

K.Y.H.C. Executive Board Minutes

8/10/2026

- I. Call to Order: 6:31 PM
 - a. Present-Corinne Zagorski, Amanda Tatro, Lisa Paschall, Kari Jamicich, Aaron Pitts
 - b. Present via phone – Sarah Williams
 - c. Absent – Adam Koronkowski
- II. Proceeding Meeting Minutes
 - a. Approved
- III. Financial Report
 - a. Approved
- IV. Coyote Report (Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam)
 - a. Registration has officially wrapped up! We are excited to have the following numbers for the upcoming season:
 - i. 13 Mites
 - ii. 16 Squirts
 - iii. 14 Peewees
 - iv. 15 Bantam
 - b. Practices begin September 9th and 10th. The current practice schedule will be:
 - i. Mites: Mondays & Wednesdays
 - ii. Squirts: Mondays & Wednesdays
 - iii. Peewees: Mondays & Thursdays
 - iv. Bantams: Tuesdays & Thursdays
 - c. Team pictures will be held October 26th & 27th. More information regarding specific times will be sent out.
 - d. We are lucky to have Coach Ryan from Goalies Inc. back with us again this year! Coach Ryan will be conducting 10 goalie training sessions throughout the season. There will also be opportunities for players to rotate through and participate as shooters during these sessions.
 - e. Emails will be sent out tonight or tomorrow with:
 - i. Coach assignments
 - ii. Practice times
 - iii. Goalie practice information
 - iv. Days with no practice
 - v. Picture Day information
 - f. There is a pre-season skate on Saturday, August 22nd with three sessions:
 - i. Bantam & High School: Checking clinic/refresher
 - ii. Bantam & High School: Practice session
 - iii. Peewee & Squirt: Practice session
 - g. Jersey and sock orders have been placed. Jacket orders will be submitted tomorrow

V. Peewees & Bantams — CSDHL Update

- a. Kari attended a CSDHL meeting on Saturday and was given several upcoming dates and important pieces of information.
 - i. September 6th: Our teams should officially appear on the CSDHL website.
 - ii. September 9th–12th: Scheduling will take place.
 - iii. September 18th: Games can begin as early as this date.
 - iv. October 18th: All 6 declaration games must be completed by this date.
 - v. October 21st–25th: Regular season schedule is expected to be finalized.
 - vi. October 30th: Regular season begins.
 - vii. January 30th / February 6th: Regular season is expected to end, depending on tiering.
 - viii. Early February: Playoffs will take place over the first few weekends. Please note that the playoffs are not guaranteed.
 - ix. The regular season will consist of 20 games.

VI. Mites & Squirts — NWHL Update

- a. We don't have much information yet regarding dates for the Mites and Squirts. There is an NWHL Zoom meeting August 18th, where Kari will find out more about:
 - i. Any rule changes for the upcoming season
 - ii. Scheduling dates
 - iii. Other important league information

VII. Irish Report

- a. As of the last Illinois West meeting on July 29th, Varsity will have 16 teams, and they are anticipating JV 15-18 teams (waiting on evals for final determination). Tiering will be released around August 24 so that teams can begin scheduling that week.
- b. Season games will start as early as the weekend of September 12 with all regular season games being completed by January 23rd.
- c. All Star games and All conference games will be scheduled for January 24th at Fifth Third Arena in Chicago this year.
- d. Playoffs will start the week of January 29th and be the same set up as years past dependent on West Cup or McKeague Cup placement.
- e. Illinois West has sent out the zero-tolerance form for the season. Lisa will have paper copies for players and their parents to sign at the first practice. Please return these to the next practice.
- f. Illinois West did clarify their suspension and fines policy for this season as well. If a parent/spectator is thrown out of a game, IL West will assess a 3-game suspension on top of the AHAI 5 game suspension. Fines are as follows:
 - i. First suspension: \$100 (5) AHAI games/ at least (3) West games (if offense was during a league game).
 - ii. Second suspension: \$500 fine and one year suspension.
 - iii. Third suspension: \$1,000 fine and permanent suspension.

- g. Irish roster has a total of 17 skaters and 1 goalie, with one skater being a part time/dual roster player. Coaches will remain: Head Coach - Mark Calahan, Assistant coaches - Elliot Kraft and Matt Zagorski
- h. Reminder that all 2008 and 2009 birth year players need to complete their SafeSport training prior to the first Irish practice. This link can be found on the KYHC website as well as USA Hockey's website. Thank you to those that have already completed it.
- i. All jerseys, socks, jackets, and bags are ordered and should be in by the beginning of September. Shells will be passed out with the jerseys, if not earlier.
 - i. Once the new players receive their shells, any returning players will have the option to purchase any of the remaining shells if they like.
- j. Irish practices will start August 24. On ice practice is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursdays from 7-8:30pm until September 8th. Starting September 10th, Irish will start weight room at 7pm, (chalk talk if needed) and on ice practice will be 8:45-10:15pm on Tuesday and Thursdays. We realize the frustration with practices now being pushed back 15 minutes later than last year, but this solution is in response to the ice availability we received from Ice Valley and our desire to still offer both our Coyote Bantams and Irish full 90 min practices each night.
- k. Crossbar chats are now open on the app. Please watch for any schedule updates as we prepare to get the season started.
- l. Lisa has received a mockup, from our contact at Jerrys, for a hoodie replica (as close as he could get it) of our Irish dark jerseys. This would be available to any parents or players. We need a minimum order of 12 since it is a new style. (Future orders can be any number and will only be an extra fee if ordering 3 or less.) The cost will be \$77 each with no extra charge for personalization on the back. Lisa will assess interest and communicate details.

VIII. Ice Valley Center Updates

- a. Ice Valley was invited but unable to attend this meeting. Rachael Click, the new Superintendent of Recreation, has shown great interest in working with us and will be attending future meetings.
- b. Ice Valley has recently opened after completing their biannual maintenance and is offering some drop in programing. Staffing for Ice Vally in August can be a challenge as they share responsibilities with Splash Valley. As Splash Valley winds down, we can expect more programing available at Ice Valley. Sarah has had a few meetings with the new administration and has high hopes of improvements to the scheduling of hockey programming. KYHC is following, sharing, and monitoring Facebook feedback on Ice Valley social media posts. We see that the community is asking for additional hockey programs such as Stick and Puck and Drop-in Hockey. The rink is currently recruiting coaching and additional staff.
- c. As a reminder, KYHC programming is not a park district run program. We rent available ice from the park district to run our practice programing. Programs like Learn to Skate, Hockey Academy, Drop-in, and Stick and Puck are scheduled, offered, and run by the park district.

IX. Fundraising Committee Updates

a. Family Fundraising:

- i. The Laundry Soap Fundraiser is underway, and families are encouraged to share and promote the sale. The instruction sheet includes the pay out details as you earn more for certain products. Assuming we sell at least 150 units, families may earn up to \$12 on an item. We are hoping to sell at least 150 units as this will qualify you for free shipping. So far between 50-60 units have sold.
- ii. The Hockey Fantasy sweepstakes will launch at the end of September. They have secured Sport Clips for a local vendor on the coupon and are reaching out to other businesses. We are currently looking into online ordering options for this fundraiser.

b. Club Fundraising:

- i. A request was submitted to Dick's sporting goods to be granted the opportunity to apply for a grant. They'll review the request and basic information and decide if they feel we are well suited to receive the formal application.
- ii. There are 2 grants specific to Kankakee through the River Valley Foundation. We hope to apply for one that is most applicable.
- iii. The committee will be pursuing club level sponsors; they will be careful to not approach businesses that have been known to support families during the ad book sales.

c. Ad Book:

- i. We will continue to offer the Ad Book. Updates coming.

X. Marketing and Promotions Committee Updates

- a. No updates at this time.

XI. Highschool Partnership Committee Updates

- a. The committee has begun communication for the 2026-2027 season and kicking off the season. We hope to hear updates from each school.
 - i. Students from Bishop McNamara will be announced and participate in their Fall Preview Night. We have also been asked to provide information for their Winter Media Catalogue to spotlight the Kankakee Irish Hockey Club.
- b. This is a reminder that as a combined high school team we are required by AHAI to have a subcommittee for the Irish team. AHAI asks that each school of our combined hockey team has one parent serving on this board that has a high school aged player from that school. We are still in need of a volunteer to represent the following schools: Clifton Central and Reed Custer. If you are interested in representing one of these schools, please reach out to either volunteer@kankakeehockey.com
- c. We still need jpegs for Clifton Central and Reed Custer. If we do not receive these image files, we will unfortunately be unable to provide a patch for these schools.

- d. The committee is reviewing whether or not they will be ordering patches or stickers.

XII. Unfinished Business

- a. Due to lack of interest and no registered goalie, we were unable to field a Midget team. Lisa has communicated this cancelation with any family that had registered a player for the Midget team or double rostered as Irish and Midget.

XIII. New Business

- a. None

XIV. Public Comment

- a. It was noted that Ice Valley schedules are difficult to find.
- b. A comment was also made in regard to the late Irish practice schedule. The time slot this year has been moved back 15 minutes later. Once Ice Valley concluded the scheduling of their programing, we were given ice time to create our practice schedule. In order to schedule all teams with the same amount of ice time for practice, and ice cuts between practices, this is the best way we were able to work out. These times are set for the season. Members are welcome to attend KVPD meetings to raise their concerns with the park district.

XV. Next Meeting

- a. 6:30 PM on Thursday, September 10th at Ice Valley

XVI. Adjournment

- a. 7:21 PM