

Ely Blue Line Club July/August Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 5th, 2026, 5pm, Grand Ely Lodge

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 5:09pm

ROLL CALL: Jackie B, Tara S, April B, Mataya U, Cade G, Andrea G, Kevin N, Rachael T, Scott K, Anna K, Sam B, Erin M, Amy K, Sandy K, Mary F, Jackie R

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Additions- schedule, sponsorship, website. Deletions- none.

Schedule- April- initial schedule with Babbitt Ice as well as scheduling Ely ice. Also wants to go to the Babbitt Rec Committee meeting and discuss the initial schedule and having at least one game per level in Babbitt in the upcoming season.

Sponsorship- Tara- had them all ready, only mailed a few and was planning to hand deliver the rest- now with the fires affecting our local businesses, she will possibly make a hand written note noting the fires have affected their business and offer what they can.

Website- Mary- website is live- double check, let her know if there are errors. There is space to add info as well.

Mandatory Parent Meeting- Wednesday Sept 23rd, MM & M 6pm then Sq-B at 7pm.

APPROVAL OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES: Motion by Sam B, second Tara, no opposition

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT: Scott- motion of 8 voting members to approve leaving the \$40k in the CD for 6 more months, having made

\$670 from the last 6 months. Motion by Tara S, second by Jackie B, no opposition

TREASURER'S REPORT: Scott- taxes have started

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Rachael- 1st update from district- Squirts MN hockey wants 54/36 net, step up would be for 27-28 season. Mites 5 full ice games after Jan 1, can only leave district 3 times.

Game sheet will now have a fee per game for tournament post \$8.99 per game (?). Will need USA hockey rosters and sanctions. Sammy's pizza helping with District 12 sponsorship- unsure if for district games or just tournaments. B2 tournament in Duluth PW and B must opt out by 12/31. February 19th-21st for District, March 5th-7th for Regions.

Mandatory to fill out the return to play form for concussions, form on the website.

Passed on hosting districts, we will be hosting the PW B Regions tournament. Tournaments should be exhibition games in Game Sheet, not as district games.

Suggestion to increase ref fees by 5%, going into effect for 27-28 season, also if we have swag or player of game to include for officials.

COACHES REPORT: Kevin- not much yet, currently under the assumption most are coming back to coach, found a non-parent Bantam coach Bauer Hogan. Will need an assistant Bantam coach. Tony H and Kevin N for PW, maybe a helper coach, Squirt- Frank U, haven't heard back from John K, or Tyler S. Mites- Kayla & Billy & Joe F, Mini coach, not sure yet. Scott and Andy V can help out wherever needed too if asked. Most of the bases are covered. Will reach out to a few parents and see if they're willing to coach at MM level. Austin, Nick Dunnom, Jen Hayes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

REVIEW POSTED BLUELINE POLICIES- ASSIGN UPDATES TO COORDINATORS AS NEEDED:

Players Code of Conduct- the only question being if there's a mood altering chemical, code of conduct says we follow the MSHSL rules-

would defer to district if needed, especially at higher levels. No changes made to policy, will keep as is.

Parent Code of Conduct- no changes needed to be made.

Play Up Policy- no changes made- parent submits request written or emailed to board with approval of coach.

Scholarship- Scott is adding better language to the form for requesting registration to be covered by the board, and be in good standing with volunteer and fundraising requirements. The executive board discusses and approves the scholarships alone. Question to have sponsorship help cover scholarships- will check more into that.

Goalie Policy- Tara- it has been to register goalie as usual, if goalie plays at least 40% of games in net during season, then registration gets reimbursed at the end of season. One idea by the budget committee was to change goalie policy. Pro's- we provide goalie camp, encouraging kids to be goalies. Cons- if we have two goalies and they're encouraged to skate out as well. Mary- concerned with making sure we have money coming in to cover the money going out. Wanting to be sure we can cover costs.

Amy- how many goalies will this affect? Would there be a way to not have as many sessions for goalie camp? Can we lessen the expense of the goalie clinic, or increase the attendance for it?

Sam- \$3900 to pay for goalie camp, just wanting to make sure we can cover it. If we're more transparent with our costs, or just offer a 50% reimbursement. Wanting to keep the goalie camp for sure.

Erin- goalie camp is priceless, other associations do 50% reimbursement. Also, some goalies are also skaters and cover double equipment.

April- if we change the policy.

Anna- agree with 50% reimbursement, but really have to encourage the goalie to play.

Mataya- what if we rent out goalie equipment? Getting into a bigger headache with sizing and costs of equipment, especially for higher levels Cade can apply for a grant through the United Heroes league to maybe come and mentor.

Last year we reimbursed back \$1200 in goalie registrations, if we do 50% reimbursement that will cut in half.

Motion made by Scott, second by Rachael- no opposition- motion to change reimbursement to 50% for goalies approved.

Fundraising Policy- Leena plans on the same fundraisers as last year. Fundraisers minimum currently is \$400 per family, minimum of \$100 from raffle tickets, or buyout of \$400. Motion made by Scott, second by Sam B, no opposition.

Equipment- voted a couple meetings ago to do free equipment rental. We can do a separate form for a summer rental fee of \$25. Motion by Scott, second by Tara- no opposition.

Volunteer Policy- Mary- last year's plan did not work, we need to change back to hours. Rachael likes going back to hours. Scott- questioning the lesser food options for lower level games. Air fryer used for tournaments and HS games only. Made most with Bob-B-Que.

Motion to change back to hours- Rachael, second Sam.

Eliminate HS goal judge and penalty box from HS games, pending contract with school by Scott, second by Tara, no opposition.

Families at each level to staff their own Howler tournament game sheet and announcement- motion by Rachael second by Scott, no opposition.

All board members and coaches required to write volunteer checks at the start of season- motion by Sam, second by Jackie B, no opposition.

Approve range of hours for volunteers on policy to 22-25 hours for season, final number determined when registration is closed- needs to be completed or signed up by districts, motion by Scott, second by Tara, no opposition.

Change required for volunteer hours non-exempt board members, and 3rd coaches that previously had mandatory hours- motion to keep this as current- motion by Scott, second by Rachael, no opposition.

Change volunteer buyout from \$500 to \$800- Motion to change buyout to \$600 Jackie B, second by Sam- all in favor- no opposition.

If a game is canceled and shift is then canceled what is the deadline for shift counting towards volunteer- 48hours, motion by Rachael second by Anna, all in favor, no opposition.

REFEREE RATES DETERMINED AND FORM UPDATED: No changes in rate for upcoming season????

WATER FOUNTAINS: Kevin- tabled from spring. Sandy applied for a grant through Essentia to help cover cost, also asked FB boosters- it seems the boosters doesn't have additional funds to help cover cost, haven't heard back from them. Is it worth it to reach out for help to find someone to help write a grant request. Assuming the school would write off on the approval for us to install the equipment. \$4900 for back two water fountains and not to worry about the water fountain in front of the building by concessions. Motion to approve \$3k for one water bottle station in back hallway by locker rooms, motion by Jackie B, second by Scott K- no opposition.

OPEN FORUM:

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE/TOPICS: Jackie, Allie, Tara, Sam & Mary met last week to start discussing options to start saving/cutting costs.

QUICKBOOKS UPGRADE: Tara- wants to go to Quickbooks Pro through Tech Soup, it has a budget function that we're looking to. Scott will look into it and see if it's worth it.

POSSIBLE CAP ON HOME GAMES AND AWAY TOURNAMENTS: If adding a home game last minute, try to get all your shifts covered for it.

REGISTRATION: When should we open registration- open by August 12th until Sunday Sept 13th for early bird special of 10% off.

REGISTRATION FEES: Last year registration fees- Bantam \$425, PW \$400, Squirt \$375, M \$300, MM \$250. - currently the registration fees per level cover the games per level. Discussion on possibly increasing to \$450 for Bantams- Motion made to change Bantam to \$450 and leave other levels as is- motion by Jackie B, second by Scott, no opposition.

GOALIE CONTRACT: tabled

APPAREL: Amy has dates ready for submitting apparel orders. If there are specific requests to let her know. Letterman is starting to work on mock ups and dates.

ANNUAL TASK CALENDAR- JULY:

BACK TO SCHOOL PREPARATION FOR ELY/BABBITT/TOWER: Jackie did Babbitt and Sam did Ely last year. Mataya will do this year for Ely and ask Kayla to assist her. Anyone able to do Tower school? Will get flyers ready, either ¼ or ½ sheet. Sam and Mataya for Ely, Jackie and Rachael for Babbitt, Andrea & Cade for Tower.

BEGIN PLANNING ARENA CLEAN UP DAY: table, will check with Terry and post on TR.

SEASON KICK OFF EVENT COMMITTEE SELECTED WITH FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR: reach out to Leena and then the board

CHANGE NAMES ON BANK ACCOUNT TO CURRENT EXECUTIVE BOARD: Rachael needs to be added to account

BEGIN COACHING RECRUITMENT: Kevin already working on that

BEGIN REFEREE RECRUITMENT: Ryan working on it

ARENA STAFF POSITIONS POSTED: will table for Sept and see if we have any vacancies

ARENA STAFF WAGES REVIEW: table for Sept.

ANNUAL TASK CALENDAR- AUGUST:

ARENA STAFF POSITIONS INTERVIEWS: table for Sept

COACHING SELECTION FINALIZATION: Kevin working on

COACHING TRAINING (COMPLETED NOV 1) Kevin working on

PICTURE DAY SET UP: middle of Nov. Rachael will communicate with Allie and then choose a date.

BABBITT ARENA SCHEDULING: April is working on it.

ANNUAL TASK CALENDAR- SEPTEMBER:

ARENA STAFF HIRED (W4, I9, NEW HIRE REPORT, QB ENTRIES)

RINK FEES/AGREEMENTS FOR CHIX/RUSTY'S & HOURLY:

RINK SET UP (LIVEBARN & SQUARE)

SPONSORSHIP FOR ARENA/RENEWAL LETTERS:

ARENA CLEAN UP DAY:

SEASON KICK OFF EVENT:

TRY HOCKEY FOR FREE PREPARATION:

CORRESPONDENCE:

NEXT MEETING: Sept, 2nd at GEL, 5pm

ADJOURN: 7:48pm