



Valley Youth Hockey Board Meeting Minutes

Valley Youth Hockey Association - Syracuse, NY
July 2026

Attendees:

Present:

Michael Foley (President), Katie MacIntyre (Vice President), Mindy Morris, Becky Brightman, Paul Casinelli, Erin Engelhardt, Marissa Maines, Dannielle Richardson, Craig Schwartau, Nate Bazydlo, Ryan Yamini, Kelly Walker, Thomas Devito

Absent:

Brad Brechler, Chris Szulwach, Jennifer Weinstein

President's Report:

- TB Team Declaration
 - 12U Girls Tier 1, 12U Youth, 14U Youth, 18U Youth have all declared they will be TB.
 - 16U youth did not declare TB- It was discussed that if anyone signed commitments for TB they need to be absolved. Mike will follow up with Chris S to send an email communicating to the entire team as it was noted that maybe not all parents had communication notifying that the team is not declaring TB.
- Team Manager & Coach Meetings
 - Dates TBD
 - 1st one for TB will be in the next few weeks via Zoom to get them squared away
 - The plan is to do the 2nd one for travel teams at the end of the month and early Sept house teams.
- Board Transition & Governance
 - Position Assignment(s):
 - Pictures: Mindy Morris
 - Raffle tickets: Marissa Maines
 - Turkey Tournament: Nate agreed to help in the background and enlisted Jennifer Weinstein to help as well.
 - Snowbelt Director: Katie MacIntyre

Treasurer Report:

- Financial Review
 - There is less registration this year and as a result we will need less ice. Mike met with The Nation, they notified that ice cost is \$250/hr and they will give us blocks before offering to other organizations. Mites will be prioritized to Nation ice but will need to understand Mecham is the organization's home rink.
 - [Profit Loss - July 2026](#)
 - [Balance Sheet - July 2026](#) Motion to approve financials - **APPROVED**

Vice President & Discipline Report:

- Raffle Tickets- Will need to order soon. Marissa volunteered to coordinate this effort.
- Pictures - Discussion was had that we would like to do pictures over 2 weeks to help avoid conflicts. It was noted that the scheduling last year worked well but the composite photos are not ideal. It seems that it's a difficult thing to have both easy/parent friendly scheduling without doing the composite photos. Mindy volunteered to coordinate photos.
- House vs Recreation term was discussed and the group aligned on the term "house". Katie noted that we have to start promoting the house teams via Social Media and email. There was discussion around the 10u Block team and trying to get a few more people for the team we will promote that we only need a limited amount of players and can open reg just for that amount of kids. Promotion will be as follows: IP, 8u, limited 10u, 12u, limited 14u
- Discipline
 - 2 open disciplinary actions. 1 player, 1 coach. Both hearings are tonight. Self reported that a kid had a misconduct on a Friday game and wore another kids jersey the next day at a game. Coach and player were reported. The coach is not currently a coach for the upcoming season. This will be brought up in coaches meetings to set a standard that this isn't acceptable.

Secretary Report:

- June meeting minutes for the electronic voting were not written up. Mindy will put these minutes together for next month's meeting.

Registrar Report:

- House Team counts by division
 - There are 43 house players currently registered
 - IP- 6
 - 8u - 22
 - 12u - 8
 - 14u- 13
- Please get your SafeSport and USA Hockey documents to Becky ASAP. She can not submit teams until the board information is submitted. Mike to send everyone Becky's email so they can get that information to her.
- Becky discussed the previous month's motion regarding the Girls 12U dual roster request and noted that was only able to happen because they are not National TB eligible. Starting with 14U Tier 1 TB teams and older that are national eligible will not be allowed to dual roster.
- Becky noted that If we have coaches or volunteers that say they didn't know safesport was expired, that's not correct. They get multiple notifications before and after it expires. Please do NOT tell them to email Becky, just tell them to get it done.
- Any communication to the central section registrar (Sue) needs to go through Becky, you can not reach out directly or we get in trouble.
- It was noted that TB Assistant coaches can be designated until Dec 31. House until March 31st.
- There was a change in the amount of Q games to qualify for states. 12 games for individual and 18 for team to qualify for states. This is increased for girls.

Director of Scheduling:

- Summer Ice Scheduling is filled through August - if there is a team interested they just need to reach out to Steve.

Director of Officials:

- 2026-27 Referee Fees

10U	\$60.00
12U	\$70.00
14U	\$75.00
16U	\$80.00

18U	\$90.00
If a team plays longer than fifteen (15) minute periods add \$5.00/official for sixteen (16) minutes and \$10.00/official for seventeen (17) minutes.	
If the zamboni cleans the ice in between periods add \$20/official.	

Director of Coaches Report - ACE/Safesport/Youth Travel Teams:

- There currently is no director– It was brought up that Tony P. is interested. Mike will reach out to him and have a conversation to confirm if he is interested. If he is, it will come back to the board to vote on.
- 4 coaches for IP/Mites were identified-
 - IP- Tom Phalon from Rochester he was a ref and Nick Zapia who played at Cortland State and also went through Nats program, Connor Tracy (IP & 8U) used to coach the SU men's club team
 - 8U- Brian Stinson, Eric Hart -
 - motion to accept these coaches for IP & 8U - **APPROVED**
- ADM model which is required for mites. 1st practice ADM, 2nd practice coaches practice.
- Austin Block will be our skating skills coach, he can do any day we assign.
- Potential goalie skills coach:
 - James Kaffenberger- - NCDC junior goalie camps. Played at Le Moyne , Utica Jr Comets, worked with Nick Harper, Joe Palmer, and is a volunteer recruiter for Cortland hockey. He is currently working with the FM varsity team. He is the preferred option. We have to see what days he is available. If he can't do it on certain weeks we can fall back on Liam Conway but he is only available on Thursdays. The goal is to have goalie skills every week throughout the entire season.

Director Report - Girls Hockey Committee

- It was asked if Greg and Adam will be the coach for both 10U girls teams. That is undecided right now but it was noted that if it is not Greg and Adam the other coach will have to be approved by the board.
- Erin noted that rumor is that Lysander girls is trying to make a Tier 1 TB team.
- There is a plan to have a subcommittee meeting before the next board meeting

Director Report - Snowbelt & House Teams:

- We need a new rep for Snowbelt. The new representative will have to sign up with this link. - <https://snowbelthockey.org/rep-contact-update/> It was asked what this entails. Mike stated it's a couple of zoom meetings and 1 in person meeting in January. Katie has volunteered to do this.

Director Report - Marketing, Promotions Fundraising and Sponsorship:

- Howies Machine @ Meachem — Dani is trying to get Ryan's(city) attention, she will catch up with Brad to see if he can get Ryan engaged.
- We have requested the weekend of 8/30 for Dick's coupons. Once we receive them we will post them on social media and send an email out to the org. This coupon is good for Destiny USA, Dewitt, Clay, and Liverpool locations.
- If we decide to do another Panera day we'd want to do it in the fall. Note it's 20% of sales of people that say they are there for Valley. Not 20% of all sales.

Director Report - Merchandise & Apparel:

- Jersey & Sock Stores - The 2nd jersey store has not delivered yet. The next store will be around the week of Aug 10th, and then a late Sept store.
 - Current JOG cost \$65, this comes as a group to Valley, has a long ship time ~8wks
 - Rainbow Lettering you can order and get it delivered directly to your house. It is \$75 for a jersey with \$15 shipping per order. Reversibles are \$81. Full lace up \$67. This could be an option if we want direct shipping but jersey cost is more.
 - Mckies ~ \$70 jersey
 - For teams that have later jersey orders there are a few extra generic jerseys that Steve holds on to if needed to borrow.
- Merchandise Update - The 1st order of jackets and track suits have been delivered. As of now there has been no feedback from the teams that ordered.
 - The 1st merch store just closed. We will do another one after the next Jersey store.
- Craig asked for a list of house team coaches before the next distribution to make it easier in sorting/distributing.

New Business:

- 8U will continue to be mostly scheduled at The Nation. The Nation pricing was discussed and the question was raised if we are going to have a contract with The Nation so they can not later decide to raise the price. They are not opposed to making a contract with us to keep ice prices consistent. The Turkey tournament and 14U MLK tournament are reserved at The Nation. There is the possibility of a Jam in March. We discussed the need for someone to be the tournament director for the Turkey Tourney. - Nate agreed to help behind the scenes but can not be there for the actual tournament, he enlisted Jennifer to contribute. The motion was raised to approve the Turkey Tournament and the 14U tournament MLK weekend (It was asked if there is the possibility to be opened up to older 14U and house 14U. Mike stated he's not opposed if we can get teams) **APPROVED**

Board Actions

1. Approval of July Financial Report

Date: 7/29/2026

Motion #: 2026-07-29-01

Motion: Katie MacIntyre moved to approval of July Financial Report.

Second: Paul Casinelli

Vote: 10-0-0

Result: The motion carried.

Supporting Document: [BalanceSheet, Profit Loss](#)

2. Approval of IP & 8U Coaches

Date: 7/29/2026

Motion #: 2026-07-29-02

Motion: Tom Devito moved to approval of IP & 8U Coaches.

Second: Erin Engelhardt

Vote: 10-0-0

Result: The motion carried.

3. Approval of Turkey & 14U Tournaments

Date: 7/29/2026

Motion #: 2026-07-29-03

Motion: Erin Engelhardt moved to approval of Turkey & 14U Tournaments.

Second: Tom Devito

Vote: 10-0-0

Result: The motion carried.

4. Motion to Adjourn

Date: 7/29/2026

Motion #: 2026-07-29-04

Motion: Becky Brightman moved to motion to Adjourn.

Second: Tom Devito

Vote: 10-0-0

Result: The motion carried.