



September 17, 2025

CYHA Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Dustin Hapka, Phil Passarelli, Heather Sparling, Chris DaBaldo, Ryan Blair, JC Gaskins, Justin Pence

Board Members Absent: Angela Brady

Guests Present: None

Call to Order: Dustin Hapka called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Secretary Report: Motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2025, was made by Phil and seconded by Angela. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Heather provided a summary of accounts to the board. A detailed review of the past due player accounts was provided to the group. There are still player accounts with outstanding balances from the 2024-25 season. These accounts are past due despite multiple attempts to collect on the past due balance. There was general discussion among the group to determine next steps. An email communication will be sent to all members with past due balances from the 2024-25 season requesting payment. A payment deadline will be provided as part of that communication. Any player with a past due account at the deadline will be prohibited from all CYHA activities until the account is brought to current or other payment arrangements have been made.

Registrar Report: Submitted via e-mail

Committee Reports

Travel Commissioner Report: JC informed the group that the new facility in Savannah will not be ready for use until 2026. This will impact tournaments and CYHA league games that are scheduled to be played in Savannah year. Alternative arrangements for league games are still being worked out at this time.

House Commissioner Report: The 2025-25 House season has officially kicked off. At this time, we are still in need of a Head Coach for one of the U14-16 team. There was a general discussion regarding candidates for this position. Justin will continue working to identify a coach.

The Mites registration link is up and running. We have players beginning to register for the season. At the time of this meeting, we do not have any goalies signed up for Mites.

Hockey Director Report: Ryan provided an update to the board on the various hockey initiatives he is involved with. Learn to Play has been moved to Wednesday evenings. Participation has been slightly lowered the sessions are still well attended. The fall session of Little Rays has kicked off. There are fifty-nine players registered, and the practices have been going well. The Hockey IQ sessions that Ryan has been providing for our travel program have been well received by both the players and coaches.

Ryan provided an update on the dryland tiles that were ordered for Off-ice sessions. The tiles are installed and ready to use. However, a standard puck does not slide effectively on the tiles. There was a general discussion by the group regarding various solutions. It was determined that we will ask the account rep for credit to purchase dryland pucks such as the Green Biscuit or the Xeno Puck.

Player Development: Nothing to report

Growth: Nothing to report

Grievance/Disciplinary: Phil provided an overview of the CAHA disciplinary rules that are in place for the 2025-26 season. The penalties for Abuse of an Official, Fighting, and match penalties have been significantly increased for this season. CAHA as indicated these penalties will be aggressively adjudicated this season. Additionally, CAHA has introduced green arm bands to be worn by all referees 17 years old and younger to better identify youth referees on ice. The penalties assessed for Abuse of an Official while a youth referee is on ice has been significantly increases. Phil will send a summary of the rule changes with the PowerPoint presentation from CAHA out to CYHA coaches.

Fundraising/Scholarship:

Coordinator Updates

- **Marketing/Outreach:** Nothing to report
- **Safety Coordinator:** Nothing to report
- **Safe Sport Coordinator:** Nothing to report

Old Business

Board and Officer Insurance: The board authorized Board and Officer insurance earlier this year. Due to changes in the CYHA Business Manager position and the temporary shift in responsibilities it has not been confirmed if this policy is in place for CYHA. Heather will reach out to Angela to assess the current status and help move this forward if needed.

Bylaw Update: The fiscal year dates noted in the currently approved bylaws do not align with the actual dates for the CYHA fiscal year. The current bylaws read as follows:

- **23.6 Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of the CYHA shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the following year.

Chris made a motion to update to bylaws as follows for section 23.6:

“Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the CYHA shall begin on May1 and end on April 30 of the following year.”

The motion was seconded by Phil and approved unanimously.

New Business

DIBS Policy: The board has been working as a group to define a policy and mechanism to facilitate membership volunteerism within our organization. A working session to review the initial draft of the Dibs policy has been scheduled for 10/9/2025 at 8:30 pm via Zoom. Justin will send out the draft policy to the board in advance of the policy.

Safety Coordinator: The board reviewed the candidates for Safety Coordinator. Dustin made a motion to approve Howard Stren as the Safety Coordinator for the 2025-26 season. This motion was seconded by Chris and approved unanimously.

Standing Committees: Justin presented the need for and challenges with recruiting committee members from our membership group. The various CYHA committees provide a vital service to the CYHA. There was an in-depth discussion among the group on the current lack of standing committees and lack of volunteers. The outcome of the conversation identified three key items to serve as a starting point as we work to revive our standing committees.

1. Fundraising committee should be the priority focus.
2. Communication requesting volunteers needs to be short, simply worded, and provide a clear expectation of what is needed.
3. Sign up needs to be simple but formalized to capture the needed information for follow up.

Justin will draft a communication and create a committee member registration link in SportsEngine to send out to the organization.

CAHA Festival: Justin has reached out to CAHA to inquire about hosting the CAHA Festival at the end of the season. A host for this season has already been identified but other opportunities are available. The board fully supports exploring opportunities to work closer with CAHA and provide more exposure opportunities for the CYHA.

10U AA Fundraising Request: The 10AA team has requested permission to hold a TeamUp fundraiser for this season. At this time of the meeting there were still some outstanding accounting documents from last season that still needed to be provided to our accountant. A previous reconciliation was provided but additional clarification is still needed.

Phil made a motion to approve the TeamUp fundraiser for the 10U AA team on the condition that all outstanding items be provided to our accountant prior to the fundraiser. This motion was seconded by Ryan and approved.

House Scholarships: A meeting has been scheduled for 9/18/25 at 8:45 pm to review the House League scholarship applications for this season.

Grant Requests: Heather would like to identify grant opportunities on behalf of CYHA. She asked the group to send her any specific requests or ideas they may have for areas of need.

CYHA Wall at Ice Palace: The CYHA has the opportunity to brand a wall outside of the Palace rink representing our organization. There was a general discussion among the group with several ideas being explored. There was a consensus among the group to explore using a wall wrap with our colors and logo along with TVs/monitors to display team pictures, sponsors, and CYHA information.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.