

# Blackhawk Hockey Association

## Board Meeting

April 8th, 2026

7:00pm

**Board Members Present:** Allie Carroll, Ryan Anderson, Sarah Lokken, Rachel Spence, Amanda Sprague, Mitchell Klopp, Mike Brandenburg, Maysa Coty, Kevin Kiemen, Jake Durand, Megan Wolf, Lucas Trickle, Jodi Volgren

**Board Members Absent:**

**Others Present:** Ryan Lindquist, Peter Di Salvo

**Call to Order:** 7:02 pm

**Secretary's Report:** N/A

*Motion to approve secretary's report*

*Motion: Rachel Spence 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lucas Trickle All in Favor - Passed*

**Treasurer's Report:**

1. Checking as of 3/31 = \$109,605. Decrease of \$41,735 from same point last year. The Capital Improvement Fund has been removed since the funds were used for the flooring (1/2 paid to date, which was \$36,000)
2. Bank Loan - Paid in Full. Decrease of \$9,283 from same point last year.
3. Accounts Receivable 3/31= \$11,500
  - Need to make some updates. Chippewa Steel invoice amount is overstated as they made some changes to their rentals. We also have a couple of companies (i.e. Phoenix) that should be removed as they are no longer advertising with us.
4. Financials report are a off Due to Village account. The bank erroneously deposited our rent check to the village, back into our account. It is being corrected in April. (Therefore our bank account is really \$4k less than indicated)

*Motion to approve financial reports.*

*Motion: Amanda Sprague 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sarah Lokken All in Favor - Passed*

## Old Business

**Shooting Room:** Updates on progress- door has been installed. Key pad is also installed. It was \$300 out of the \$4k budget. We have some good momentum and things are getting going.

**Annual Banquet:** Rachel update. Total spent was \$3,933, the budget was \$5k. We had almost \$1k in donations. \$2,945 was actually spent after the donations. For the future it would be good to split out Mites. We can tailor prizes to Mites and do more for

them. We can also promote it for Mites and all of the kids don't have the attention span for the 4 hours Banquet.

Also discussed doing something to include River Falls specific blackcats as well, especially with teams that are mainly Baldwin.

Next year is also the last year that Rachel will be helping. Will need someone else to run point so she can hand it off, it is the last year she will be doing it.

**Mindy R Memorial Bench:** Plaque Update. Will order the plaque we agreed on.

**A.W. Court:** Sentencing hearing and work hours discussion.

We discussed what we are going to do if he breaks the rules. If there are any conversations about the case, discussing concerns with the association or members of the association with involvement in the case, or engages negatively with anyone in the association. The decision was that if anyone hears or sees him breaking those rules we need to write up an incident report and submit to Probation.

We also discussed work hours and what we should do. We were going to revisit it when the case is settled. There were conversations about still reducing their family work hours in half since he can only be in the rink during games and practices for his son.

*Motion to reduce to half hours*

*Motion: Lucas Trickle 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kevin Kiemen All in Favor - 11 pass and 2 no*

**Rubber Flooring:** Update on removal and install. Starting May 4th will remove rubber flooring. They will start installing on the 20th of May and it will take about a week to finish it.

**Cross Bar:** Mary Ann and Mike meeting with Cross Bar on Monday. We have signed the agreement. Whoever is the next treasurer will need to do some updates to update their name for payment, etc. They already have some things set up. Our next registration, Hawk camp, etc. will run through it. SportsEngine is paid through October so we are good, if something comes up.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Peter Di Salvo:** Attended meeting and presented on goalie coaching and what he could offer BHA. Has lived in Baldwin for over a year. Was with MEGA for the last 3+ years. He is now starting his own business. He has been running his U16/U18 program out of our rink and is how he got connected to us. He has significant time solely as a goalie coach, including working with the New York Islanders goalie coach. He also played goalie at an advanced level as well.

Peter has a Mite goalie camp in Chippewa and feels it is beneficial to help get them going on it. He does some work at our rink with Omega on Wednesdays.

To figure out a program and approximate cost he would need additional details. (# of goalies, # of weeks of practice, do we want HS included, etc.) He would also highly encourage us to have some skaters come out and be shooters. He would like to run some programs here. A lot of his programs are currently in Chippewa. He could likely do more during the association season.

His non-compete clause with MEGA would have no impact in working with us, since we have not worked with MEGA as an association. However some research would need to be done if he can work with the Blackcats since MEGA works with RFYHA.

We discussed the need to have goalie coaches at practices. Peter recommended having a goalie clinic every week, and he can go to at least 1-2 practices a week. Have at least 20 minutes of dedicated time. If it is split ice with multiple goalies then he would recommend at least 30 minutes to get more game time. Clinics usually give them the most benefits. Wednesdays would be the best, working with them at practice isn't usually the most valuable.

If a coach from every team can come to the goalie clinic it can help them understand what they can incorporate into their practices. If they have questions about drills he is willing to provide the details. If coaches come out he makes the stations simple where they can do it.

He has other goalie coaches that he can pay to help fill in as well. They will be people that know how to coach and not just play.

HS will have 3 goalies, Bantam 1, PeeWee 3-4, Squirt 2-3, we only have 3 sets of goalie gear for Mites. That would be 12-14 goalies for the Blackhawk boys teams.

Ideally if he would set up a program for our association he would want to do a weekly Clinic. He would recommend having a Mite hour and then Squirt and up. Otherwise Mite and Squirt together and everyone else. Then have 3-6 team practices during the course of the year, which would be 30 minutes. The clinics would have the most benefit.

He is very close to Brian's goalie gear and can reach out to see what they can do to help get more Mite goalie gear. With USA hockey he can also connect with Bauer to try getting more goalie gear.

It has been a while since we have had a dedicated goalie coach. We used to have a hybrid model set up. At the time we paid half and the HS paid half. They mainly spent time with the HS and expected the rest of the goalies to hang with them. Then Ryan L took it over and had Tony Wersal help. We would have former HS goal tenders come out and help. Then goalies have been doing well

and went to player development. Most recently we have been hosting Goalie dedicated practices once a week. We have been paying Zach Bresina \$700 a year to do the coaching for that.

Overall we have a good grasp at getting goalies interested at a young age and they have performed well right away. Our goal should be to have 2 goalies at every level as that will help push and provide a competitive edge. Goalies need to be good athletes and can be a lot of fun, but keeping them there is tough. We are also losing some goalies by not meeting their needs for development.

We will have more discussion and get Peter our goalie numbers so we can get a quote from him.

**Election of Officers:**

Nominate and vote on seated positions for '26-'27.

For the treasurer role would like to pay the outgoing treasurer to work on the back-end of things. It would be a several month transition and he would help with that.

*Nomination to elect as President Ryan Anderson*

*All in Favor - Passed*

*Nomination to elect as Vice President Rachel Spence*

*All in Favor - Passed*

*Nomination to elect as Treasurer Allie Carroll*

*All in Favor - Passed*

*Nomination to elect as Secretary Sarah Lokken (Megan Wolf will help with DIBs)*

*All in Favor - Passed*

**Winter Work Hours:**

Review invoices that still need to be paid. Have been working with Lea. Have sent a message to all families that still owe for Winter work hours. We still have 16 families that haven't paid or responded to us.

Some people are not getting the invoice or any e-mails from SportsEngine. They should have received 4 e-mails from them.

Will send another e-mail tomorrow and if not getting e-mails from SportsEngine to reach out to us. We can also split it up and help. Can also check with IT contact to find out what might be going on.

**Reduce Work Hour Request:** Discuss mite family: Waller. Came out of LTS/LPH and mother was wavering on what to do. It was discussed that we would help them and reduce hours. We

didn't want this the reason they didn't play. However the father was around the rink during the year and not sure what their status is.

*Motion to reduce to half (\$200) for Winter Work check*

*Motion: Jake Durand 2<sup>nd</sup>: Maysa Coty All in Favor - 11 Pass and 2 No*

**Vote: Batteries:**

Previous approved \$11,500. Asking for increased budget approval and provide update. \$13,980 and other batteries were ordered for floor scrub.

We are also applying for a grant for \$10,000 from St. Croix Electric

*Motion to pay an additional \$4,100 to cover the Zam batteries and floor scrubber batteries.*

*Motion: Allie Carroll 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kevin Kiemen All in Favor - Passed*

## COMMITTEES

**Building & Grounds:**

Preparing for ice out and improvement projects like flooring

Did have some discussions with the Village about a 2nd rink. We can't build behind our current building. Potentially beside the rink. At this point we are going to wait to have further conversations until we get a response on our request for funds from the Tourism Commission.

**Coaching:**

Peter Di Salvo attending regarding goalies

**Concessions:**

Lost one vendor. Scott and Ashley have met and they've created a plan. There are going to be some changes to the vendor. The current one got bought out and they are not doing the slushie machine anymore. We got double the amount of slushie mix that we ordered right now. We will continue to use it, but we don't have anyone to service it and there is a chance someone might come by and take it.

**Fundraising:**

Follow up on Syttende Mai prep. Ryan A. will follow up on DIBs by end of this week, if we haven't received the volunteer shifts by then.

We were also offered an opportunity with County Fair to help park cars. We talked through it and it would require a lot of volunteer hours for the weekend and we'd receive around \$4,500. With the amount of volunteer hours that would be needed, compared to the payout we decided that we are not going to do it.

Summer skate now set up a catalogue and we get a 25% kickback for any purchases. It is in Canada, with the tariff they aren't shipping to the US right now. There are also some other apparel companies that get a credit back for all sales. We can look to utilize that for future Hawks apparel orders.

There are also skate skins that can have our Hawks logo. Need to send the specific size of skate and model. Also can get a kickback on this as well.

Met as a golf committee. July 31st it will be hosted. The website is up and active. Registration is already active. Would like to put up DIBs for raffle baskets. There is a lot of random stuff. You walk into Mites and it is all integrated. Looking to do something in conjunction with DIBs.

**Mites & Membership:**

Need to reimburse from jamboree. Someone didn't turn in receipts. At the end of the season we would provide a refund. We are doing a late refund, but it is normally done each year so there isn't anything that needs approval. This is more for awareness

**Scholarship:**

Discuss applicants and recommended amounts to reward. There were 8 applications this year, which is the most we've had. We are asking for \$3,000. 1st place is \$1,250 Landon Veenendahl, 2nd place Dawson Veenendahl \$750, 3rd place is Ian Findlay \$500, and 4th place is Lacey Knowles \$500. May 13th is Baldwin and SCC is May 20th. Trickle should be able to do BW and Ryan A can do SCC.

*Motion to 1st place is \$1,250 Landon Veenendahl, 2nd place Dawson Veenendahl \$750, 3rd place is Ian Findlay \$500, and 4th place is Lacey Knowles \$500*

*Motion: Allie Carroll 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lucas Trickle All in Favor - Passed*

**Finance:**

NA

**RFYA/BHA Girls Co-Op:**

Co-op meeting follow and numbers update. Had an executive meeting. Discussed how the season went with performance of the teams. The girls teams didn't perform very well in D2 and discussed what we can do to improve.

At the U10 level we have at least 3 teams right now between the two associations. With that many teams WAHA might not approve our co-ops. We are proposing not to do a co-op at the 10U level. There is a coaching committee meeting to discuss this further. Coach Cranston is indicating that the Fusion might not still exist in 2 years based on numbers. For other schools they can push/encourage players to play for other programs, etc.

We discussed the possibility to do a 16U team with a JV and Fusion. However we can't force anyone to stay at the youth level and that is part of the challenge to try doing a 16U team, in addition they wouldn't be able to participate in a Wisconsin state tournament.

As far as the co-op and our numbers we carry almost all of the goalies and the numbers are in our favor.

We do want to leave on good terms because numbers can ebb and flow. We might need to come back to co-op again in the future.

There is a chance in 2 years that Fusion may need to split up. Splitting up 10U is a chance to start testing the waters with the ice schedule, etc.

Finally we need to figure out what we are going to do for D2. Will we be in that league or fill our own schedule, this is a conversation we will need to have soon.

**Scheduling:** NA

**Communication/Website:** New website design being created by Cross Bar

### **Board Liaisons**

**D2:** Adam Nelson will remain the D2 liaison.

**Tournament Coordinators:** approve Troy Broker and he is in. Wendy is going to stay as the girls coordinator. May want to change the U14 tourney date, it is always the 2nd week in January. We may need to flip the U10/U12 and the U14 tourney dates. We also have a state tournament this year and hosting the MBC tourney.

*Motion to approve Troy Broker Summer hours to be tournament director. Troy filled in for Deanna this past year, filled out brackets, etc.*

*Motion: Allie Carroll 2<sup>nd</sup>: Amanda Sprague All in Favor - Passed*

**Mite/LPH - Amanda Sprague** NA

**U10 - Ryan Anderson:** NA

**Squirt - Kevin Keimen:** NA

**U12 - Sarah Lokken:** NA

**Peewee - Rachel Spence:** NA

**U14 - Billy Herman:** NA

**Bantam - Lucas Trickle:** NA

**Next Meeting:** May 13th, 2026

**Adjourn:** 8:56 pm *Motion: Lucas Trickle 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ryan Anderson All in favor - passed*