

Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 11, 2026 6:30pm
Sanford Conference Room – SCHEELS IcePlex

President Chun Chan called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Elliot Hitt (Treasurer), John McCollister (Secretary), Adam Gorra (Director of Tournaments), Derek Berg (City League Director), and Leah May (Travel League Director). Quorum was present. Lindsay Fenton, Brady Pinney, Dan Houck (Director of Hockey), and Cherry Hunter (Director of Operations) were also in attendance. Jenn Warren (Vice-President), Sam Everson (Past President), and Spencer Wrightsman (Development Director) were absent.

Open Forum

- Brady Pinney spoke to the pros and cons for names on jerseys. According to Brady, the girls are in favor of names on jerseys. He requested Girls 14U and older have names on jerseys, not just JV/Varsity players. Coach Pinney noted he is not 100% in favor of names on jerseys, but if the players want them, he will support the project.
- Lindsay Fenton – Thank you cards are being done for Expansion contributors by each of the teams.
 - SD Growth & Retention Meeting being hosted Feb 11. Discussion items include specific challenges, 25-26 progress, retention – especially girls maybe by moving girls to girls only teams. Strategy is to offer 12U and 10U girls only teams.

Secretary's Report – Leah May made a motion to approve the January 14, 2026 minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report – Elliot Hitt noted higher ice usage. \$160K has been transferred to the building project payment. Goal is to have \$50K buffer between pledge payments. Interest on the building loan will be substantial.

Director of Hockey – Dan Houck

- Ran Coaching Development Session on February 4 with Andy Gillham. There were 30 coaches in attendance.
- Continued to find subs for teams missing players for Squirt 4v4 and supplemental goalies to fill in for absent players.
- Continued to help on ice at Atom Tier 3 practices
- Ran a few Bantam Orange and Bantam Blue practices
- Continued to send high school and Bantam players to help w/ Atom Short Session
- Attended Mites Falls Freeze and saw all Mite travel teams play
- Continued to work w/ Nate Hadrick on getting referees for 4v4 coverage
- Continued scheduling of supplemental practice ice for Squirt and other travel teams during Wednesday night goalie sessions
- Met w/ Leah May on practice schedule/ice needs for 2026/27 season
- Worked on playoff schedule for 4v4 w/ Squirt League Manager
- Visited with all HS LF and Boys coaches to adjust practice schedules in March for preparation for state tournaments
- Added additional documents into IHS for In Zone Offense for all coaches

- Worked with and met with LF head coach/staff on in zone offense structure and worked w/ them on and off the ice implementation
- Secured a Bantam goaltender to attend Tuesday Mite Tier 3 practices to run goalie clinic for 30 minutes each week with those goalies instead of dragging them out another night to traditional goalie clinic
- Helped find and roster supplemental players for Squirt Orange teams that will be missing players at their yearend tournaments/games
- ACL Report from Nate Hadrick included in board packets

Admin Update – Cherry Hunter

- Fundraiser Fee – Players not paid are not eligible to participate
- Prepared 1099's and W2's for SFYHA by deadline. Working on Form 990 data for our accountant
- Varsity Tournament Committee – collecting and organizing ads for program creator. Sold over \$16K in ads. Committee work progressing. Will coordinate admissions and DIBS postings
- Spring 3 V 3 League begins March 15. Online registration, jersey orders, volunteer needs, and Coach Houck will do team assignments
- SFYHA players eligible for Sanderson Academic Award have been submitted to SDAHA. SFYHA has 14 qualifying seniors.
- Preparing trophy order, certificates, and patches for Mini-Atoms, Atoms, Atom Short Session, and all Mites. Will have snack & drink provided at last ice slot.
- Registration projections for 2026-2027 provided to the board. Board members discussed possible impact of new USA Hockey residency rules for POWER and impact on SFYHA.
- Hosting Let's Try Hockey – Saturday, March 7 from 1:00-2:00pm for 4-9 year olds
- March Meeting – Changed to March 18 due to Varsity Tournament prep on March 11

Director Reports

Director of Tournaments – Adam Gorra reported PeeWee Tournament and Mite Falls Freeze events went well.

Director of Travel League – Leah May noted Travel League Managers have advised on plans to return for the upcoming season. Requesting addition of Support Personnel for Squirt 4 V 4

Director of City League – Derek Berg relayed the ICL League is short for goalies.

President/Vice-President Report

- Working on a proposal regarding the number of teams required at SDAHA League level to host non-league teams.
- Loan agreement for NW Expansion project has been signed
- SDAHA Executive Board elections will include Vice-President and Treasurer

Agenda Items:

Flyers Expansion Project – Derek Berg: Painting is taking place, hope to install player lockers next week, tile in boys' lockers is installed, half of tile in girl's locker is installed – all with plan to have project completed by March 9. Currently \$70K from fundraising goal & 30 locker stalls remain available for sponsorship. Derek presented suggested plans

- Hire Summer program coordinator
- Gym for Dryland Training and/or Open Shooting Lane times during the summer

- Use of expansion limited to Flyers during Summer 2026

Names on Jerseys – In general players have expressed interest in names on jerseys. Points of discussion included:

- Girls JV/Varsity players only. Lady Flyers 14U would not have names on jerseys
- Suggested Survey Monkey be submitted to JV/Varsity families. Seniors would not be included. Incoming players to high school would not be included
- Estimated cost for tackle twill placards is \$100 making purchase price for set of jerseys at \$350 pending no increase in the jersey cost
- No formal action

SFYHA Board Elections - President, Vice-President, Travel League Director, City League Director are all up for election. Board members will assume positions at the May meeting.

Admissions – Leah May requested Admissions to SFYHA home games have electronic pay option available. Card users would pay \$7.00 and cash/check would remain at \$6.00 per person. Plan is to use Square readers. No formal action

End of Year Events – Annual EOY Event for JV/Varsity players will be March 23 from 6:00-7:00pm on the FM Rink. Mini-Atoms, Atom Short Session, Atoms & Mites will receive a trophy, certificate, patch, and snack at their last ice time of the season. ICL and ACL are hosting pizza parties for their league during the last weekend of play. Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam & Lady Flyers 14U teams are planning EOY gatherings

Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Mission:

To Motivate, Inspire and Encourage Athletic Participation and Good Health through Ice Sports

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY – March 18, 2026 6:30 pm

Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,
Cherry Hunter
SFYHA Director of Operations

Adopted March 18, 2026 _____ by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence
(Date) (Circle one)