

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

**Thursday, November 16th, 2023
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, Bill Snow, Janis Strutt, PJ Gregoire, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Adam Sodersten, Brian Severson, Desiree Bates, Lesley Steffin, Brian Lindow, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek, Mike O'Brien, Eric Helsher, Mark Markham

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the October 2023 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by PJ, second by Justin. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Mike O'Brien) – Boards are in! Will need some additional help over the next few weeks. Still shooting for a soft opening on December 1. Bar should be open by next week.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – No late accounts right now. Pre-season DIBS buyouts are \$5200, which is about what we would expect. Multi-skater discounts are all applied now, Erin was able to issue refunds back via credit card. If anyone has questions, send them to Erin. There will be some re-figuring of fees for a few families.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – Submitted SafeSport requirement and State Tournament paperwork.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – Hockey fantasy sweepstakes is off to a great start. All stubs and money needs to be turned in Dec 1st. Culver's night is Dec 20th 5-8pm.
 - b. **Equipment** (Adam Sodersten) – Outfitting lots of skaters, were able to outfit a few additional goalies. Will need to keep neck guards in mind, depending on the ruling.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Looking to give away sweatshirts this year for LTP instead of hats.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Practice schedule is out through the first week of January. Kyle inquired about additional skill nights for each level, which should be able to start in January. Earl will work on getting those added. Practices will go back to an hour as well.
 - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – All teams are rostered as of today. Registration open for all 3 tournaments, need 3 more teams for PeeWee C2, 25 out of 26 teams registered for the Mites tournament, no one currently registered for the Mavericks tournament. Registration is still open for LTP and Midgets.
 - f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – Going well so far.
 - g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – Will continue to man concessions for all high school games. We need to prioritize filling DIBS sessions for High School games, and then open the other rink. Not planning to offer DIBS credits for the PeeWee C home tournament, Eric will communicate this back to the

tournament coordinator. All of these 'extra opportunities' for the new rink do not qualify for DIBS credit. ALDs please remind people about signing-up for DIBS.

- h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – USA rosters were due yesterday, working on high school now.
- i. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – Review of the added language to the Parent Code of Conduct. Biggest thing is to make sure that coaches know right away to alert the ALDs if a parent gets ejected so they can decide next steps. Brian will put together a one-pager that explains that the news rules are in effect that can be sent out to everyone and then posted. Erin made a motion to approve the new verbiage, Wayne seconded. Motion passed.
- j. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – WAHA is offering a \$1,000 grant if we do a Try Hockey Free event in February and if we offer a 6 week learn-to-play after that, paperwork is due on April 15. Will table for now.
- k. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – No report.
- l. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – A few hiccups with coaching jackets, but everything else is going well.
- m. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – All squared away on jerseys for all teams, need to collect a few from players that are no longer playing this year.
- n. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – Photos are done!
- o. **Tournament Director** (TBD) – No report.
- p. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Had a few off-ice sessions for Junior Lynx, currently up to 30 girls.
- q. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – CATS awards are live! Continue to be looking for people to nominate. Discussion about whether it should be included in a separate email or part of 'This Week at the Rink', decided it should be a separate email.
- r. **Update from ALD's**
 - LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – No report.
 - U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – Things are great, schedule should be done by this weekend.
 - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Expanded to 26 teams for the tournament in March, planning is underway. 2 games in with the new schedule format, getting some pushback.
 - Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – Held a mini evaluation last night for Frankie Bartlett, would like to recommend placing him on the A team. Joe motions to add Frankie and Craig to the Squirt A team roster, Erin seconds. Motion approved.
 - PeeWee (Todd Carlson) – All is well.
 - Bantam (Bill Snow) – There is one skater that needs to be evaluated. Patriots reached out about whether we want to host the Bantam C tournament the weekend of March 2-3. Would like to move forward, but need to first make sure we can move the PeeWee games. Earl will check with Monroe and/or Dodgeville and then we can confirm with the Patriots.
 - Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) – 3 players elected to go to high school. They will need to make a 1 skater change from B to A, which the coaches will finalize this weekend. Karin needs to remove those skaters from the roster.
 - Midget (Janis Strutt) – Still looking for a goalie, need to see if any of the Bantam goalies would be willing to double roster.

7. Old Business

- a) **AED Next Steps** – Current AED is good through December 2024. Kyle checked and we would be able to buy one for \$1,500 (\$500 discount) through MG&E. Ice Inc will take care of purchasing 2 new ones so that we will have one for each rink, Justin to take point.

8. New Business

- a) **PeeWee C1 State Tournament Budget Proposal** – Current proposal is \$2,160. Justin motions to approve the budget, Lesley seconded. Motion Passed.

b) Goalie Discussion – Currently have 3 U8 skaters that expressed interest in full-time goalie, so would like to try and get another set so these kids can attend dojo sessions. No need for additional approval as long as there is still money in the equipment budget.

9. Motion to Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Lesley, seconded by Wayne, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.