

# Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association

## Board Meeting

Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: **Jason Mattila, Justin Temple, Lauren Koehler, Erin Ludmer, Mike Bakalars, Danielle Pellitteri, Wayne Pfahler, Amanda Ferwerda, Kyle Dziubla, Todd Carlson, Bill Snow, PJ Gregoire, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Mindy O'Brien, Jill Scheibel, Brian Lindow, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek, Mike O'Brien, Eric Helsher, Adam Sodersten, Mark Markham**

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the April 2023 Annual Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Erin Ludmer, second by Amanda Ferwerda. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O'Brien) – Thank you everyone for a great season! Really pulled together as an organization, really appreciate the partnership and all the ice.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Revenue of \$429,000. Skater fees: \$357,000. Fundraising: tournament revenue \$27,000. Additional revenue: \$15,300. Expenses of ice fees, tournament registration, and officials: \$345,000. Admin expenses: \$79,400. Net income: \$4,500. We were able to fund buying additional equipment for young skaters, host additional tournaments, use \$50,000 to paydown our commitment to the 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet of ice. Ending fiscal year of cash reserves at \$90,000.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – Thank you to all the volunteers (everyone is a volunteer), for your participation, passion, and enthusiasm around Verona Youth Hockey. Thank you for the board of directors. Special thank you to Angela Hunt for rolling out the new girls' program, we held 4 tournaments this year, thank you to all the tournament directors. Tournaments are great events to showcase our rink, give them a great experience, and a great revenue opportunity for the club. There will be additional opportunities to continue using the 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet of ice, which the new board will tackle. Earl has been the ice scheduler since 2011 (13 years!), thank you for your continued dedication to the club. We had a lot of change with the 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet of ice getting up and running. Thank you to Mike and the Ice Inc board, it is a great partnership. The rink does a great job of making sure we have what we need. Congratulations to the State bound teams! It's great to have those teams represent Verona. Mavericks are in their 6<sup>th</sup> year, it's great to have this team based out of Verona and be a leader for girl's hockey.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
  - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – 3 big fundraisers. \$14,325 with the hockey cards, will be set-up for next year. Culver's night \$746, set again for next December. Parent's night out, made a little over \$1,000.
  - b. **Equipment** (Adam Sodersten) – Equipment went well, purchased 3 new sets of goalie equipment. Will be in good shape, Adam spent time sorting it.
  - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Thanks to the coaches this year, we had a really good season. Hoping to bring back Shane and Josh. Looking to update the corner for off-ice.
  - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – This year was more challenging than COVID because of challenges with the new rink. Hoping to start implementing skills nights for all age levels throughout the year.

Shouldn't need to use other ice next year. Earl's time is coming to an end, so would like to find someone to take over after next season.

- e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Close to 370 skaters registered, 81 coaches, launched Club CATS through the website. GameSheets was new this year, added widgets. Thank you to everyone who submitted pictures. Might want to invest into the tournament part of GameSheets.
- f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – Thank you to everyone for all of the help with concessions. Best year yet, growing pains with the new concession stand. We couldn't do it without you guys.
- g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – Summary of DIBS hours for this season:

Total Number of Dibs Hours Scheduled	1308
Unclaimed Hours	132
Hours for Team Manager/Coaches/Board/Etc (145 Families)	1820
Total Hours required by all families	1390
Edgewood HS Hours	182
VAHS Hours	182
Practices (Discontinued on 12/1/24)	324
Tournaments (5)	180
WEHL	36
Remaining hours owed (Not completed by families)	232

- h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – 366 registered skaters, 27 teams. U18 team for the first since 2019-2020.
- i. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – One new rule submission for Region 4 directors.
- j. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – 2 try hockey free events in August, another LTP Open House in October, walked in the Hometown parade, hosted a booth at the All-City swim meet.
- k. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – CATS added new emails, thanks to everyone on the board for what to include, thanks to Tara for helping with Facebook/Social Media. We had a successful Dicks's shopping event, we will do that again next year.
- l. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – New partnership with House of Hockey, end of year partnership with Signs by Caitlin.
- m. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – Purchased 20 new sets to accommodate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bantam teams. Big thank you to the team managers and all of Karin's helpers. Outfitted 223 players for Verona, Mavericks, and Southwest Eagles (U18). Provided 35 sets of nameplates. Sold 70 pairs of socks. One jersey recommendation is for the new board to purchase new jerseys for the Midget teams.
- n. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – Still working on the poster.
- o. **Tournament Directors** (Kristen Manning) – Held 2 tournaments for the first time. We should look to have an official Tournament Director position to coordinate, especially if we have this volume of tournaments. Mites tournament had 26 teams, everyone loved all of the events. 50/50 raffle was not worth it, has a lot of lessons learned. Hosting PeeWee A state tournament for 2025.
- p. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – 48 girls did a Try Hockey event in September, 15 played hockey. Hosted the girls jamboree for over 60 skaters, 7 teams. Held the first year of the Jr. Lynx program. 40 girls signed up, highlight for the girls when the Metro Lynx high school girls came to practice.
- q. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – Launched the CATS program this year. Started by reviewing the code of conduct/parent's expectations, had CATS member attend each meeting. Also used helmet stickers, some teams adopted it better. Thanks to everyone for all the

nominations. Thanks to Bartletts for the signs, also gave out the first “For the Kids” award, will do that again.

r. **Update from ALD’s**

- LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – 35 skaters, very successful year. Set a goal to get a lot of kids off of crates by the holidays, and they did! Last 5 to 6 weeks they ran cross ice games. ~17 kids should move up next season. Introduced 3 levels of coaching, through student volunteers, new parents, and rotating other coaches through. Thank you to everyone who helped!
- U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – Another great season, we had 5 teams (34 skaters). Introduced some new stations, Josh Biser led line skating and learned a lot from him. Wayne coordinated the league and made the schedule for all teams; it was well organized and another leadership opportunity for the association.
- RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – 59 skaters, 18 coaches, 1 red, 2 white, 3 blue teams. Expanded to 26 teams, tournament was wildly successful. Highlights: dedicated goalie and shooting practice, have 3 players that want to play full-time goalie for Squirt. Got over to rink 2 where the boards fit properly. Leadership role of doing scheduling with over 16 organizations, took some challenges. Introduced a new concept to have more home games and give teams twice as many, which was really nice and well received.
- Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – 4 teams this year, sadly only 2 full-time goalies. Goalies will hopefully not be an issue next year.
- Peewee (Todd Carlson) – 60 players this year with 5 teams, looking at 59 kids next year with an overabundance of goalies. Played 208 games between all 5 teams. Both C1 and C2 went to state, finished 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> respectively. Thank you to all families and coaches.
- Bantam (Bill Snow) – 3 teams, 2 went to state. C1 took 5<sup>th</sup> place, A took 4<sup>th</sup> place at state. Thanks to the coaching staff, had a non-parent coach.
- Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) – Finished 6th year with 3 teams, we’ve been the only association with 3 teams all 6 years. Two teams went down to NIHL, Illinois has playoffs. B team qualified for playoffs. Had solid season, girls learned a lot and came together to form friendships with girls that will become their rivals. Lots of girl’s hockey coming, really good to see numbers growing to give girls the opportunities.
- U18 (Janis Strutt) – Took back the host role of the U18 co-op, had a few Verona skaters. Having 3 U14 teams was a driver for us to do this, especially with the large numbers.

**7. New Business: Annual Elections – Jason Mattila**

Motion to open nominations by Jason Matilla, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristen Manning.

a) **President** (2-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Justin Temple nominated by Kristen Manning.
  - 1. Motion to close by PJ Gregoire, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karin Shippar.
  - 2. Motion passed.
  - 3. Justin Temple elected as President.

b) **Vice President** (2<sup>nd</sup> year of 2-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Kyle Dziubla nominated by Angela Hunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Sodersten.
- ii. Todd (self-nomination).
  - 1. Motion to close by Aubrey Freeman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfahler.
  - 2. Motion passed.

3. Kyle Dziubla elected as Vice President.

c) **Registrar** (2-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Adam Sodersten nominated by Wayne Pfahler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Helsher.
- ii. Danielle Pellitteri (self-nomination).
- iii. Mark Markham (self-nomination)
  1. Motion to close by Eric Helsher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PJ Gregoire
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Adam Sodersten elected as Registrar.

d) **LTP ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Kris Canto nominated by Wayne Pfahler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Erin Ludmer.
  1. Motion to close by Kristen Manning, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfahler.
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Kris Canto elected as LTP ALD.

e) **U6 ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Aubrey Freeman nominated by Wayne Pfahler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Helsher.
  1. Motion to close Adam Sodersten, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfahler.
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Aubrey Freeman elected as U6 ALD.

f) **RWB ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Amanda Ferwerda nominated by Kristen Manning, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Justin Temple.
  1. Motion to close Eric Helsher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfahler.
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Amanda Ferwerda re-elected as RWB ALD.

g) **Squirt ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Wayne Pfahler nominated by Adam Sodersten, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Helsher.
  1. Motion to close PJ Gregoire, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Sodersten.
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Wayne Pfahler re-elected as Squirt ALD.

h) **PeeWee ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Eric Helsher nominated by Wayne Pfahler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Sodersten.
  1. Motion to close by Aubrey Freeman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfahler.
  2. Motion passed.
  3. Eric Helsher elected as PeeWee ALD.

i) **Bantam ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Bill Snow nominated by Eric Helsher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karin Shippar.
  - 1. Motion to close by Eric Helsher 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig Bartlett.
  - 2. Motion passed.
  - 3. Bill Snow re-elected as Bantam ALD.

j) **Mavericks ALD** (1-year term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Katie Baus nominated by Eric Helsher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfhaler.
  - 1. Motion to close by PJ Gregoire, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristen Manning.  
Motion passed
  - 2. Katie Baus was re-elected as Mavericks ALD.

k) **U18 ALD** (1 year-term)

a. Nominations:

- i. Mike Bakalars nominated by Erin Ludmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karin Shippar.
  - 1. Motion to close by Eric Helsher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Pfhaler.
  - 2. Motion passed.
  - 3. Mike Bakalars elected as U18 ALD.

**Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Bill Snow, seconded by Kristen Manning, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.