San Luis Valley Youth Hockey Association Monthly Board Meeting Minutes (prelim)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: 128 Market Street, Alamosa, CO 81101

1. Call to Order
   - 6:01 pm

2. Roll Call

In-person: Lindsay Atencio, Chris Gay, Dalton Carleo, Manny Martinez, Monica Sanchez, Alison Artaechevarria, Paul Lecours, Tina Espinosa, Justine Bonadies
Online: Toni Boyd

3. Agenda Approval for April

   - Paul Motion
   - Lindsay Second

4. Additions / Corrections / Blanket Motions - None

5. Approval of March Meeting Minutes

   - March meeting minutes
     - Manny motioned to approve
     - Paul seconded the motion
   - April Special Meeting Minutes
     - Paul motioned to approve
     - Chris seconded the motion

6. Coaches Reports-None

7. Treasurer Report

   - Total $67, 651.73 in the bank.
   - Monica wants to purchase accounting software. Moneyminder is $300 per year and is going to look into it.
   - Would also like to have an accountant audit us once a year since we are making over $50,000 a year.
   - Manny made a motion to buy the software. Chris, Lindsay, Paul, Alison, Toni and Monica all vote yes to move forward with purchasing the software and to solicit bids for an accountant.

8. Secretary Report

- Discussion on whether to keep board meetings on Wednesdays or return to Mondays; most members prefer Wednesdays.
    - Board meetings will remain on Wednesdays for now, subject to change if conflicts arise.
- Going to make an amendment to the Annual Meeting minutes for next year to update final voting counts for open board positions.
    - Lindsey, 32
    - Chris, 31
    - Monica, 27

9. Registrar's Report-None

10. Director of Operations Report

- Proposal to move to Crossbar instead of SportsEngine
    - A decision was made to schedule a demo to compare platforms and create a pros and cons list.
    - Alison will find available dates and circulate them to the board.
    - Anyone with existing concerns or troubles with Sports Engine was asked to report them for investigation.
    - The demo will be conducted online (Google Meet or Teams) and is expected to last 30–40 minutes, likely scheduled before a main meeting.
    - The discussion began by comparing tech support and functionality of different platforms, with a positive, hands-on experience noted for Crossbar.
    - A key question raised was whether Crossbar would offer similar user-friendly functions as Sports Engine, suitable for non-IT savvy users.
    - It was noted that Crossbar was founded by former Sports Engine employees, making the two platforms very similar and direct competitors.
- Addition of 10U team and as well as maintaining 12U age groups.
    - A concern was raised about "double rostering" (players on two teams).
    - There was a debate on whether to begin allowing double rostering due to player numbers, with emphasis on the need for strict guidelines if permitted.
    - Past negative experiences with double rostering were cited, including implementation issues and negative impacts on players.
    - It was clarified that players cannot jump two age divisions (e.g., 8U to 12U) due to rule changes such as the transition from cross-ice to full-ice play.
    - Discussed logistics for 10U and 12U teams, including 9 returning players for 12U with 4–6 more potential additions.
    - A suggestion was made to run a shortened season from October to December for younger players to gain experience, with interested players registering for the full 12U season by December 31st.
    - Concerns were raised about the negative impact of cutting younger players, which could discourage continued participation in the sport.
    - Logistical challenges identified include coordinating siblings and managing player rotations for tournaments if roster sizes grow large.

    - The group discussed sending a survey to parents to gauge interest in a short 10U season.
    - The goal for any new team would be to break even, covering only tournament fees and ice time.
    - An alternative suggestion was to offer specialized skills training during practices, including dedicated sessions for goalies, forwards, and defense:
        - Eric could run defensive drills, Chris could run forward drills, and a volunteer goalie coach (e.g., Ricky or Rob) could be recruited.
        - This structure could occupy one practice day per week.
    - The board moved and approved to move forward on getting the necessary information to begin navigating a potential 10u team.
- CRHL Proposal for 16u and 18u divisions
    - The CRHL is considering splitting the 18U division into separate 16U and 18U divisions for the 2026–2027 season.
    - The association's current numbers cannot consistently support both divisions for league play, though tournaments may be feasible with double-rostered 16U players.
    - The proposal allows associations unable to field both divisions to roster 16U players on the 18U team.
    - A directors' meeting will be held in late June or early July to discuss this further.

11. Director of Fundraising Report

- Wanted to know if we could sign up for summer parades for Stampede and 4th of July
    - Approved to move forward with payment and registration.

12. Director of Marketing Report

- A draft brochure was created to hand out to prospective families at parades and other events.
- The group discussed creating a detailed onboarding booklet for new families, providing transparency on costs, practice schedules, and key contacts, to improve the experience for parents who have felt "lost."
- The brochure should be finalized and approved before the next meeting to be ready for the parades.
- There was discussion about printing in color vs. black and white; the group leaned toward exploring professional color printing.
- A list of website changes is ready but on hold pending decisions about the director position and a potential platform change.
- Summer media plans include parade coverage and educational hockey content.
- Planned website updates include:
    - Information on the roles of timekeepers and locker room staff.
    - Explanations for requirements such as USA Hockey insurance.
    - A dedicated "New Parents" section with tutorials on travel, equipment, and hotels.
    - Increased financial transparency, possibly including a monthly balance sheet.
- The board will review proposed content to ensure it is appropriate and not overwhelming for new families.

13. President's Report

- EMT Credit Union Grant**:** Not approved due to a surplus of similar applications.
- City's Marketing Grant**:** Approved for a home tournament, providing $5,280 for expenses such as facility registrations and referee payments. Funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis, requiring upfront payment.
- Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day**:** The organization has re-registered; advertising materials will be shared once available.
- Daniel's Fund**:** A report has been submitted and a response is pending. The goal is to reapply for a $10,000 grant once the previous report is confirmed as complete
- CAHA Annual Meeting**:** Scheduled for May 27th; a speaker will attend via Zoom. Information on open board positions can be passed along to interested members.
- Board Insurance**:**
    - A discussion was held on the need to purchase insurance to cover board member liabilities.
    - Personal liability umbrella policies do not cover nonprofit board activities.
    - A local company, CIA Levitt, provided a preliminary estimate of $1,500–$2,000 per year.
    - It was suggested to pursue a formal proposal (RFP/RFQ) to obtain concrete pricing.
- Jon Griffin will be removed from group communications and his email will be archived.

14. Discussion Items

a. Welcome new board member- Chris Gay

b. Discuss Bylaws/Terms for Assigned Positions

- Current bylaws need clarification, particularly regarding officer roles.
- An issue was raised: the bylaws state an officer cannot simultaneously hold a director position.
- Stacey currently serves as both Vice President and Director of Hockey, which appears to conflict with the bylaws.
- It was clarified that only four positions must be board members: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Other director roles can be held by non-board members.
- The officer role conflict and term lengths will need to be addressed in July.
- The Treasurer and Secretary positions have two-year terms; board member terms are three years.
- A board member whose term is expiring must be re-elected to the board to continue serving an officer term that has not yet concluded.
- It was proposed that the Director of Operations role carry a three-year term for stability.
- The group agreed on the need to formally define term limits for all director positions and to research how other organizations structure their terms.
- The topic of coaches having to reapply annually was raised, questioning whether longer terms should be considered.
- A work session was proposed before the June board meeting to finalize position descriptions and terms.
- The goal is to finalize positions in June for a July start. Bylaw changes would then be completed by July.

- A debate occurred on whether to update bylaws first and then fill positions, or vice versa; consensus leaned toward filling roles first, then finalizing bylaw changes.
- Director terms were suggested to run from July to July to align with the season cycle
- The board agreed to begin a full review of bylaws from top to bottom, including revisions to position terms.
- Each director should document their responsibilities clearly so the board can assess role complexity and transition timelines.
- Changes to bylaws must be reflected in the handbook; a locked version will be shared with commenting enabled only — no direct edits.
- Directors are asked to submit role descriptions by June 5, 2026.
- Work session scheduled for June 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM; board meeting on June 10, 2026 at 5:30 PM to vote on bylaw changes.

15. Old Business

a. End of year survey

- The board and coaches will approve a finalized survey by June 1 and it will be emailed out to members by the following day.

16. Comments by Members

- Toni consulted Jon about the golf fundraiser; he suggested early announcement and proposed October 24, 2026 as the event date, with pricing likely remaining the same as prior years.
- It was brought up that the board must formally vote on whether to continue the golf fundraiser before any planning or promotion begins.
- Fundraiser decisions are expected to align with budget discussions in July.
- No decision made; topic to be placed on the next meeting agenda.

17. Executive Session-None

18. Adjournment

- Paul motioned to approve
- Lindsay seconded the motion
- Adjourn- 8:23pm