

FALLS REC HOCKEY BOARD MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Date	September 23, 2026	Location	Dryland Facility
Scheduled Time	7:00 p.m.	Called to Order	7:10 p.m.
Meeting Called By	Josh G.	Secretary	Robb P.
Absent	Jerad Kostiuk	Adjournment	Time not stated

Members Present: Leif Larsen, Tawna Hilfer, Robb Pastor, Ryan Rudd, Adam Claybundy, Derek Bilben, Josh Glashauckas, and Jared Baldwin.

Others Present: Tony Palm, David Eddy, Joanne Kellner, and Jeff Rousseau.

1. Gambling Report

Tony Palm presented the August lawful gambling report. August gross receipts were approximately \$29,827, about \$8,000 higher than the comparable prior-year month discussed. Paper pull-tabs continued to lead activity. Year-to-date gross receipts were approximately \$56,298 compared with \$46,161 for the prior-year period.

Motion: Robb Pastor moved, seconded by Leif Larsen, to approve the gambling report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was informed that a \$500 fine had been assessed related to perpetual inventory recordkeeping at Border Bar. The process has been corrected, including improved documentation of games placed into and removed from inventory. The fine was paid from the general account. An update was also provided on licensing paperwork for the bowling alley gambling location; corrected paperwork was being re-signed and resubmitted with a target of beginning operations October 1.

2. Treasurer Report

July 2026

Jared Baldwin presented the July Treasurer Report. Deposits totaled \$21,614.40 and expenses totaled \$10,805.32, resulting in positive monthly activity of \$10,809.08. The July 31 bank balance was \$141,876.87; the ledger/checkbook balance was \$137,259.77 due to outstanding checks.

Motion: Leif Larsen moved, seconded by Adam Claybaugh, to approve the July Treasurer Report. Motion carried unanimously.

August 2026

August deposits totaled \$3,850.00 and expenses totaled \$4,146.51, resulting in negative monthly activity of \$296.51. The August 31 bank balance was \$141,473.26 and the ledger/checkbook balance was \$136,963.26 due to outstanding checks.

Motion: Adam Claybaugh moved, seconded by Derek Bilben, to approve the August Treasurer Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional discussion covered tournament sanctioning expenses, registration refunds, Mini Mite refunds, upcoming insurance expenses, and tournament payments. The Board noted that the association remained in a sound cash position while anticipating increased seasonal expenditures.

3. Director of Hockey Operations / Old Business

Concessions Plan

Joanne Kellner discussed concessions operations and plans to provide monthly updates. The Board discussed providing appropriate Crossbar permissions so she can manage volunteer sign-ups and adjust concession staffing. Joanne will also organize and clean concession areas before the season and use a sign-in process to document volunteer hours.

The Board discussed improving sales and cash controls through point-of-sale systems while continuing to accept cash. One system will be placed at Kerry Park and one at Bronco, with cash boxes and transaction tracking.

Motion: Derek Bilben moved, seconded by Tanner Hilfer, to purchase two point-of-sale systems with cash boxes, one for Kerry Park and one for Bronco, for a total cost not to exceed \$2,400. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board also supported adding a security camera in the Kerry Park concession area using the association's existing camera account.

Kerry Park / City Fee and Long-Term Arena Management

The previously approved proposal regarding Kerry Park fees and long-term arena management was sent to the City for consideration. The proposal represents a 66% increase over the amount historically paid by the association. The Board will await the City's response and continue negotiations as needed.

Minnesota Wild Grant / Mini Mite Registration Fees

Mini Mite registration fees were removed and refunds were issued consistent with the Minnesota Wild grant. At the time of the meeting, 36 Mini Mite players were registered, compared with 45 the prior year. The Board agreed to wait until registration is more complete before transferring the applicable grant amount into the general account so the final participant count can be documented accurately.

Registration and Team/Coaching Update

Total registration was reported at 128, approximately 32 below the prior year at the same point. The Board reviewed projected numbers at the 10U, 12U, Squirt, Pee Wee, and Bantam levels, including goalie availability and possible player movement between levels. The Board's emphasis was on maintaining viable teams while protecting player development and using on-ice evaluation before making placement decisions.

David Eddy will serve as the Pee Wee A head coach. Additional assistant and head coaching needs remain under review. The coaching staff meeting was confirmed for Wednesday, September 30 at 5:30 p.m.

Goalie Clinic / Scheduling

Weekly goalie development sessions with Brady Hjelle were confirmed for Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at Bronco once ice is available. Tournament scheduling and sanctioning responsibilities were reported as being handled and may be removed from future old-business agendas. The previously discussed leadership webinar will not proceed and may also be removed.

4. New Business

Team Assessments

The Board discussed replacing equal per-team assessments with an equal per-player allocation to better account for differences in roster size.

Motion: Robb Pastor moved, seconded by Ryan Rudd, to allocate \$8,000 in team assessment support across the 12U, Pee Wee A, Pee Wee B, and Bantam teams on an equal per-player basis. Motion carried unanimously.

Unworked Concession Hours

The existing \$40 charge for unworked concession hours remains in effect.

Try Hockey for Free / Girls Hockey Outreach

The Board discussed the national girls hockey promotional weekend in October and the possibility of holding a girls-focused or combined recruitment event on another date due to ice and clinic conflicts. This item will remain on old business for follow-up.

Practice Schedule

The Board reviewed the proposed regular-season practice schedule. For the early-season period, practices may be condensed and combined by age level to accommodate temporary high school ice needs. Monday skill sessions will remain intact. Mighty Mite Saturday morning ice will be used primarily as game-day ice rather than an additional practice.

Checking Clinic

The checking clinic was confirmed for October 14 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., subject to final confirmation with the instructor.

Policy Update

The Board reviewed previously circulated policy revisions and approved the changes by the required two-thirds vote. The updated policy will be signed, scanned, distributed, and uploaded. The Board noted that mouthguard requirements are already addressed through Minnesota Hockey requirements and did not need to be duplicated in the association policy.

Referee Clinic and Recruitment

The referee clinic was confirmed for Sunday, October 11, with classroom instruction beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Dryland Facility and on-ice instruction at 2:00 p.m. at Kerry Park. Participants must register with USA Hockey as officials and bring required equipment. The association will provide pizza.

The Board discussed referee registration costs and possible reimbursement incentives, particularly for new officials, but did not adopt a reimbursement policy. The item was tabled for additional discussion. A referee communication group will be established to assist with scheduling.

Tryouts / Evaluations

Pee Wee tryouts/evaluations will be held October 13 and 14, with the Hibbing event also used as part of the evaluation process. An initial roster reduction may occur before Hibbing, with final decisions following that event. Squirt players will continue skating together and be evaluated into November, with the November 14–15 weekend discussed as part of the final evaluation period.

Equipment Pickup

Equipment pickup timing remains to be finalized. The Board discussed October 23 as a possible date and will confirm logistics.

Other Financial Matter

The Board noted that a certificate of deposit is maturing and that options for reinvestment or other disposition will need to be reviewed.

5. Next Meeting

The next Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

6. Adjournment

Motion: Derek Bilben moved, seconded by Robb Pastor, to adjourn. Motion carried. The adjournment time was 9:00 PM.

Action Items / Follow-Up

- Complete and resubmit corrected bowling alley licensing paperwork with the goal of beginning gambling operations October 1.
- Configure Crossbar permissions for concessions management and establish a documented volunteer-hour sign-in process.
- Purchase and deploy two approved point-of-sale systems with cash boxes, not to exceed \$2,400 total.
- Continue City discussions regarding Kerry Park fees and long-term arena management.
- Finalize Mini Mite participation counts before transferring grant-related registration funds.
- Hold the coaching staff meeting September 30 at 5:30 p.m.
- Finalize the early-season and regular-season practice schedule and publish it in Crossbar.
- Confirm the October 14 checking clinic details with the instructor.
- Conduct the October 11 referee clinic and continue discussion of referee recruitment/reimbursement incentives.
- Finalize Pee Wee and Squirt evaluation schedules and communicate them to families.
- Review options for the maturing certificate of deposit.