NY
Eastern Mass.
Maine
Metropolitan NY-NJ
New Hampshire

North Shore Mass.
South Shore Mass.
Southern US
Vermont
Westchester NY
Western MA
Western NY

ATTENDEES

Ted Kellar
John Alexander, David Crary, Tom Murray, Rob Tobin
Michael Belhumeur, Jack Doherty, Dan Mahoney
Mark Stata
Michael Barile, Anthony DeMarte, Robert Melanson, Steve Richetelli, Marty Tangredi,
Bill Tomassi, Lev Torgerson
Nick DeMarte, Jr.
Eric Doyle, Tim Hooton, Chris Kelly, Chip McDonald
Michael S. Komich, Chris Parsons
Bill Sidun
Pierre Belanger, Tom Birmingham, Jack Donovan, Mike Durant, Michael Gould, Lance
Laverriere, Dana Lavoie, Dave Levesque, Alan Nixa, Matt Roy
Brett Boliver, Robert Melanson Sr., Jim Quinlan
C. Thomas Lynch, James McKenzie
Nick DeMarte, Sr.
Brian Collamore, Kris Peckham
Anthony LoConte
Bill Sapelli
Bob Baldwin

Totals 17

45

100% Annual Attendance: Connecticut, Eastern Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, South Shore Mass.

Meeting Called Order

President Lev Torgerson, Connecticut, called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. welcoming all and thanking them for attending the annual meeting. A moment of silence was held in memory of NIHOA members who have died.

President Called the Roll of NIHOA Chapters

Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting

The 2014 Annual Meeting minutes were distributed to those in attendance for their review. A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the minutes as presented passed unanimously.

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Report of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee consists of Alan Nixa, New Hampshire, chairman, and Ray Lilley, Connecticut. Alan provided an overview of the process the committee used in review of the detail of revenues and expenses (both in Excel and Quicken format), along with bank, credit card(s) statements and reports provided by the Secretary-Treasurer. Alan also outlined the scope of the Committee's activities and review and read a detailed statement regarding it. The committee did have a few

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questions for the Secretary-Treasurer to which he responded promptly. It was noted that no anomalies, requiring reporting to the annual meeting, were found. The committee reviewed its findings with the Executive Board prior to the annual meeting and made minor recommendations in process (acquisition of NIHOA credit card use, timeline for delivery of information to the Committee in future years, etc.).

Secretary's Report

The 2014-15 Secretary's Report was distributed to those in attendance for their review. The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the report which: 1) expressed acknowledgement, thanks, and appreciation to outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Jack Doherty for his twenty-one (21) years of service of behalf of NIHOA, and to Dana Lavoie, Chief Information Officer for his training and support as I learned the Arbitrator procedures, 2) laid out the agenda for the three year term of the new Secretary-Treasurer (myself): Communication/Stewardship/Brand, 3) summarized the recent strengthening of the insurance coverage: lower excess medical deductible, higher general liability limits, and a new general liability umbrella, and 4) expressed concern over the reduction in the membership census nationwide – stressing the importance of succession planning for all Chapters for their key officers.

Treasurer's Report

The 2014-15 Treasurer's Report was distributed to those in attendance for their review. The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the report.

Dana Lavoie, CIO, New Hampshire, Report

Dana reviewed his activities over the past year for his position now two (2) years old. He discussed the operational issues transitioning from the former Secretary-Treasurer to the present that were accomplished with weekly conference calls beginning last summer. He noted the acquisition of a dedicated laptop for NIHOA files used by the Secretary-Treasurer that is backed up remotely multiple times per day to "The Cloud" and not co-mingled with any other computer records or files from other personal functions. Dana reviewed the new member and annual registration processes, and the member history that is retained back to 1997. Data prior to 1997 is kept in hard files in the Secretary-Treasurer's garage in water-protected file cabinets. Dana discussed other available Arbitrator features (targeted communications, broadcast communications, testing services, background checks, etc.) and answered questions from the floor.

Report of Officers

President Lev Torgerson, Connecticut

Lev thanked the members of the Executive Board for their work throughout the year of transition. He thanked Jack Doherty for all he has done for NIHOA during his twenty-one years as Secretary-Treasurer. Lev expressed appreciation to Dana Lavoie, Chief Information Officer for his role in the transition as well. Lev expressed gratitude to Jim McKenzie for his role in providing counsel to the Executive Committee in legal matters during the past year. In describing the past year with respect to planning the Annual Meeting, performing diligence and coverage selection for insurance matters, and dealing with Chapters on the local level, Lev echoed Tom Murray's comments that the world of ice hockey is changing and NIHOA must adapt accordingly.

1st Vice President Tom Murray, Cape Cod

Tom thanked Jack Doherty both for getting him involved in NIHOA with the Nominating Committee six years ago that resulted in nominating Lev Torgerson for 2nd Vice President and for his 21 years of service. Tom presented Lev with a plaque commemorating his service to NIHOA as outgoing President. With the 200+/- drop in member census over the past year, Tom is very interested in being contacted and receiving feedback from the

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membership that provide suggestions as to how we can both grow and strengthen NIHOA given the changing times.

2nd Vice President Nich DeMarte, Sr., Eastern NY

Nick reviewed the 2014-15 NIHOA Rules test administration and reported a 15% increase in membership taking the test online as compared to the previous year. He noted that frequently missed questions and various other aspects of testing information data may be easily obtained and used as a management tool by Chapters. He is happy to help any Chapter with utilizing the Arbiter for testing.

Past President Bob Baldwin, Western NY

Lev thanked Bob for his eight (8) years of service to NIHOA

Honorary Members

A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the following individuals as NIHOA honorary members was passed unanimously.

Cape Cod Mass	North Shore Mass
Paul Wessling	James Bowen
Central Mass	South Shore Mass
Charles Bourgeois	Bill Whooley
Metro NY-NJ	
James "Skip" Crowdell	Western PA
John DeCarlo	Ted Gerry
Steven Foran	Dennis Smith
Terry McNamara	
John Warchol	
New Hampshire	
Laurent Cote	

* Indicates deceased member

Proposed 2015-16 Budget

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the 2014-15 budget and presented the proposed 2015-16 budget. The recommendation of the Secretary-Treasurer was to keep the dues at the 2014-15 level. A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the budget as presented was made. After further discussion a vote of the annual meeting unanimously passed the motion as amended setting the 2015-16 dues at \$48.00.

NIHOA Excess Medical, Catastrophic, Liability and D&O Coverage

The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the association's coverage. The coverage provided through NIHOA's excess medical, catastrophic, liability, and D&O has been enhanced to: lower the medical deductible from \$500 to \$250, increased the general liability limits and provide a general liability umbrella as well. An overview of all coverage can be found on NIHOA's website. It was also noted that the commercial crime coverage was expanded to cover the entire Executive Committee as well as the Secretary-Treasurer.

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Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Election of Officers

The following individual was presented as a candidate by the Nominating Committee (Jim McKenzie (South Shore, MA), Alan Nixa (New Hampshire), and Tom Murray (Cape Cod)) for the positions of:

2nd Vice President (One Year Term)

Mark Stata, Champlain Adirondack NY

As there were no other candidates for the above position, there was a nomination from the floor, seconded, and a unanimous vote for the candidate.

Re-electing

President

Tom Murray, Cape Cod, MA

1st Vice President

Nick DeMarte, Sr. , Southern, US

The Secretary-Treasurer cast one vote for the President and 1st Vice President.

Correspondence

Received and read from C. Thomas Lynch, President Emeritus in appreciation for the NIHOA donation in his wife's Helen's memory.

Reports of Chapters

Seventeen Chapters provided reports to the floor. Recurring themes involved challenges with respect to recruiting, attrition, and succession planning. Women officials continue to make progress with NH having an all female crew working a state final and two members (Maine, Vermont) on ice in the Women's Division III Frozen Four Final. Vermont noted the passing of longtime NIHOA member (Maine, Connecticut, Vermont) Marcel Marquis.

Secretary-Treasurer's Note

President Emeritus Tom Lynch South Shore, MA Expressed appreciation to NIHOA for supporting his Family with the loss of his wife Helen and shared some fond memories.

2016 Annual Meeting

The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held in Albany, NY on March 26, 2016, site of 2016 NCAA Regional Tournament.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

President

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