

MEETING MINUTES

AHAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING

Date: July 6, 2026,

Time: 6:30 PM

Meeting called to order by: Surrette

IN ATTENDANCE

AHAI Board of Directors: Bolger, Dunne, Surrette, Rancourt, Apter, Johnson, Krausfeldt, Weinberg, Naveja, Lichterman, Cavallini, Jauch, Tuminaro, McGing, Veller, Locallo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved May 3, May 26 and May 30 meeting minutes

Treasure Report

Financial updates showing an overall 2.1% decline in players and a significant IT system development expense have impacted the fiscal year.

Registrar report

Registrar training sessions scheduled for August 5th and 12th at 2PM, with separate sessions planned for different categories including adults, disabled, Tier 1 and Tier 2 youth, and girls, with high school registration to be handled separately.

AHAI Registrar proposed a housekeeping change to AHAI rules to update game count requirements, increasing youth and girls players from 10 to 12 games while keeping high school players at 5 games, and matching the USAH rules.

- board approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee structures

AHAI Committee planning meeting scheduled for August 5th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM to set the organization's annual priorities and discuss committee work.

New committee recap report present and to be updated monthly by committee chair

Growth and retention:

Board discussed the poor growth performance in Illinois compared to the national average, particularly highlighting how the WCHL's decision to leave USA Hockey due to transgender rules will impact future numbers negatively. The group approved creating a growth and retention committee to address these challenges, with plans to partner with USA Hockey and the Blackhawks for a "Try Hockey for Free" event on October 3rd.

HR Committee:

Bolger will chair the AHAI HRE Committee

Board approved contracts for Executive Director, Registrar and Communion's manager

OLD BUSINESS:

- **High School Committee Meeting: June 13, 2026 9:00am**
West Meadows Ice Arena
 - 2026-27 Committee introductions and protocols- I introduced new committee members and discussed structure and meeting decorum.
 - USA Hockey Meeting Recap - Went over the HS meeting from Denver. Discussed how teams are placed for Nationals and How to handle Academy HS requests.
 - State Tournament
 - Discuss dates / Locations -Looking at possible games at Fifth Third for Red
 - Rule Changes- 17 minutes periods for Varsity Combined will start for the 2027 tourney
 - All State Game
 - Set date / Location – Feb 1 at West Meadows
 - Student fan/parent behavior – Discussed ways to control student and Parents at league and state games
 - DePaul Prep update – They're moving along planning on having a JV team for this season one issue is no goalie yet
 - Combined club thoughts – If clubs fold we will try to place players on a combined club.
 - Goalie pool update – This is where we had the most debate. There are very limited goalies out there for the pool so more discussion will take place on this subject ASAP.

Next meeting

Monday August 3, 6:30PM

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:00PM and approved