Hinsdale Central Hockey Club

Board Meeting

Hinsdale Public Library
November 11, 2026

Meeting Minutes

President's Report:

AHAI Meeting Recap

The following updates were shared from the recent AHAI meeting:

- **Goaltending Academy:** Upcoming sessions will be held at Willowbrook Ice Arena from 10:45–11:45 a.m. on November 14, November 21, December 12, December 19, January 9, January 23, and February 6.
- **Sniper School:** Offered in conjunction with the Goaltending Academy, this limited-enrollment program is designed for offensive players to gain insight into the goaltender's perspective while developing strategies to improve scoring opportunities. Sessions will take place on the same dates and times as the Goaltending Academy.
- **Captain's Night:** The November 2nd Blackhawks game was well attended, with 47 of the 50 participating boys' and girls' team captains in attendance.
- **High School State Tournament:** The All-State Game is scheduled for February 1 at 7:00 p.m. at West Meadows Ice Arena. The State Championship Game is scheduled for March 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the Blackhawks Ice Center.
- **Goaltender Pool:** AHAI plans to reorganize the goaltender pool for the upcoming season.

IL West Meeting Recap

The following dates and updates were shared:

- **January 23, 2027:** Final regular-season game.
- **January 24, 2027:** JV and Varsity All-Star and All-Conference Games.
- **January 29, 2027:** Playoffs begin.

The IL West Board also reinforced several important operational and safety requirements:

- Ensure yellow jackets and/or security personnel are present at all games.
- Report any instances in which an athletic trainer fails to attend a scheduled game.
- Ensure that each member club maintains an active Rules & Ethics Committee.

Board Vacancy

The Board continues its efforts to fill the vacant Director position. Members will continue reaching out to Club parents to gauge interest in serving on the Board.

Hockey Director's Report:

Midseason Update

Coach Eric Dazé reported that both the JV and Varsity teams are performing better than initially anticipated. While injuries have presented challenges in maintaining full rosters for games, the outlook remains positive as players continue to recover and return to competition.

January Tournament

The Board agreed to move forward with submitting the deposit for the Midwest Classic Hockey Tournament over the January holiday weekend. Games will be played at Edge Ice Arena and Mount Prospect Ice Arena.

Additional JV and Varsity Games

Coach Dazé continues to communicate with non-conference clubs to explore opportunities for adding exhibition games to both the JV and Varsity schedules.

Alumni Skate

December 28th at 6:50pm (90. Minutes)at Willowbrook Ice Arena.

Apparel & Equipment Report:

Season Recap

The Club's later tryout dates resulted in uniform and equipment orders being placed toward the end of the production queue, contributing to delays in delivery.

The Board acknowledged the need to evaluate the timing of future tryouts and/or reconsider its approach to uniform inventory management to improve the ordering and delivery process for next season.

Club Events Report:

One Team Meals

- **November 15th:** Kunitz family.
- **December:** To be determined.
- **January:** To be determined.

Jen Tallard is working to secure another Hinsdale restaurant and explore additional options for the December and January One Team meals.

Holiday Party – December 16th

The Club's holiday party will be held at Neat on December 16. Jen will coordinate and distribute a SignUpGenius to parents for RSVPs and event payments.

Senior Night – January 9, 2027

Planning for Senior Night will begin in December. Jen will reach out to parent volunteers to assist with organizing the event and coordinating activities.

Club Banquet – March 11, 2027

The annual Club Banquet is scheduled for March 11, 2027 at Ruth Lake Country Club.

The Board also discussed potential gifts for graduating seniors and Club players. No final decisions were made, and additional ideas will be considered as planning progresses.

Social Media & Recruitment Report:

7th and 8th Grade Recruitment Skates

The Board discussed scheduling recruitment skates for prospective 7th and 8th grade players in January and February.

Coach Dazé will work with the coaching staff to identify potential dates based on staff availability and the Club's ice schedule. Proposed dates will be shared with the Board once confirmed.

Recruitment Outreach

Coach Dazé will begin personally reaching out to prospective 7th and 8th grade families to build relationships, encourage participation, and generate interest in the HCHC program.

Recruitment Merchandise and Initiatives

Kelly recommended developing a selection of HCHC-branded promotional merchandise to distribute at the recruitment skates and other Red Devil games and events.

The Board discussed the value of using these materials to increase Club visibility, strengthen connections with prospective players, and support ongoing recruitment efforts.

Fundraising Report:

Fundraising Strategy

Mark initiated a discussion regarding the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of the Club's current fundraising initiatives.

He emphasized that, should the Club continue pursuing large-scale fundraising campaigns, expectations regarding family participation and financial commitments should be clearly communicated to incoming families at the beginning of each season.

Based on the results of this season's fundraising efforts, the board discussed different ideas to offset our operating expenses, one idea being a potential increase in annual Club dues. It was noted that a significant portion of the funds raised through current initiatives comes directly from HCHC families rather than outside donors, raising the question of whether a revised dues structure might provide a more efficient and predictable source of revenue.

The discussion highlighted the importance of evaluating the overall effectiveness of fundraising initiatives and considering alternative approaches to supporting the Club's financial needs.

No formal decisions regarding changes to fundraising initiatives or Club dues were recorded.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, December 1st at 6:30pm location TBD.