



Valley Youth Hockey Board Meeting Minutes

Valley Youth Hockey Association - Syracuse, NY

August 2026

Attendees:

Present:

Michael Foley (President), Katie MacIntyre (Vice President), Mindy Morris, Brad Brechler, Nate Bazydlo, Paul Casinelli, Thomas DeVito, Erin Engelhardt, Marissa Maines, Dannielle Richardson, Kelly Walker, Jennifer Weinstein, Ryan Yamini

Absent: Chris Szulwach, Becky Brightman, Kelly Walker, Samantha Shapess

President's Report:

- TB Team Declaration
 - 16U team- There was still a question about if all parents were notified. It was said that an email went out to all families 8/4, they are an independent team. There was a parent meeting and it was communicated there as well.
- Organizational Updates - no votes needed for these positions, they were appointed by the president.
 - Director of Coaches Appointment - Tony Polhamus
 - At Large Resignation - Jennifer Weinstein
 - At Large Appointment - Samantha Shapess

Treasurer Report:

- Financial Review
 - [Profit Loss - August 2026](#)
 - [Balance Sheet - August 2026](#)
- Dani asked about kitchen expenses on the profit/loss sheet and if it was last year or this year. It was last year. If we plan to use it this year we have to get another inspection around Oct-Nov

Vice President & Discipline Report:

Discipline Hearing Outcomes - The Hearings discussed in the July meeting were completed 7/29/26:

- Player hearing: The player has to sit the first 3 games of this season, but can practice.
 - Coach hearing: The coach was suspended through 2026, they can not practice or step into the locker room.
 - Both will be on probation through 7/2027. Recommendation that all assistant coaches on that team get a written warning. Both the coach and player are no longer with the organization.
-
- Raffle Tickets - Katie got the quote and will take care of ordering these. An order for 1000 will be placed.
 - House, IP, Mites and Beginner Promotion - We blasted this on Facebook. So far we have Mites-40, 14u house-13, 12u-15 can go to above 20 (may absorb some with travel team non TB has 2 slots available), we need more promotion for IP & mites, their season will start ~10/1. If we have extra time slots we may be able to get them started in September. You will get this communication for mites September time slots if you are signed up. Paul asked about max # of kids for mites because past feedback he's heard is that it has been too chaotic with so many kids on the ice at once. Tony and Marissa both pointed back to times when we would have 60-70 kids on the ice and if the ADM was strictly followed it ran really well. Tony will work on getting us back to a good ADM model.

Secretary Report:

- Photos:
 - Mindy discussed with BJK that we may want to go back to traditional team photos- she stated that it is either a traditional team photo or virtual (composite) there can not be a mixture of both. The consensus is we will do traditional team photos.
 - Nicole at BJK stated that last year's scheduling did not work for them, it was too chaotic and they would like us to go back to team scheduling.
 - Sales for last year decreased significantly. It was noted that we have to advertise more with the material we get from them to help ensure more sales.
 - 2024 - 66.7% of the players photographed purchased pictures
 - 2025 - 51.7%

- Currently Nov 2-4 and Nov 9-11 is available for us. We have 3 days total so if we want to do 3 consecutive days or 2 days one week and 1 day the next. BJK prefers 3 consecutive because they can leave their equipment set up. - We will do photos the first week in Nov since the following week is Veterans Day.
- They would like to know how many players/teams- we will get this to them once teams are finalized.
- If a player or coach is on multiple teams they will have to attend multiple team photos.

Registrar Report:

- 18U rosters are approved. 16U coaches-Chris, 12u girls, 10u girls PT, 13u in progress, 10u goodnough
 - Everyone has 15 days to complete. If coaches aren't cleared with Becky they can't go on the ice as of 9/1.
- For board members we are still missing a few. Please get this sent to Becky ASAP.

Director of Scheduling:

- Nation Ice: Oct-Dec we will have ice Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. There will be 2 time slots each of those days- If teams aren't using it we may get rid of Thursday. We will have games Saturday at Nation 8-3, Sat & Sun at Meacham. The exception is the Turkey & 14u tourney; these will both be held at the Nation.
- Once the split season starts (Nov timeframe) we'll only have the 3rd ice slot for 2 nights at Meacham.

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

- Will need 2 different coaches meetings. One for TB/travel, one for everyone else.
- Getting back to ADM is going to be a big step that Valley needs to get back to. Tony will be working on this.

Director of Officials Report

- There is discussion that they want officials for mites - 8 u full ice cost is \$45-
- Starting at age 12 you can be paid to officiate.-
- Mike is hosting a Level 1 clinic at Valley for officials 9/26 at Meacham then classroom instruction after at Cecile. He will push out a communication to encourage signing up for this.

- If you would like to register you go to USA Hockey and fill out the registration form then will have to take an open book test. You can take it as many times as you need.
- Young kids should be paired up with a veteran on the ice to make for a good experience for the young officials.
- For next season, we can discuss incorporating a line item into the budget to purchase sweaters for new youth officials.

Director Report - Girls Hockey Committee

- Erin mentioned the girls skating at Colgate. She is going to check to see if we are the host at Colgate. If we are, we have to add it to the insurance. It costs us nothing to add it. She will let Mike know.
- We want to host Try Hockey For Free - Central section will be talking about this at the next meeting. Gear can be borrowed from the central section. This will be a good opportunity for us.
- 10U PT Girls Update - We have a strong top team, a lighter lower team and we are waiting for 1 more Valley girl to respond. They do want to name a coach for the 2nd team. Erin told them it would need to be voted on by the board once identified.
- 12U Girls Update - Erin brought up concern about not having regular practice times especially for girls coming from out of the Syracuse area. Talked about how this can really help with recruitment efforts and keeping girls with Valley if we can advertise that we have specific practice dates.

Director Report - Snowbelt & House Teams:

- 08/27/26 - Snowbelt Board Meeting (First of Season) (Zoom) - There were questions from coaches about how the scheduling will work. Katie put a question out to Steve. Any of our 10u and 12u teams can play Snowbelt except TB teams.

Director Report - Marketing, Promotions Fundraising and Sponsorship:

- Dicks sporting goods promotion is coming up. We will make sure to include the coupon into any org wide emails that go out.
- Brad to talk to Ryan about the Howies Machine as he's not responding to Dani.

Director Report - Merchandise & Apparel: Update from Craig

- Jersey store open now through 8/21

- ALL currently REGISTERED players that need numbers have them. If there are PT girls players not registered, that's different.
- Craig has had a request for another JOG store of "team wear" (sweatshirts, shorts, etc). Will do that next. It looks like (and could be) Spirit Wear, but was originally set up at board/coach request as team wear.
- Then we'll do another Rainbow Spirit wear and Uniform store, timing TBD
- Craig has been asked about a McKie's store for the Bauer warm ups (which we have offered generic versions through JOG). McKie's always adds more spirit wear also, so I'm just aware that would have us at 3 choices for "fan gear". The board agreed that yes we can open a McKie's store.
- Sock Ordering - Paul received black socks and is checking on the white socks.

Additional Topics:

- Skills will be Tuesdays with Austin Block. Cost will be \$150/hr down from \$230 with Radja. If we have open ice on Saturday or Sunday we can offer slots for him to run a clinic. Goalie skills coaching is in negotiation and will be sent out. We are talking to 3 coaches. The goal is to have someone there every week all season.

Board Actions

1. Approval of August Financial Report

Date: 8/19/2026

Motion #: 2026-08-19-01

Motion: Tony Polhamus moved to approval of August Financial Report.

Second: Paul Casinelli

Vote: 12-0-0

Result: The motion carried.

Supporting Document: [Balance Sheet, Profit/Loss](#)

2. Approval of June & July 2026 Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/19/2026

Motion #: 2026-08-19-02

Motion: Brad Brechler moved to approval of June & July 2026 Meeting Minutes.

Second: Marissa Maines

Vote: 11-0-1

Result: The motion carried.

Supporting Document:  Board Minutes Draft - June ,  Board Minutes Draft - July

3. Motion to Adjourn

Date: 8/19/2026

Motion #: 2026-08-19-04

Motion: Katie MacIntyre moved to motion to Adjourn.

Second: Thomas Devito

Vote: 12-0-0

Result: The motion carried.