LINCOLN-WAY HOCKEY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2026, American Legion, New Lenox, IL 6:30pm

1. **Call to Order:** The board meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Kristy Britt

2. **Roll Call of the Board:** Kristy Britt, Robin Ersfeldt, Erica Brkovic, Kathy Vogdes, Mary Lanski, Steve Jaconson, Diane Narcissi present. Anthony Demma and Wade Welsh were absent.

3. **Public Comment:** Members of the public representing parents of the Red team attended the meeting to raise questions and express concerns regarding the following matters:

    - **Game Scheduling and Opponent Selection:** Inquiries regarding the methodology for scheduling Red team games and selecting opponents.
    - **Team Sanctioning:** Clarification on whether scheduled opponents are sanctioned or non-sanctioned teams.
    - **Player Safety and Athletic Trainers:** Concerns regarding the absence of dedicated athletic trainers at the Red team games and general player safety relative to the scheduled competition.
    - **Game Count and Registration Fees**: Concerns regarding the total volume of scheduled games in relation to the registration fees charged to the Red team players.

    Board Response and Discussion: The Board acknowledged the parents' concerns and provided the following clarifications:

    - **Game Scheduling and Opponent Selection:** The Board explained that the majority of the schedule consists of matchups against Illinois High School JV2-level teams to ensure appropriate, competitive play. Games with out-of-state teams were scheduled strictly in an effort to maximize the total number of playing opportunities for the team.
    - **Team Sanctioning:** The Board confirmed that all scheduled Red team opponents are officially sanctioned. Consequently, all games are fully covered under the USA Hockey and AHAI rules and regulations.
    - **Player Safety and Athletic Trainers:** The Board clarified that athletic trainers will not be present at Red team games. Trainers are exclusively provided by the Illinois West Hockey Lague for league-specific games (noting that no trainers were present when the Blue team previously competed in the North Central League). For player safety, the established Lincoln-Way Hockey concussion protocol remains fully in effect and accessible at all Red team games.
    - **Game Count and Registration Fees**: The Board stated that the goal is to secure 25 games for each player on the Red team roster to ensure value relative to the registration fees charged.

4. **Presentation of Minutes for September:** Approved

5. **Team Updates:**

a. Red:

- Red coaches held a team meeting to outline player expectations for the season.
- The team has played three games so far, with good attendance and high energy noted.
- The coaches and Hockey Director are actively looking into additional tournament options.

b. Blue

- Two Illinois West games have been played so far, things are off to a good start.

c. Varsity

- Four Illinois West games have been played so far; the team is working on building chemistry and gelling as a unit.

6. **Charity Games:**

a. Cancer Skate:

- Committee meeting was held and we are in good shape with planning.
- A reminder has been sent out to entire club regarding raffle baskets, dessert donations and sign-up genius for volunteering.
- Players can get service hours for volunteering; we will have the forms there.
- The food truck is booked; we will encourage them to park out front, if possible, for better visibility.
- We have hired Bill to do the Gamesheet and clock for all games.
- Robin will create a sign to designate food truck area, a flyer with game times to post on socials and send to opponents, and the Grand in your Hand Board

b. Food Drive:

- Scheduled for 11/14; still working on opponents for Red and Varsity.
- Lincoln Way will join forces with HF this year for this event.
- Planning to collect money for and prepare the birthday kits again this year.
- Looking for an alternative idea for the bowls the players have created in the past.

c. Toy Drive:

- Scheduled for 12/5; Vogdes family will take the lead on this.

7. **Madison Tournaments:**

- We have a couple of players who are unable to make it; all coaches are going.
- We have free use of a conference room with our hotel booking so the team managers will work on planning a club wide meal/gathering.

8. **Picture Day:**

- Once we get uniforms, we will set a date for pictures.

9. **Player Access to Vidswap:**

- Kristy will send out an email with instructions to the entire club so players can access.

10. **Bears Squares/Fundraising:**
    - Robin will update the board and post another reminder on socials.
    - We will have the board at the Cancer skate to sell squares.

11. **R&E Committee:**
    - Kathy is working on getting a couple parents from Varsity, other than that, the committee is set.

12. **By-Law updates:**
    - Kathy will start looking through the by-laws to highlight any necessary updates.