

Northwest Arkansas Hockey Association (NWAHA)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 2026

Date: September 8, 2026

Time: 6:45 pm

Location: Virtual

Presiding: President, Dennis Kinkead

Secretary: Rebecca Roeder

1. Call to Order

The President called the September 2026 meeting of the Northwest Arkansas Hockey Association Board of Directors to order after confirming that a quorum was present.

A roll call was conducted of Board officers, age-group representatives, and committee representatives.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the August 2026 Board meeting were presented for approval.

Motion: Russ Schnitzer moved to approve the August 2026 Board meeting minutes as presented. 2nd: Rebecca Roeder

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Action: August 2026 meeting minutes approved.

3. President's Report

The President reviewed parliamentary procedures and emphasized the importance of following proper meeting procedure, including making a motion before substantive discussion and debate of an item.

The President also provided an update from the SAHA annual meeting in Alabama.

Discussion included:

- An increase in waiver requests being submitted within SAHA.
- SAHA research regarding the use of intermediate-sized nets for younger players.
- Continued growth and participation in female hockey.

No formal action was taken on these items.

4. Policy and Procedures Updates

A. Terminology Change – “Tryout” to “Selection Skate”

Amanda presented a proposed change to NWAHA Policy & Procedures to replace the term “**tryout**” with “**selection skate**.” Proposal had been previously sent to board members for the 14 day review. No changes were suggested.

The change was discussed in relation to families utilizing Education Freedom Account (EFA) funds and the need for NWAHA terminology to accommodate families seeking reimbursement through the EFA program.

Motion: Amanda moved to replace the term “tryout” with “selection skate” throughout applicable NWAHA Policy & Procedures documents. 2nd: Trevor Kuenz

Vote: Motion passed.

Action: The terminology will be updated in applicable NWAHA policies and procedures.

B. EFA Policy

Amanda presented a proposed formal EFA policy for inclusion in the NWAHA P&P.

The proposed policy would establish that NWAHA will not accept direct EFA payments and that families will be responsible for seeking reimbursement from the State through the appropriate EFA process.

Following discussion, the Board determined that additional time was needed for review and feedback.

Motion: A motion was made to consider the proposed EFA policy following a 14-day review period (ending 9/12//26).

Disposition: **TABLED.**

Action: Board members will review the proposed EFA policy and provide feedback prior to the next consideration and vote.

5. Accounting Software Committee

Amanda recommended that NWAHA evaluate the use of formal accounting software rather than continuing to rely primarily on Excel spreadsheets. Discussion focused on improving financial recordkeeping, historical reporting, organization, and scalability as NWAHA continues to grow.

Trevor Kuenz volunteered to assist with researching nonprofit accounting software options.

Action: An accounting software committee was established consisting of:

- Christian Keener
- Gloria Liu
- Trevor Kuenz
- Amanda Rumancik

The committee will research cost-effective accounting software options appropriate for a nonprofit organization and provide recommendations to the Board at the October 2026 Board meeting.

6. Treasurer and Registration Report

Treasurer Gloria Liu reported an **August ending balance of \$172,794.16.**

The Board discussed the anticipated September ice-rate increase and its financial impact on the organization.

Registration numbers were reviewed across the various age groups. Overall registration was reported to be slightly higher than the previous year.

The Treasurer also raised concerns regarding outstanding registration payments and recommended that NWAHA establish a formal timeline and process for handling past-due accounts.

No formal action was taken regarding the past-due account process.

7. Equipment – Game Sheets iPads

Secretary Rebecca Roeder presented a proposal for NWAHA to purchase **seven iPads** to meet new MoHockey requirements for traveling teams using the Game Sheets application. The application requires devices capable of operating **iOS 15 or newer**.

The estimated cost for seven engraved iPads was approximately **\$4,500**.

Gloria Liu noted that the organization may have some unallocated funds due to additional registrations for the year, which could be used for the purchase without utilizing funds held in CDs.

The Board discussed appropriate security and usage controls for the devices. Members discussed utilizing Apple's built-in Screen Time and account restrictions, including "kid account" settings, rather than purchasing a third-party monitoring service such as Bark.

Motion – Purchase of iPads

Motion: Rebecca Roeder moved for NWAHA to purchase seven iPads, including engraving for organizational property identification, for use with the Game Sheets application. 2nd: Jeremiah Foster

Amendment: The motion was amended to include investigating Apple insurance or other appropriate insurance coverage for loss or damage to the devices.

Vote: Motion passed.

Action: NWAHA will proceed with the purchase of seven engraved iPads and investigate available insurance options.

Equipment Checkout Policy

The Board also discussed the need for a formal process governing possession, use, checkout, and responsibility for NWAHA-owned iPads.

Action: An equipment checkout policy will be drafted and distributed to the Board for a **14-day review period**.

8. Fundraising and Concessions

Jerry Walls provided an update on the current online fundraising campaign.

The campaign had generated approximately **\$11,075 in gross proceeds**, with an average of approximately **\$246.11 per active participant**. The summary also reported approximately **\$8,860 in net proceeds** to date. Grand prize is an autographed Dallas Stars Jersey.

The fundraising objective is to help offset the anticipated **approximately \$23,000 increase in Jones Center ice fees** for the upcoming year and minimize the impact of those increases on player dues.

The Board discussed additional revenue opportunities, including:

- Corporate sponsorships.
- Concession opportunities.
- Team fundraising opportunities.

Jerry Walls proposed allowing teams to utilize Razorback concession opportunities as individual team fundraisers.

The Board discussed the need to continue identifying sustainable revenue sources to help control future increases in registration fees.

No final action was recorded regarding the Razorback concession proposal.

9. Registrar Report

Registrar Julie Weathers reminded team managers that players must be listed on **SAHA-approved rosters** in order to be permitted on team benches or in locker rooms.

No formal action was taken.

10. Hockey Operations / Player Development

Greg Betzold reported positive progress with player development clinics and coaching sessions.

8U

Trevor Kuenz reported strong participation and engagement within the 8U program.

Scheduling challenges were discussed, particularly the impact of early-morning and late-night ice times on younger players and families.

No formal action was taken.

Rec

Lacy reported strong attendance and participation within the Rec program and thanked travel coaches for their assistance in filling Rec teams who were attending friendlies.

No formal action was taken.

High School

Nick Schroeder reported coaching changes within the High School program (coach Mike Sullivan to move to coach UofA D3 team) and provided an update regarding upcoming games against teams from Texas and Wichita.

No formal action was taken

11. Goalie Play-Up Framework

Jeremiah presented a request regarding a potential **one-time variance** that would allow an 8U goalie to play up on a declared **10U C3 team** due to the team's lack of a dedicated goalie.

The Board discussed:

- Player safety.
- Developmental considerations.
- The appropriateness of allowing a younger goalie to participate at a higher age level.
- Whether the proposed exception would be consistent with existing SAHA guardrails.
- The potential precedent created by approving an individual exception.
- Expectations and implications for coaching staff.

Following discussion, the Board determined that rather than immediately approving a specific player to play up, a formal framework should first be developed for goalie-specific play-up situations.

Motion: A motion was made to develop a formal proposal establishing a goalie-specific framework for a one-time play-up variance. 2nd: Rebecca Roeder

Amendment: The motion was amended to focus on also developing the framework rather than granting an immediate variance to a specific player.

Vote: Motion passed.

Action: Jeremiah will draft a proposed goalie-specific play-up framework and distribute it to the age-group representatives for review and feedback before the Board considers final approval.

The proposed framework will also be evaluated for consistency with existing SAHA requirements and guardrails.

12. Upcoming Games, Ice, and Events

Rebecca Roeder provided information regarding upcoming NWAHA home games and social media updates related to declaration games.

Trevor Kuenz requested that a centralized list of NWAHA home games be made available to help promote attendance and encourage families to support youth hockey throughout the organization. Rebecca to include a visual to be posted at the Jones Center.

September 27 Round-Robin Games

Lacey Maybee was assigned to send Angela one additional follow-up regarding the September 27 round-robin games.

Action: If there is no response, Lacey will notify the Board so the available ice time can be reassigned.

Girls Hockey Clinic

The Board discussed the need to identify potential ice dates and hours for an upcoming girls hockey clinic.

Action: Requested dates and the number of ice hours needed will be provided to Rebecca Roeder so ice availability can be checked.

13. Georgia Game Concessions

The Board discussed the need for volunteers for the Georgia game concession stand.

Action: Five volunteers are to be confirmed, with the response provided by Friday.

14. October Board Meeting

The Board discussed the upcoming October Board meeting, which is scheduled to be held in person.

Action: Meeting details will be communicated to Board members and participants in advance.

15. Action Items Summary

Action Item	Responsible Party	Due/Follow-Up
Follow up with Angela regarding September 27 round-robin games	Lacy Bright	Notify Board if no response
Purchase seven engraved iPads	Rebecca / Gloria Liu	Following Board approval
Investigate Apple/device insurance	Rebecca / Gloria Liu	With iPad purchase
Draft iPad equipment checkout policy	Assigned/Board	14-day Board review
Research nonprofit accounting software	Christian Keener, Gloria Liu, Trevor Kuenz	October Board meeting
Confirm five Georgia game concession volunteers	Assigned	Friday
Provide girls clinic dates and ice-hour needs to Rebecca	Assigned	As soon as available
Communicate October in-person meeting details	Board/Secretary	In advance of meeting
Draft goalie-specific play-up framework	Jeremiah	Prior to future Board consideration
Distribute goalie framework to age representatives for feedback	Jeremiah	Following draft completion

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, **Rebecca Roeder moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:30 pm

Non-Board Attendees:

Andrew Bauer

Kaci Burgess

Amanda Fisher

Nick Rumancik

Blake Herrmann

Scot Montie

Garrett McClendon

Jet Cubbington

Steven Prien

Michael Hudson

Eddie Felber

Yuna Lee

Hanna Jensen

Shelby Kuenz

Katie Keim

Colleen Houston

America Parmer

Juluana Sullivan

Adam Axthlem

Kevin Bennoch

Eric B

Morgan Schroeder

PT

DB