

# ROCKY RIVER YOUTH HOCKEY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 8, 2026

Time: 6:15pm Board Meeting

Location: Hamilton Ice Arena

## Attendees:

Exec Board – Pam Rice, Christina Kapler, Colin McHale, Mike Bruckman, Rob Coale, Cat Cook, Sarah Khan, Dave Pycraft, Paul Harris

City – Amanda Jurco, David Wasnick, Daniel Conway

Guests - none

## 1. Motions & Decisions

**Motion:** Approve minutes from the prior Board meeting (Passed)

- \$2,000 set aside for incremental ice for teams (1-2 and 3-4 teams to partner on full ice rentals)
- Code of conduct for coaches, locker rooms, players to be issued to organization
- \$10 per player for tryouts to supply coaches gift cards

## 2. Actions & Follow ups

Responsible	Action Item
David	Communicate increased transparency to parents regarding tryout process
City	Reinforce coaching code of conduct
City	Reinforce skill development expectations at each level
David	Create / distribute one-pager on USA Hockey model to educate
Colin	Review team fees for next season and return with recommendation
Colin	Provide supporting numbers for team fee discussion
Colin	Continue coordination of standalone goalie training
Dave P	Communicate ice for all teams funded by board - to coaches and managers
Board	Explore team-specific feedback surveys
Daniel	Improve advance release of practice schedules
Daniel	Increase visibility into ice availability
Dave P	Follow up on larger TV installation in pavilion
Cat	Contact CYC regarding Board retreat availability
Cat	Plan 2/14 and 3/1 girls skates
Rob	Build sponsorship calendar
Christina	Explore high school student engagement opportunities

## 3. Financial Summary

### Overall:

- General updates on P&L

### Cash Position:

- No material changes reported
- Colin proposed moving organizational funds into investment accounts

### Revenue Drivers:

- Team fees discussed for next season, city confirmed 5% increase
- Mite Blue teams do not currently have tournament fees and coordinate independently

### Program Budgets:

- Additional ice approved for purchase - \$2,000 budget
- Standalone goalie training session in progress
- Funds for girls skills clinics

## 4. Meeting Notes

### Survey Results – Colin

- Over 100 survey responses collected per family  
Net Promoter Score in the 40s, considered strong for youth sports
- Overall parent satisfaction reported as good
- Survey responses were anonymized intentionally
- Recommendation to implement future team-level feedback surveys to ensure families have a voice
- Three key areas came up consistently
  - Considerable feedback given on Pee wee 1 coach
  - Late practices are not preferred - attempt to work with teams
  - Disparity in training approach on Mite 1-2 vs 3-4

### Actions Resulting from Survey Feedback

- Board:
  - Board feedback on Pee wee 1 coach
  - Funding additional ice for teams
  - Colin communicated directly with goalies regarding a standalone goalie training session
- City:
  - Address Pee wee 1 coach
  - Increased transparency on try out process, more communication with parents
  - Address practice and ice times
  - Formalize coaching approaches - specifically in the Mite group
  - Increased education

### Coaching, Development & USA Hockey Alignment

- Recommendation to the City to reinforce the coaching code of conduct
- Emphasis on reinforcing skill development expectations at each level, especially at the Mite level
- Strong support for alignment with USA Hockey development model
- Focus areas included Learn to Play, 3v3, and 4v4 formats
- Mite activities emphasized: keep-away, stick handling, tag, and fun-based learning
- David expressed desire to evolve into a fully development-focused organization
- David emphasized importance of consistent high-quality coaching at early ages
- Discussion of preseason training and coach education aligned to USA Hockey

### Attendance, Rosters & Engagement

- Discussion around being more proactive with roster management
- Concern raised over larger rosters with inconsistent attendance
- Bantam coaches noted as performing at a high level
- David and Pam recommend to keep coaches on who have considerable experience
- Discussion on increasing engagement from high school students

### Tryouts Transparency & Parent Education

- Parent feedback highlighted need for increased transparency around tryouts
- David committed to clearer communication outlining process and methodology
- Rob emphasized need for parent education
- Agreement to include a female coach at tryouts
- Proposal to implement a \$10 tryout fee for gift cards
- Observation made that players perform better with reduced parent pressure (none allowed)

## **Scheduling, Ice Visibility & Facilities**

- Parent feedback included concerns around late-night practices for Peewees and Bantams
- Need identified to publish practice schedules earlier
- Parents requested greater visibility into ice availability
- Colin noted North Olmsted publishes a public Google Calendar
- Daniel shared weekend staffing challenges limiting weekend ice
- City currently uses Sportsman software with Excel scheduling
- Winterhurst publishes a full public rink schedule
- Discussion regarding installation of a larger TV in the pavilion for coach video review

## **Events, Girls Programming & Community**

- February 14 evening identified as next event
- Cat to add 2nd date - March 1st for all girls who cannot make Feb 14
- Discussion of "Bring Your Sister to Try Hockey" programming

## **Fundraising & Sponsorships**

- Discussion on creating an additional fundraising pulse next season
- Sponsorship update provided by Rob
- Rob to develop and manage a sponsorship calendar

## **Board Governance**

- Discussion around adding additional Board members
- Agreement that a more formal recruitment process is needed
- New Board members should bring specific skills, experience, or perspective
- Tentative Board retreat discussed for April or early May
- Preferred timing identified as Thursday evening
- Action to contact CYC regarding availability

## **5. Next Meeting**

**Date:** March - To be determined

**Time:** 6:15 PM

**Location:** Hamilton Ice Arena