

Ice Pond Mezzanine Project FAQ

Ice Pond history

WDIR stands for Waunakee DeForest Ice Rink, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) created in 2006 to oversee the funding, development and maintenance of an ice rink and multipurpose facility in Waunakee. WDIR was established by several former youth hockey families that had, for years, driven to other rinks for practice and games. These visionaries knew that if we built a rink in Waunakee our youth organization would grow and our high school teams would thrive.

To keep the fundraising and operations of the rink separate from the mission of Wildcat Youth Hockey, WDIR was formed. Most of the current WDIR board members have remained on the board since fundraising started in 2007, through construction in 2009 and opening in 2010. The Ice Pond was envisioned as the home of the Wildcat Youth Hockey Association, and three high school teams (Waunakee, DeForest, Cap City Cougars Co-op).

What is the history between WYHA & WDIR?

The two organizations have a great history together starting in 2006 when having an ice rink in Waunakee was just a dream of many exhausted youth hockey parents driving to Middleton and Sauk for every practice and game. WYHA families participated in fundraising in a variety of ways, donating, multi-year pledges, soliciting donations from their employers, associates and community members. As anticipated from the beginning the Wildcat organization remains one of the core users of the Ice Pond.

What does the Mezzanine Project include and why is it needed?

The proposed facility, currently in the design phase, will feature a multi-use gymnasium, two shooting and passing rooms, and dedicated storage space for the Waunakee Youth Hockey Association (WYHA). The multi-use gymnasium is intended to accommodate a variety of activities, including dryland practices, physical conditioning, team meetings, team-building exercises, and video analysis.

WYHA currently utilizes rented gymnasium space at local schools and the Waunakee Village Center for its dryland training activities. Off-ice shooting and passing skills are presently developed during on-ice practices due to the impracticality of doing so at the rented dryland facilities. Furthermore, equipment is stored in an off-site, rented storage room. The new facility will consolidate these key functions into a single, centralized location.

What other projects have WYHA recently contributed to at the Ice Pond?

The WYHA and hockey families have always supported the Ice Pond since it was first built 15 years ago. Recent WYHA contributions to the Ice Pond include:

- A monetary contribution to replace the sound system which was beyond repair.

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- Purchased and installed new, magnetic hockey dry-erase boards in the youth hockey locker rooms.
- Purchased and installed a large screen TV in the conference room for team video reviews, meetings, etc.
- Purchased new ice dividers (bumpers) to replace the old equipment which were tearing at the seams and in disrepair.

Who is responsible for fundraising for this project?

WYHA will fundraise, collect donations, and hold the money until it is needed for the project.

Interested in joining the fundraising team for this project? Email fundraising@wildcathockey.org

What is the cost of this project?

The expected cost of this project is between \$500,000 - \$600,000. Depending on the amount fundraised, we can upgrade from the basics. If there are additional funds collected that go unused for this project, the funds will be used towards future improvement projects at the Ice Pond. The future projects will come to the WYHA board for approval before any action is taken.

How much should I give?

Everyone's contribution is important to the success of this project. We ask that you consider making the very best commitment possible. A gift to the campaign is an investment in the future. You, your family, your neighbors and friends will reap the benefit of these improvements for many years to come.

Founder	\$1 Million+	\$500,000
Titanium	\$499,999	\$100,000
Platinum	\$99,999	\$50,000
Gold	\$49,999	\$25,000
Silver	\$24,999	\$5,000
Bronze	\$4,999	\$2,000
Copper	\$1,999	\$1,000

Donations that fall into the above categories will be added to the original fundraising board in the Ice Pond lobby.

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Are there any naming rights available?

Yes – we have 3* spaces that can include naming rights. The large multi-purpose room, two shooting/passing rooms. *We are also considering the addition of a Rapid Shot system that may be available for naming rights.

I own/work for a company that may be willing to donate money or in-kind donations. Who do I contact?

All fundraising/in kind donation questions can be directed to Alyssa Greiber at fundraising@wildcathockey.org or 608-213-0272.

How do I donate?

You can donate with cash, check or venmo (@WYHAHockey).

Is my gift tax deductible?

Both WDIR and WYHA are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. All gifts to the campaign are tax-deductible as allowable by law.

What is the timeline for the Mezzanine Project?

Once we reach the determined fundraising goal and are ready to start the project, funds will be transferred to a WDIR account set up specifically for this project. This transfer of funds from WYHA to WDIR is for exclusive use on this project. Any project savings or additional funds will be held in a Capital Improvement Fund by WDIR, to be spent as agreed upon by both parties or returned to WYHA.

- November – Approval from WYHA board to move forward with an architect to get drawings and renderings completed and to begin the fundraising efforts.
- December-March – Fundraising
- February - Update on fundraising efforts, finish the construction drawings
- March - obtain approvals and permits
- April through October – Construction
- Tentatively October 2026 – completion of project

Who is responsible for the project?

A joint committee with WDIR and WYHA representatives will oversee this project. They are working together on all aspects of the project to keep it moving forward and on course. WYHA is responsible for fundraising. WDIR is responsible for payments for design and construction contracts, insurance, etc. WYHA will transfer the funds to WDIR at the start of the project.

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Will this space be exclusive to WYHA?

WYHA will have priority to schedule and utilize these new spaces, however it may be rented to other groups when not reserved by WYHA. WYHA will utilize the space free of charge for a duration of 10-years, after that (year 11), WDIR will charge an annual rent to WYHA for use of the space.

Who will clean and maintain this new space?

WDIR will schedule, clean and maintain the new space, including mechanical systems as needed for the duration and operation of the new spaces.

Who will provide, maintain, improve and replace the equipment?

WYHA will maintain, improve and replace the (FFE) equipment as needed for the duration of the operation of the space. WYHA will procure all the AV, dryland equipment, nets, etc. The purchase of these items will be kept separate from funds allocated for construction.

Will other users be allowed to rent the space for a single event?

Yes, other users will be allowed to rent the space for a single event or negotiate an annual/seasonal lease to use the space for specific times and dates. The amount of rent or fee will be determined by WDIR. Anticipated other user groups are High School team(s), independent camp operators, tournament operators, private coaching and personal training sessions.