

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 26th, 2023
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: Jason Mattila, Justin Temple, Lauren Koehler, Erin Ludmer, Mike Bakalars, Wayne Pfahler, Todd Carlson, Bill Snow, Janis Strutt, PJ Gregoire, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Mindy O'Brien, Mark Markham, Brian Severson, Lesley Steffin, Brian Lindow, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek, Mike O'Brien

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the June 2023 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Erin, second by Bill Snow. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple) – Rink is moving along, still fundraising for the remainder. Hometown Brewdown is September 23, which is the most significant fundraising for the rink.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Save for budget section.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – Call last week, there are a few updates. The first ask is designating a Culture Officer for the association, ideally looking to assign it out to a current board member. Jason will send out details and we will discuss it during the August meeting. The WAHA annual meeting is August 4 and 5 up in Steven's Point, Justin is planning to attend. Anyone else is welcome to attend.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – Sweepstakes is an option again. Also planning to host a Culver's night.
 - b. **Equipment** (Mark Markham) – No report.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – No report.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Working with Joel on the schedules, preseason stuff should be up on the website.
 - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Registrations up for try hockey events. Almost ready to go on fall registration, goal is to open it up on August 1.
 - f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – Would like to discuss upping the ice credits for the concessions stand inventory manager, given the additional time and work with the second sheet of ice. Wayne motions to approve the coordinator position becoming Tier 1, second by Erin. Motion passed.
 - g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – The parent handbook is updated for dibs info, would be good for the tournament coordinators and/or ALDs verify that it is up to date when we do the final review.
 - h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – No report.
 - i. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
 - j. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – Two open houses in the next week. We currently have 7 signed up for the August one, and 15 signed up for October. We have 29 girls signed up for the girls event. There is a booth at the All City Swim meeting this week with the Patriots and Polar Caps.
 - k. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – No report.

- l. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Will be selling apparel in the House of Hockey, need to determine the best way to handle the upfront costs of ordering. Planning to do hats as the registration gift.
- m. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – Jerseys and socks have arrived!
- n. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – No report.
- o. **Tournament Director** (TBD) – No report.
- p. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Junior Lynx is being developed as a social program for the associations that feed into the Metro Lynx high school hockey team (Middleton, Polar Caps, Dodgeville, and Verona). It is not meant to compete with registered coed or all girls teams. Looking to start a once-a-week practice when the 2nd sheet of ice becomes available.
- q. **Update from ALD's**
 - LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – We have 6 survey responses for LTP registration. We have 2 parent coach volunteers lined up and potentially 2 more. I could possibly persuade 1 of them to be the head coach. Joe and I will be working on a LTP Coaching Orientation to get them up to speed before season starts.
 - U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – 26 respondents to the survey between LTP and current U6 skaters, expecting to get a few more. Could be up to 5 teams.
 - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Numbers appear to be similar to last year, all but 2 planning to come back.
 - Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – I have the majority of our young traveling ice hockey players long distance battles solidified. I still see no current reason to have more than 4 legions of warriors to embark on these conquests. I will be hosting an informational meeting for their parents to layout how the evaluation process works, the timeframe of their enlistment and what is expected on the homefront from their loving parents.
 - Peewee (Todd Carlson) – Down a few players for PeeWee, we will have 5 goalies. Currently at 56 or 57 skaters + 5 goalies, so 61 or 62 total.
 - Bantam (Bill Snow) – 42 responses, including 3 goalies. Will be looking for feedback about doing early skills sessions for Bantams.
 - Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) – Things are picking up, scheduling started for the top NIHL leagues. Started parent meetings, should be around low 40s for U14. U12 is looking like 1 team with the current numbers.
 - Midget (Janis Strutt) – Janis approached everyone about Verona hosting it. 2-5 players from Middleton, will need practice sheets of ice in November and early December. Could look at practicing with the Bantams early on. Middleton would supplement 6-8 game sheets, we wouldn't require Middleton parents to do DIBS and determine how DIBS would work. Did not require Monroe parents to do DIBS last year, so probably wouldn't require it in this case either.

7. Old Business

- a) **Parent Handbook Updates** – We will send out the updated version for email approval in the next week.
- b) **Safe Sport Renewal + Background Checks** – Reminder to complete each of these by August 15.
- c) **CPR and AED Training at the Rink (Karin)** – Karin will work on getting this set-up offline.

8. New Business

- a) **LTP to U8 jersey order** – Karin does not need to order them, will be going through Todd.
- b) **Tournament Selection by ALD** – Currently hosting RWB, state tournament for PeeWee C1, budgeted to host at least 1 more tournament.
- c) **Transfers** – Reminder that transfers are considered on a case-by-case basis. We won't decide until we have a better understanding of where things are each for each level (late August/early September). Circulate any requests to Jason, Justin, Joe, and Mike.

- d) Tanner Kaltenberg (Jaxon Blummer's brother)** – Currently serving as a Marine in North Carolina, passed away last week. We can revisit next month to determine what the association wants to do.
 - e) Budget Review and Approval** – Lesley motions to approve the 2023-2024 budget and proposed skater fees, seconded by Wayne. Motion passed unanimously.
 - f) Skater Fees due at Registration** – Planning to keep the same registration fee and remind people that it is non-refundable.
 - g) Approving the Junior Lynx Program** – Angela has a nice written summary that she will share after the meeting. PJ motions to approve the Junior Lynx program, seconded by Wayne. Motion passed.
- 9. Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to readjourn by Todd, seconded by Joe, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.