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Submission Date	Mar 4, 2026
First Name:	Scott
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Phone Number:	(952) 250-1968
Number of years your family has been involved in FYHA:	4
Which board position are you seeking?	Vice President (can only run for VP if been a board member in the last 5 years)
Why are you interested in this role specifically?	<p>I am interested in continuing to serve on the FYHA board because I care deeply about the future of Farmington Youth Hockey and the experience our players and families have within the program. Over the past year I had the privilege of serving as Vice President, which gave me a deeper understanding of the level of dedication, collaboration, and leadership required to successfully run a volunteer organization like ours.</p> <p>That experience reinforced my commitment to the program and the importance of strong leadership and teamwork in continuing to move FYHA forward. One initiative I have spent significant time working on is the effort to develop a new ice rink complex for the Farmington community. Ice availability continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing our association, and expanding our facilities will help support the continued growth of the program. I have been actively involved in discussions and collaboration around this project, and we are closer than ever to making it a reality.</p> <p>I would welcome the opportunity to continue serving the association and helping ensure Farmington Youth Hockey remains a strong, positive program for players and families</p>
List children or dependents currently in FYHA and their level of play for the upcoming season:	Hudson - Squirts Sullivan - Mite 1
Describe your prior involvement with FYHA (board service, coaching, volunteering, committee work, events, etc.). Please include approximate commitment and responsibilities.	<p>I have been actively involved with FYHA for several years as both a coach and board member. Over the past year I served as Vice President of the association, working alongside fellow board members to support the overall operations of the program and help guide key initiatives.</p> <p>Prior to that role, I served as an At-Large Director and helped coordinate both the lower levels (Ponies through Mites) and upper levels (Jr. Gold and U16). I have also coached within the association and currently coach both of my sons in the program.</p> <p>During my time on the board I have worked across several committees including Facilities, Player Development, Coaches Committee, Tryouts, and Fundraising. These roles have involved assisting with planning, supporting coaches, coordinating program activities, and helping ensure our association continues to run smoothly for players and families.</p>

Describe any leadership, volunteer, or board experience outside of FYHA that is relevant to this role (professional, nonprofit, school, community, etc.).

Outside of FYHA, I have leadership experience through both my professional career and my involvement in the hockey community. Professionally, I serve in an executive leadership role where I am responsible for guiding teams, making strategic decisions, and helping organizations operate effectively. Those experiences have strengthened my ability to collaborate, problem solve, and make thoughtful decisions that benefit the larger organization.

I have also served as President of the Minnesota Chapter of Hockey Players in Business, an international nonprofit organization that connects former and current hockey players while supporting professional development and giving back to the hockey community. In that role I helped organize events, build partnerships, and grow membership within the organization.

These leadership experiences have helped prepare me to contribute positively and responsibly in a board governance role.

What skills, experience, or perspective do you bring that would strengthen the FYHA Board?

Hockey has been a lifelong passion for me, and I bring perspective to the board as a former player, current coach, parent in the program, and board leader. Growing up in East Grand Forks, I had the opportunity to play high school, junior, and college hockey, which helped shape my appreciation for the development process and the important role youth associations play in building strong teams and players.

My experience serving on the FYHA board, including this past year as Vice President, has provided valuable insight into the operational and strategic priorities required to run a successful youth hockey association. Combined with my professional leadership experience, I bring a collaborative and solutions-oriented approach to board service. I believe in open communication, teamwork, and making decisions that support the long-term success of the program and the families we serve.

Are there specific areas or committees you would be willing to support if elected?

Yes. I would be happy to continue supporting several areas where I have already been involved and have experience with, including Facilities, Player Development, Coaches Committee, and Tryouts.

Player development is a major area of focus for me. Over the past year we have expanded development opportunities by incorporating power skating instruction and a hockey skills training app to help players continue improving outside of regular practices. I also helped bring back Tigers Edge, our offseason development program focused on shooting, stickhandling, and goalie skills. My goal is to continue building on these opportunities so our players have the resources they need to develop their skills and confidence while maintaining a strong love for the game.

I also helped start our Mite Meltdown Jamboree, which was extremely successful in its first year and created a great experience for our youngest players and families. I look forward to continuing to build on that success in future seasons.

In addition, I would like to continue supporting efforts related to long-term facility planning as we work toward developing a new ice rink complex for the Farmington community.

Board service sometimes requires supporting decisions that are unpopular but necessary. Describe a time when you had to make or support a difficult decision in the best interest of an organization, team, or group.

During my time serving on the FYHA board, I have been involved in several situations that required addressing handbook rules and guidelines, as well as matters involving both coach and player conduct. These types of situations are never easy, especially in a volunteer organization where everyone is passionate about the game and their teams.

However, maintaining fairness, consistency, and accountability across the association is critical to running a successful program. When situations arise that involve rule enforcement or behavioral expectations, it is important for the board to follow established policies and make decisions that are in the best interest of the entire organization.

While these decisions may not always be popular, they are necessary to ensure the program remains fair, respectful, and well-structured for all players and families. I take these responsibilities seriously and always strive to approach them with honesty, fairness, and a commitment to what is best for the association.

How do you handle disagreements or conflicts when working with

Disagreements are a natural part of working with passionate people, especially in a volunteer organization where everyone cares deeply about the program and the

other adults who may strongly disagree with you?

players. When conflicts arise, I try to approach them with respect, open communication, and a willingness to listen to different perspectives.

My first priority is understanding where the other person is coming from. Often people may disagree on the solution but share the same overall goal of wanting what is best for the players and the association. By focusing on that shared goal, it becomes easier to have productive conversations and find common ground.

I also believe in giving situations time when emotions are high. Sometimes stepping away and allowing a "24-hour rule" approach can help people cool off and come back to the conversation with a clearer mindset. That pause often allows everyone involved to think through the issue from multiple perspectives.

In my experience serving on the board and in leadership roles professionally, collaboration and transparency are key to resolving disagreements. I believe in discussing issues openly, considering all viewpoints, and working toward solutions that benefit the organization as a whole.

At the same time, leadership sometimes requires helping move conversations toward resolution so the organization can continue making progress. Once a decision is made by the board or leadership group, it's important to support that decision and move forward together.

Maintaining respect and teamwork is essential to ensuring the association continues to operate effectively and positively for everyone involved.

Do you understand and commit to these expectations for the full term of service?

Yes

If no, please explain.

Do you acknowledge and accept these responsibilities?

Yes

If no, please explain.

Why are you seeking election to the FYHA Board, and what do you hope to contribute during your term?

Hockey has always been an important part of my life, and serving Farmington Youth Hockey has been a meaningful way for me to stay connected to the game while giving back to the community. Through my time as a coach and board member, I've seen firsthand how impactful a well-run youth program can be in helping young athletes grow both on and off the ice.

One of the most exciting things happening in our community right now is the success of our Farmington High School hockey programs. Our boys and girls teams have been competing at a very high level, and our girls program has advanced to the Minnesota State Hockey Tournament in each of the past two seasons. Achievements like that are something our entire hockey community can take pride in, and they also show what is possible when a strong youth foundation feeds into the high school program.

That success motivates me to continue helping strengthen our youth program so that the next generation of players is prepared to follow in those footsteps. My focus is on creating opportunities that help players develop their skills, confidence, and mindset while also building a love for the game that lasts well beyond youth hockey.

During my term I hope to continue contributing by supporting initiatives that improve the player experience, encourage year-round engagement with the sport, and bring positive energy to the association. I also want to remain involved in long-term efforts that help position the association for continued growth and stability as participation in Farmington hockey continues to expand.

Above all, I want to continue serving FYHA because I care deeply about this association and the players who are part of it. My goal is to help ensure that Farmington Youth Hockey continues to be a program that develops strong athletes, strong teammates, and a culture of pride in our community.

Is there any additional information you believe is relevant to your candidacy for board service?

One thing that continues to stand out to me about Farmington Youth Hockey is the incredible group of volunteers, coaches, and families that make this association what it is. Being involved over the past several years has given me a deep appreciation for the amount of time, energy, and passion that so many people contribute to ensure our players have a positive experience.

For me, serving on the board has never been about a title—it's about being part of a team that is working toward something bigger than any one individual. I truly enjoy collaborating with others who care about the future of our program and finding ways to continue improving the experience for our players and families.

Hockey has given me so much throughout my life, and being able to give back through Farmington Youth Hockey is something I take a lot of pride in. I'm excited about the direction our association is heading and the momentum we are building within the community. If given the opportunity to continue serving, I will remain committed to supporting the players, coaches, and volunteers who make this program special and to helping ensure that Farmington hockey continues to grow and succeed for years to come.

Why are you seeking election to the FYHA Board and what do you hope to contribute during your term

Is there any additional information you believe is relevant to your candidacy for board service

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