

**ACYHA Board Of Directors
Membership Meeting Minutes
June 2025**

Meeting Type: Monthly Meeting
Date: June 9, 2025
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: NHIA Meeting Room 1

Attendees

Brian Thul - President - x
Dustin Glad - Vice Chair -
Scott Allen - Treasurer -
Kevin Pote - D3 Rep. -
Kim Nau - Secretary -
Michael Thompson - Boys Travel Director -
Norm Orstad - Girls Travel Director -
Scott Tousignant - ACE - x
Derrick Raymond - Ice Scheduler - x

Julie Wahl - Sales/Fundraising -
Susie Melynchuk - Tournament Dir - x
Matt Inciti - Concession Manager - x
Jim Lewandoski - Mite Director -
Sarah Guzman - Mite Program Director -
Drew Herron - Communications and Marketing -
Ryan Hegarty - Safe Sport - x
Wendy Mathiason - At Large -
Tina Schochow Greazel - Volunteer Program Dir -

Additional Representatives

Lance McKinnon - WEB Admin - x
Tracee DeNeui - Gambling Mgr - x
James Tousignant - Asst. ACE - x
John Dooley - Eval Coordinator - x
Erin Dungan/John Knutson - Equipment -
Kari Karsnick - Registrar - x
Ryan King - HDC Chair -
Miranda Hortenbach - Skate - x
Lida Knoll - Graphic Design - x
Lindsey Brekker - Fundraising Director - x
Liz Tratnick - Ass't Treasurer - x
Michael Kautzman - Ass't Ice Sched - x
Heather Arenson - Ass't Girls Travel Coordinator -x
Stephanie Hagen - 2026-2027 incoming Secretary - x

LEVEL COORDINATORS

Bantam - Cam Opel -
PeeWee - Peter Houghtaling -
Squirt - Jake Standafer -
Goalie - Andrew Cooper -

18 Current voting members; 10 required for quorum

Topics:	Presenter(s):
6:33 pm	Call to Order Dustin Glad Roll Call Kim Nau

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion: Scott Seconded: Kevin

1. Gambling Director (Tracee)

Tracee not available tonight. Tabling to next month and we'll approve June and July.

Approval of gambling report: Motion: Seconded:

2. Chair (Brian)

I am not able to make the board meeting tonight
I wanted to let everyone know a couple of items that are top priority for the organization.

The first priority is the plan for in-season training for next year.
The second priority will be recruitment.
We welcome Kevin Willey and Casey Maikkula as the new leaders for Armstrong Cooper's Hockey Programs.

3. Treasurer (Scott)

Always on the lookout for more charitable gambling sites to increase revenue. Overall gain from last year, unexpected and nice to see.

American Online Giving Fund - thank you for the donation!

4. Secretary (Kim)

Nothing to report

5. District 3 (Kevin)

See doc Kevin sent

D3 might have too much cash

Squirts/10s are going back to a 16-18 game district schedule!

Gamesheet will be \$8 per game this season, How will we bill out our teams?

Orono has an excess of goalies at the Bantam level...AC is in dire need of goalies at the Bantam level!! I will talk to Gina H to confirm this information on Wednesday at the June D3 meeting

D3 Competition Committee: Wayzata, SLP, and AC

GOAL: Encourage the big associations to level up their teams at the lower levels!!!

Paul Steenerson is back as the D3 Director!!! It's a 3 year term and his final one!

6. Concessions (Matt)

Nothing to update on, working on trying to still find some alternate people to fill Concession Managers roles on.

7. Marketing/Communications (Drew)

Buying flyers for next season. Finalizing prizes for 10k puck challenge.

7A. Web Administrator - (Lance)

Started updating older pages within the website and fixing broken links.

Will begin website copy and visual overhaul where needed drawing inspiration from other associations.

We've also secured our Google Workspaces for Non-Profits, going to touch base with Norm in coming weeks to get set up to streamline documentation and email administration for association.

8. Registrar (Kari)

- I connected with our new SportsEngine rep and working through any ways to improve upcoming season registration. Not sure yet if any SE changes will make big improvements, but I'm working on what I can find out.

- New season registration is starting to be built.

- Need to know planned registration dues (I can follow-up on these, and also would be okay to finalize at 7/14 meeting).

9. ACE director (Scott)

Ace has concluded post season coaches meetings. Identified areas where we can better support new and returning coaches as well as got a feel for what is needed as far as paid coaches for next year.

10. Boys Travel Coordinator- (Michael)

All Peewee tournaments are booked for next season

From Peter H (Peewee Coordinator): Reviving the Used Equipment Swap: Last season we did not hold an equipment exchange. In the past it took place during the Season Kick-off Party. Discussion at HDC re: bringing this topic to the Board. It is a great way for families to reduce equipment costs. Concerns re: possible conflicts with HS Elite League, ensuring that donations are usable equipment (not trash), when is the best time to do this (before travel team camps begin?)

Equipment swap - utilize the association Facebook page?

11. Girls Travel Director- (Norm)

From Heather - Assistant Girls Director: Waggle Hats-letterman 100 min.

Gathering U10 numbers, chatting with parents to see plans for this season. Prediction Its going to be tight for 2-u10 teams.

DIBS in regards to Mite coaches- Thomas' feedback. More help needed with LTS. He suggests mite coaches attending 1 THFF and 1 LTS or 2 LTS. Attendance will be taken. Suggestion Mite coaches who coach upper level teams do not need to participate in this to obtain DIBS. Also, need flexibility/exemption for 1st year coaches as their child may still be deciding if they want to play when we host LTS/THFF in Fall. They could participate in late winter/spring.

Natty Hats- Sarah and I discussed we like idea to sell at start of season.

Mite Parent get together-early October. Brewery-lets decide on which one. OR

Thought/idea picnic/potluck/BYOFood at Medicine Lake Park for Mite families. Mascot, let kiddos run around, have fun, presence in community. Mid-late September.

From Norm - We met with U15 parents to share what we know and understand. Families asked questions that we are following up with.

Communication information for U15 for families is still being compiled. The information is 90% completed. I have some questions about DIBS which I'll be following up on with Tina G.

Working on Girls ACYHA Pool date. Possibly 6/29

AC Girls High School Booster Club and the ACYHA will host a **Meet & Greet next Wednesday, June 11th, from 4:45-5:45 PM** in the **rink parking lot at New Hope Ice Arena** to help you get to know Coach Kevin Willey better.

12. Mite Coordinator (Jim/Sarah)

Mite survey results

63% response from parents

37% response from coaches

97% HAD FUN!

Players especially enjoyed the social aspect of hockey—being on teams with friends, playing against other associations, and traveling around the metro for games made the experience more fun and engaging.

88% of players are returning (the 14% moved or are unsure)

Enhanced structure, communication, and consistency across coaching, practiceplanning, team placement, and player development—especially aligning with ADM guidelines and ensuring equal opportunities for all players—will strengthen the overall ACYHA experience

Increase Game Opportunities & External Competition: Families consistently expressed a desire for more games—especially against other associations—to keep players engaged and reduce boredom from repetitive station-based practices.

Improve Communication & Transparency: Many respondents emphasized the need for consistent, clear, and timely communication through regular emails, better schedule notices, and clarity about roles, events, and team processes.

Equity Between Boys and Girls Programs: There is strong concern that the girls' programs are under-supported compared to the boys', especially regarding access to Mite 4, ice time, coaching leadership, and jersey quality.

Concerns with Mite 4 Selection and Optics: The structure and perceived exclusivity of the Mite 4 program led to frustration, especially among parents of second-year Mite 3 players who felt left out or unfairly excluded, potentially affecting retention.

Coaching Consistency & Player Development: Respondents want better coaching alignment with development models like ADM, including proper implementation of age-appropriate strategies, foundational skills training, and avoiding early focus on positional play.

12A. Mite Recruitment - (Lance)

Had our first recruitment event of the summer at the New Hope/Crystal Young Mudder.

Over 130+ kids were involved from the surrounding community and had 3 new families volunteer to provide visibility about youth hockey for the Robbinsdale school district kids.

13. Tournaments (Susie)

Susie can't make it tonight. Her update - tournament registration is open and teams are registering. New Hope Invitational is full!

14. Sales and Fundraising director (Julie)

Golf/tournament fundraiser possibility

15. HDC Update (Ryan K)

U15 communication & planning

Coaching and staffing for 2025-2026 season

Coaching survey feedback

Off ice training during fall camps?

Association's intentions for all off-ice and on-ice supplemental training for 2025-26 season

DHO moving forward

16. Equipment (Erin/John)

Nothing to report

17. Ice Scheduler (Derrick)

Nothing to report

18. Safe Sport Coordinator (Ryan)

Reminder to complete your annual SafeSport training within 30 days of receiving the email from USA Hockey. The email reminder is triggered from when you completed it the very first time. Easy task to miss, but an important one to complete.

19. Volunteer Program Director (Tina)

-Motion to increase the Returning Families DIBS Buyout to \$750 and DIBS deposit to \$1,000. Seconded: Kim

20. Skate Coordinator (Miranda)

Nothing at this time.

Meeting adjourned 7:37 pm - Motion: Scott Seconded: Tina