

Lakes Area Hockey Association-Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026 6:00PM

-Lakes Ice Arena Spirit Lake, IA-

Call to order, President Michael Meyers.

Board members present: Michael Meyers, Ben Raveling, Greg Stafford, Mark Maeyaert, Cassidy Howard, Lindsey Keonin, Tanya Thaelmitz, Krisitn Hanson and Jesse Orttel.

Board Members Excused:

Others present: Brett Hetland ,Brad Shumway, Maddie, Chris Hoericks

1. Introduction and Open Discussion
2. Request to add items to the agenda & approval of the agenda. Items added: Bathrooms. Motion to accept the agenda made by Tanya Thaelmitz and seconded by Ben Raveling. Motion carried 8-0.
3. Reports
 - a. Secretary: Last meeting minutes approved 8-0, motion made by Cassiy Howard and seconded by Kristin Hanson. Motion carried.
 - b. Treasurer-report for August, preliminary report. HS golf fundraiser income is in. Registrations continue to come in. Great income from advertising Motion to accept treasures report made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz carried 8-0.
 - c. President: MAHA, compliance documentation for the association completed and submitted.
 - affiliate- VP/Safesport contact has retired and moved on for work related issues. A special election was held on 8/31/26 and the position has been filled.
 - Skate sale, poor attendance. Will attempt again closer to our season.
 - LAHA is supporting the Spirit Lake VB and FB teams for their pink out
 - 11/5/26, will present to the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis
 - 9/16/26, foundation dinner at accept grant money for Skate helpers
 - Milford Bingo money received \$919.09. We will try to schedule another bingo night in the near future.
 - SL Noon Kwianas, will be a bronze advertiser.
 - Okoboji Foundation, need plaque for the lobby benches
 - Continued support from recent donor.
 - d. Hockey Director: tournaments filling in
 - Registration about the same as last meeting
 - House league. Learn to play and learn to skate
 - 10/12-10/16 will have try outs
 - Game scheduling for Squirt-Bantam is in progress

- e. High School- Fundraiser with a new net goal of approx 22k
 - roller hockey continues to be successful and kids show improvement, last day 9/10
 - Met with a donor that will sponsor the HS team travel. Budget has been put together for final approval
 - Spond communication app has been useful
 - 9/20 testing
 - 9/24 parent meeting
 - Captains practices and varsity tryouts
 - First week of official practice is 10/19
 - Old Bucc stalls in the JV room
 - new email for Brett: mammothcoach@lakesareahockey.com
- f. SafeSport-travel policy, Chris Hoericks will be part of pre-season meeting with the teams and coaches to review some policies and procedures that came to fruition after last season.
 - USA hockey bylaws, if you think or suspect anything, say something.
 - Real Response: allows for confidential communication from the reporter with safesport. Allows direct reporting.
 - Spirit and intention of Safesport needs to be upheld and considered.
 - Code of conduct, process fine tuned last season. do not wait to report, report right easy so issue can be addressed
 - Parent criticizing players and refs, bullying & intimidation
 - Complaints & incidents: It is the officials job to take care of people in the stands yelling at kids
 - Complaints about officials go to the coach only, they will handle as they see fit.
 - Code of conduct for practices
 - Consider taking notes, what was said & when it was said is important for an incident.
 - Never have 1-1 meetings with players, even in a public space.
- g. Growth-fall events coming up, consider bringing back stencil for driveways
- h. Figure Skating- registration is open 9/1/26-10/1/26.
 - Maddie has reached out to a coach that could help on Wed nights and would help with learn to skate and figure skating . She has coached at Luverne in the past and lives in Worthington. She is asking for payment for her position and will have further discussion to determine what that would be.
 - Clothing orders- registration includes a shirt for the kids to wear during the show

4. Old Business

- a. Dryland Area: Cassidy and Brad met with the project manager. Were able to decrease the bid by about \$15,000 with the changes made at the last meeting, bringing the bid to \$49,000. Will start shortly and expect to take 4-6 weeks.
- b. Madhouse on Hickman- nets are up, new rubber on benches, misc item, stalls in the JV room

- c. Bathrooms-Cassidy got pricing for a wall and curb \$1100/bathroom, will still need electrical. \$2200 for the project to be completed. Motion to move forward with that by Lindsey Keonin, seconded by Ben Raveling. Carried 8-0.

5. New Business

- a. Pre-season Camp, motion made by Mark Maeyaert and seconded by Cassidy Howard to accept to camp proposal Carried 8-0.
- b. Travel Policy-updated on lodging, local travel. Motion to accept the new policy made by Jesse Orttel and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz. Carried 8-0.
- c. 2026-27 Head Coaches: Codey Peterson for mini-mites; motion to accept made by Jesse Orttel and second by Cassidy Howard. Approved 8-0. , Cassidy Howard for mites; motion to accept made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz, carried 8-0. Jesse Ortell & Mark Maeyaert for Squirts; motion to accept made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Lindsey Keonin, approved 8-0. Greg Stafford for pee wees; motion to accept made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz, motion carried 8-0. Brad Shumway for Bantams; motion to accept made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz, carried 8-0.
- d. Private Rental Fees: Dan Menough will still be in charge of rentals, Increase hourly fee by \$20, 150 non-profit and 180 for private. Motion to accept by Cassidy and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz, motion carried.
-Will get a private email for that service and for other board members.
- e. Beginner Adult Hockey Tournament-none offered near for the beginner skill level. Propose the last weekend of Feb for this tournament, Friday/Saturday. Registration of \$600/team. Motion to move forward with this made by Ben Raveling and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz. Motion carried 8-0.
- f. Expansion Project-best option is to plan to expand south and may need. Mike will lead and Brad will help as well.
- g. Midwest Companies-Jacob doing YouTube videos and BonJour Boji as well to promote the rink
- h. Mezzanine Furniture Update: increase to 4 tables with chairs, and increase to 16 chairs. Getting paid through phase 3. Motion to accept made by Jesse Orttel and seconded by Mark Maeyaert for 4 bar tops, 4 reg height and 16 chairs. Motion carried 8-0.
- i. Lobby Window Decals: mammoth head and letters BOJI to cover the windows. Motion to approve made by Mark Maeyaert and seconded by Ben Raveling. Carried 8-0.
- j. Atlantic Bottling Contract: Supplies all our Coke products, due in November. Proposed for Michael to deal with the contract and clarify some of the points. Motion made by Tanya Thaelmitz and seconded by Cassidy Howard. Motion carried 7-0 (Jesse Orttel had to leave meeting at this point)
- k. Apparel Fundraising Pre-Order Items: Bogg-like bags, blankets, and water bottles. Motion to move forward with Bogg bags and the Blankets made by Mark Maeyart and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz. Motion carried 7-0.

- l. Mini Sticks: Ben has Howies mini sticks for sale that we could purchase to keep in the concession stand. The board will pass on this purchase.
 - m. Scholarship Policy: redesigned last season to add some objectivity to the process.
Motion to adopt the policy with appeals handled by the president and the treasurer on a case-by-case basis. Motion by Mark Maeyaert and seconded by Tanya Thaelmitz. Carried 7-0.
 - n. Rink Clean-Up Day: Sunday September 27th 1pm if needed.
6. Adjournment, motion made by and seconded by . Carried 7-0.

Next BOD meeting is Wednesday, September 30th at 6:00 pm at Lakes Ice Arena.

Minutes BOD approved 9/30/26