CHC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 22, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Secreto, Vice President.

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Motion to approve August meeting minutes: Michael Federico
- Second: Jody Poduje
- **Motion carried.**

President and Vice President

Presented by Stephanie Secreto on behalf of Dawn Bryson.

- Reminded organizations to carefully review contracts and understand participation tiers before signing agreements and paying fees.
- Noted an increase in questions from transferring families regarding commitments and fees.
- President attended the recent District meeting and will provide updates next month.

Secretary

Presented by Shawn Conner.

- No formal report.
- Announced guest presentations from the Hartford Wolf Pack and Sacred Heart University.
- Emphasized that parent concerns should first be addressed through individual programs before escalating to CHC.
- Reminded members that not all hockey-related complaints constitute SafeSport issues and encouraged appropriate use of reporting channels.

Treasurer

Presented by Michael Federico.

- Reviewing tournament cost allocations for the U16 and U18 State Tournament Bound tournaments.
- Programs affected will receive follow-up emails regarding adjusted costs.
- CHC's USA Hockey Triennial Financial Review is scheduled with USA Hockey representatives and auditors.
- Approximately six programs still have outstanding balances from the prior fiscal year.
- All known tournament host payments have been processed.
- Seeking additional ice availability at Avon for future USA Hockey Futures events.

Guest Presentations

Hartford Wolf Pack

Presented by Shea Courtmanche and Erik Hansen.

- Introduced fundraising opportunities for CHC member organizations through Hartford Wolf Pack home games.
- Programs can earn fundraising revenue through ticket sales.
- Announced that the arena will host NCAA Men's Hockey First Round games.
- Shared updates regarding arena improvements and upcoming hockey-related events.

Sacred Heart University Athletics

Presented by Connor Grillo.

- Introduced fundraising and fan-engagement opportunities through Sacred Heart athletics.
- Highlighted group experiences, pre-game player interactions, meet-and-greet opportunities, and ticket fundraising programs.

Tournament Committee

Presented by Sarah Waddle.

- Reminded organizations to enter scores promptly and submit score sheets to division directors.
- Tournament dates are established; age-group assignments are still being finalized.
- Tournament hosting documentation remains under review.
- ADM/Jamboree Committee
- Seeking volunteers for the ADM Jamboree Committee.

Referee-in-Chief

Presented by Jay Noury.

- Thanked programs for improved compliance with helmet and neck guard requirements.
- Current active official count is approximately 525.
- Multiple on-ice seminars completed for Level 1 and Level 2 officials.
- Fighting majors have decreased from 45 to 26 compared with the same point last season.

Disabled Hockey

- Trevor Doyon was unable to attend

Webmaster

- Mike McCullough was unable to attend.

New England District/Team Connecticut

Presented by Sarah Fraser.

- Team Connecticut tryout registration will open soon.
- Organizations are asked to help distribute tryout information directly to eligible families.

Girls/Women's Hockey

Presented by Brett Farson.

- Operational work ongoing with Jen.
- Festival tryout dates and development programs are being planned for early next year.
- A Women's Hockey Leadership Program is upcoming.

Marketing

Presented by Ken Dixon.

- Working with the Executive Board to improve communication and gather feedback from membership.
- Developing improved email distribution lists and marketing outreach.

Coaching Education Program

Presented by Marisa Berti.

- Recent Level 1 clinic hosted 54 coaches.
- Additional clinics scheduled across Levels 1–4.
- Coaches must complete certification requirements by **December 31, 2026**.
- Mid-season compliance checks will begin in October.

Registrar

Presented by Mary Turner and Kendra Tompkins.

- Affiliate agreements exist with MA, RI, NY, NJ, Eastern PA, and DE.
- Players from other affiliates require approved affiliate waivers.
- Programs should communicate directly with families to reduce unnecessary escalation of routine issues.
- Coaches and players must be properly rostered before participating.
- Coaches must sign score sheets prior to games to verify roster accuracy.
- Managers should continue submitting score sheets as required.

District Commissioners

Presented by Stefanie Mount.

- Coaches and organizations should assume player suspensions are in effect following ejections until clarified.
- Failure to receive notification does not excuse use of a suspended player.
- Programs were reminded to monitor conduct and ensure suspended players do not participate improperly.

Eligibility Committee

Presented by Mary Turner.

Committee reviewed three requests:

1. Medical play-down request denied due to lack of medical basis.
2. Mite play-up request approved consistent with CHC policy.
3. Temporary goalie shortage request approved on a limited basis.

Discussion also addressed rules governing mite play-ups and goalie exceptions.

SafeSport

Message provided by James Carney.

Programs were reminded:

- Social media activity reflects on players, teams, and organizations.
- Players should not promote dangerous hits, unsportsmanlike conduct, or inappropriate behavior online.
- Coaches and organizations should address concerning content when brought to their attention.
- Responsible social media use should be emphasized across all programs.

Old Business

Tryout Committee

- Committee completed initial recommendations.
- Formal proposal forthcoming after tournament planning activities are completed.

Girls Rule Change Proposal

- Discussion remains tabled pending additional information and bylaw updates.

Bylaw Revisions

- Special discussion session scheduled for **October 13, 2026**.
- Members encouraged to review proposed bylaws and submit questions in advance.
- Survey will be distributed to collect member feedback.

New Business

Electronic Game Sheets

Discussion led by Michael Federico regarding potential adoption of electronic game sheets.

Discussion points:

- Estimated cost is approximately $8 per game.
- Potential annual cost is around $80,000.

- Benefits include automated roster verification, discipline tracking, and administrative efficiencies.
- Survey will be developed to gather member feedback and assess Wi-Fi availability.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Michael Federico Second: Shawn Conner
- **Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:03 PM.**

Upcoming Dates

- **Special Bylaw Meeting:** October 13, 2026
- **Next CHC Board Meeting:** October 27, 2026