

MINUTES

Mesabi East Youth Hockey Board

Sunday, November 09, 2025 Hoyt Lakes Arena

In Attendance

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

Public Discussion

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.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of October 12th Meeting Minutes.

M: Brad S: Derek

Approval of November 2nd Special Meeting Minutes.

M: Brad S: Derek

Budget

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

Old Business

- 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 Hermanton. Hermanton 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 waived, 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.

New Business

- 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: DerekAssociation 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.

Action Items

- 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.

Next Meeting

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.