MEETING MINUTES

AHAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING

Date:	August 3, 2026,
Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting called to order by:	Surrette

IN ATTENDANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved July 6, and July 15 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.

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 Commination's manager

OLD BUSINESS:

- **High School Committee Meeting: July 25:**
  - Reviewed and approved the 2026-27 combined applications and reviewed goalie survey results. All applications were approved. Committee will start working with the clubs in need of goalies this week.
- **Tier 3**
  Committee has not met yet. Chair has been working to get some new members on the committee in order to get some new ideas and new club involvement.
  - Significant Updates: was able to have a long productive call with Tier II Committee Chairs, regarding the relationship between Tier 2 and Tier 3, future plans for NWHL, Northshore and CSDHL. We discussed the out of state player waivers. We also planned to discuss how Plus, Prime teams and CSDHL can work in the future.
  - Current Projects
    - plan to meet with both NWHL and NS leagues to work on common ground to combine leagues for the future. We may actually have to combine 14u this season.
    - Meet with CSDHL to discuss Blue division and future of lower level teams and how it works with NWHL
    - Work with NWHL clubs to develop a Plus league to give programs that are interested in moving to Tier 2 another option that might be a better fit. More details to come
    - Continue to work with Tier 2 committee and CSDHL on the player movement rule
    - Continue to have open and regular communication with Tier 2 committee.
- **IT**
  - Have completed a number of urgent updates to help improve the Member Organization Registrar functionality as they get onboarded this week. Here are a few things that were updated:

  - **2026-27 season data now syncing**
  - USA Hockey flipped the switch for the 2026-27 season on Thursday, so we can now sync to new data. You will now notice that, in the 2026-27 season, a few teams (Mission and Team Illinois) have teams and players syncing into the

new season. You will also notice that there are some new member organizations (like Rockford Girls HS Hockey) that are now in the system.

- **AHAI Affiliate Agreement**
- The new AHAI Affiliate Agreement has been updated for the 26-27 season based on the version most recently sent. They were also able to get the dynamic data in, so the agreement includes the organization name, Registrar name, date, ILH number, etc.

- **Registrars for Multiple Organizations**
- Added the new functionality to allow users with the same email address (username) to manage multiple organizations. New accounts, or accounts already created, can now add another organization to their profile in the "Member Org. Access" area of the Board Portal .

- **Deleting Leadership Positions**
- In a Member Organizations overview page, where it lists leadership positions, the delete functionality for those positions is now active. Leadership profiles can now either be updated in that area or deleted and re-entered as needed.

- tested adding in people as both a Board Admin and Registrar Admin to the leadership area, and they all showed up correctly.

- **Registrar Access Limitations**
- We removed the ability for Registrars to be able to update their Organization Name or Category Type.

- **Registrar Email Notifications**
- If a Member Org. Registrar adds a Registrar to their Leadership positions, then it triggers an Admin email. …

- All of the other items sent to me have been added to future roadmap of updates and improvements.

- In summary, now you can:

    - 1) Add additional Member Organizations to Registrar's accounts
    - 2) Add Registrars to Member Orgs. that are new for the 2026-27 season
    - 3) Delete Leadership contacts as needed and recreate them

Next meeting

Tuesday September 8, 6:30PM

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