

# MINUTES

## Mesabi East Youth Hockey Board

*Sunday, November 09, 2025 Hoyt Lakes Arena*

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### In Attendance

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President | Brad Engstrom: Attended

Vice President | Derek Hirsch: Attended

Treasurer | Hillary Hartleben: Attended

Secretary: OPEN

Ace Coordinator: OPEN

Registrar | Leah Nielsen: Attended

Tournament Coordinator | Stephanie Engstrom: Attended

Hockey Hut Manager | Cali Mirau: Excused

Hockey Hut Co-Manager | Anneissa LeChevalier: Attended

Volunteer Coordinator | Cheyenne Thorne: Excused

Fundraising Coordinator | Dan Mackey: Excused

Apparel Coordinator | Angie Lesar: Attended

Equipment Manager | Katie Dinsmore: Attended

Scheduler | Kathy Undeland: Attended

Website Manager: OPEN

Clinic coordinator: OPEN

Special guest: Kayla Mcfarland

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM

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### Public Discussion

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Sam's parent (Kayla Mcfarland) addressed the board and stated that Sam is not interested in continuing with the potential of moving up to the Squirts program . She requested a refund of the registration fee. The refund will be processed through Crossbar.

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### Approval of Minutes

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Approval of October 12th Meeting Minutes.

M: Brad S: Derek

Approval of November 2nd Special Meeting Minutes.

M: Brad S: Derek

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## Budget

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General | Checking: \$36,981.51

General | Savings: \$36,294.98

Hockey Hut | Checking: \$7,972.04

Hockey Hut | Savings: \$25.11

M: Derek S: Brad

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## Old Business

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- A. Community Skate Night/Open House with City of Hoyt Lakes
  - a. Brad will coordinate and connect with Bucky.
- B. Learn to Skate Discussion
  - a. Tentative start date: Sunday, December 7th, through the end of February.
  - b. Coaches Approved: Brad, Lindsey, Kyle.
  - c. Volunteers must register with USA Hockey, complete a background check, and SafeSport training. Brad will connect with coaches and inform any interested volunteer.
- C. Squirt Tournament Update
  - a. Two additional teams have signed up (North Shore Storm), bringing the current total to five.
  - b. Discussion was held about offering free spots to Rock Ridge and Ely due to being unable to host a Mite tournament. Hermantown might be available that weekend, and a 2-for-1 or a half-price option for a tournament spot was also discussed.
  - c. Twig and Little Falls have expressed some interest.
  - d. The goal is to reach 10 teams, with a suggested registration deadline of the upcoming Friday.
  - e. Motions:
    - i. Motion for approval was given to offer a free tournament spot for Rock Ridge and Ely.
    - ii. Motion for approval was given to offer a 2 for 1 for Hermantown. Hermantown is interested in sending 1 team at half price.
  - 1. M: Brad  
S: Derek

D. Remaining Mite Discussion on Season

- a. Offer Aria additional practice with Minis on Mondays and Wednesdays, if Squirts are not practicing.
- b. An additional week will be given to determine whether Aria will move up, be waivered, or not participate in the program.

E. Volunteer Hour Requirement Discussion

- a. TABLED.

F. DSG Cards/Goalie Gear

- a. Three Helmets will be returned to Dick Sports Goods
- b. Goalie gear will be checked this week, Power play to get additional goalie gear if needed.
- c. The current grant with DSC does not expire.

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New Business

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A. Pretzels - Upper Lakes Foods

- a. Start with 3 boxes through Upper Lakes Foods. Anneissa will be reimbursed for purchases.

B. First Aid Kits for Coaches/Teams

- a. Order individual bags for each program; check with Dick's Sporting Goods for options to use the gift cards with.
- b. Angie will have Mike create a list to order kits for Learn to Skate, Mini Mites, and Squirts.
- c. Spare neck guards to be kept on hand for coaches and team managers.

C. Chuck a duck for Junior Gold Games

- a. Steve is on board; keep in mind timing—90 minutes including ice resurfacing.
- b. Good fundraiser opportunity for MEYHA volunteers.
- c. Explore alternatives to ice throwing for more feasible options.

D. Pin Trading with Rock Ridge

- a. Net design has similar pricing; Squirt design cost \$714 for 300 pins (excluding shipping and tax). Katie will look into pin boards/felt.
- b. Motion to approve up to \$1,000 to purchase trading pins and boards.

M: Brad

S: Derek

E. Association Hats/ Coaches Jackets

Coaches Jackets:

- a. Range Sports: shells/midweight \$85, winter \$150, quilted \$95 (with embroidery).
- b. Coaches may select preferred jacket options.
- c. Motion for approval for up to \$1,000 on six coaches' jackets.

M: Brad S: Derek

Association Hats:

- a. Available for all players, including Learn to Skate, and coaches/team managers.
- b. Separate design for Learn to Skate; Angie will select a design to order.

- c. Motion for approval for up to \$1,500 on association hats.

M: Brad S:Derek

F. Waggle Hat Fundraiser

- a. Determine quantity with Mesabi East logo for fundraiser.
- b. The fundraiser will run for a shorter timeframe of two weeks.
- c. Explore both stocking and regular baseball hat options.

G. Squirt Tournament Clothing/Player Sign/Budget

- a. Clothing: Angie will order as done in previous years through 321 Graphix.
- b. Player Signs: Angie will order from 321 Graphix for Squirt players; pricing to be determined.
- c. Programs: North Hope Church will handle program creation and printing again this year.
- d. Budget: \$800 approved for tournament supplies, player signs and raffle prizes.

H. Jerseys to use for Squirts

- a. Players will use the jerseys they were originally assigned to use.

I. Order Game Socks for Squirts

- a. Game socks are ordered annually.
- b. Motion to approve \$800 for ordering game socks.

M: Brad S: Derek

J. Approval of Tournament Schedule Outline to be posted on TR Announcement Page

- a. Schedule outline approved to be posted on TR Announcement Page.

K. Apparel Fundraiser

- a. 12 orders total; \$150 raised for the association.
- b. Orders expected to be completed before 11/15.
- c. Angie will pick up the orders.

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## Action Items

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A. Bylaws Updates per to the Affiliate Agreement

- a. Hillary will post needed updates to the Board TR for approval/review at the next meeting.

B. Mileage Reimbursement

- a. Previously approved in prior years with limitations.
- b. Approved up to four times per month at the current IRS mileage rate for Hockey Hut product travel.

M: Brad S: Derek

C. CD for part of the savings money

- a. The Board Treasurer will look further into options.

D. Neck Guard Discussion

- a. Derek explained new requirements coming out for proper spec BNQ for this year and HECC certified for 2027.

- b. The Board will review and, if required, consider purchasing new neck guards for association members.
- c. Dick's Sporting Goods will be checked for neck guard options to use the gift cards for.

E. Future Association Planning to Increase Numbers

- a. Discussion was held about having Association-wide meetings that would be held monthly to discuss growth and player involvement.
- b. Hold the meetings like a consulting phrase: involve community members while decisions are made by the voting board.
- c. Budget will be allocated to grow the association and make participation as affordable as possible for players.

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#### Next Meeting

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The next meeting will be December 14th at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.