



Minutes - Board of Directors

July 13, 2026, 7 PM @ STMA Arena Community Room

Board Members Present: Amy Hertzog, Kristin VanHeel, Adam “Woody” Schoh, Tim Steier, Rachel Johnson, Kevin Hillman, Rachel Johnson, Megan Huggins. Megan McChesney

- I. **Call to Order-** 7:02 PM
- II. **Addition or Amendments to Agenda as Presented-** Addition of agenda item: Junior Gold Update
- III. **Approval of Minutes-** A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Adam “Woody” Schoh to approve the June 28 Working Minutes. Motion approved.
- IV. **Sled Hockey Presentation-** Steve Gapinski (Minnesota Hockey), Craig Tranery (Team Development & Outreach Coordinator, Minnesota Sled Hockey Association), Nick Hadfield (Diversified Hockey Director, Minnesota Hockey), Akua Tiekou (Membership Development Manager, Minnesota Hockey), and Jason Smock (President, Minnesota Sled Hockey) gave a presentation on a partnership to integrate sled hockey into STMA YHA. The goal is to establish an embedded sled hockey program within STMA YHA, similar to the Junior Gold model, with the long-term vision of making it a permanent part of the association. They are seeking a Board member or Supporting Coordinator to serve as the program liaison and provide STMA YHA representation. The program would request approximately four hours of ice time, with all sled hockey equipment provided. The STMA Ice Arena Blue Rink is one of only three rinks in Minnesota specifically designed to accommodate sled hockey. There would be no financial risk to the association. Steve Gapinski requested that STMA YHA hold a try Hockey Free Day with several events on October 3rd, 2026.
- V. **Gambling Report-** Tyler Stone
 - A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Tim Steier to approve the gambling report as presented. Motion approved.
 - Expenses
 - [Albertville 10% Fee](#)
 - [YOY Comparison Start FY 2023](#)
 - May 2026 Final: \$424,958.52
 - Prelim June 2026: \$408,655.77
 - NTE July 2026: \$469,250
 - NTE August 2026: \$454,250
 - Updates/Other Items
 - Annual Audit



- LG1004 Board Reports
 - May 2026

VI. **Executive Hockey Director Report-** John Swanson

- The tryout plan is being revised to provide players with additional evaluation opportunities and create a smoother, more consistent tryout process. Skills testing will be incorporated into tryouts by bringing back a combine-style format. The objective testing component will complement evaluator observations, creating a three-pronged evaluation process that balances objective data with on-ice assessments.
- An ice audit is underway to identify opportunities to increase total ice hours available to members. Working to get back in alignment with Minnesota Hockey regarding implementation of the 3:1 Development Model.
- Coach applications are currently being reviewed as part of the coach selection process.
- A hockey skills app will be launched to provide players with an at-home stickhandling and shooting development program, giving them structured opportunities to continue improving their skills away from the rink.

VII. **Voting Board Reports-**

- **Mite/8U Director-** Brandon Schmidt
- **D5 Representative-** Chad Olson
 - There has not been a District meeting since June. Current discussions at the District level include team designations, with consideration being given to reclassifying some B2 teams to the C level within other associations.
- **Registration Director-** Megan Huggins
 - Travel registration is being finalized and remains on track to go live on July 15. Mite/8U registration will open August 15. The District 5 Registrar meeting will be held earlier than usual this year, and a member of the STMAYHA registration team will attend.
- **HOC Admin-** Kevin Hillman
- **Girls/Boys Travel Directors-** Megan McChesney & Rachel Johnson
 - The search for a tournament for the 15UB1 team is ongoing.

VII. **Executive Report**

- **VP of Operations-** Adam “Woody” Schoh
 - Peewee B1 Tournament- A motion was made by Tim Steier to open registration for the Peewee B1 Tournament with a registration fee of \$1,950 per team. The proposed tournament dates are December 26–28. The motion was seconded by Megan Huggins. Motion approved.



- Also, tournament budgets are still pending Board approval.
- Handbook & Policies - A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Kevin Hillman to approve the handbook and policies, with the understanding that minor grammar and language edits will be incorporated and the volunteer policy will be updated to the KVH version. Motion approved.
- **VP of Finance-** Tim Steier
 - Cost of Hockey: A motion was made by Adam "Woody" Schoh and seconded by Chad Olson to approve the 2026–27 Cost of Hockey as follows: Bantam/15U – \$1,500; Peewee/12U – \$1,500; and Mite/8U – \$1,200. Goalie registration fees approved at no cost for the first year, 50% of the registration fee for the second year, and 75% of the registration fee for the third year and beyond. Motion approved. The approved Cost of Hockey has been posted on the association website.
 - Finance Committee Members: Will promote
 - Refunds: The association gave approximately \$125,000 in refunds during the previous season. This year, approximately \$177,000 of additional gambling funds was invested toward the dryland facility vs. the gambling funds returned to the ice bills. Ice bills will be finalized, and will be brought back to the Board of Directors for further discussion.
- **VP of Communication-** Kristin VanHeel
 - The association will once again host the Season Kickoff Weekend, planned for November 20–22. A Kickoff Coordinator and committee will be established to plan the event and work alongside John Swanson.
- **President-** Amy Hertzog
 - Bylaw updates are in process.

VIII. New Business-

- A motion was made by Adam "Woody" Schoh and seconded by Tim Steier to approve a letter of support for the Hanover Athletic Association's Minnesota Wild grant application to help fund the construction of an outdoor hockey rink. Motion approved.
- Junior Gold Update: Mike Underwood provided a Junior Gold update. Plans currently include three tournaments for one 18U team and one 16U team, with additional tournament opportunities on waitlists. Uniforms will be ordered to ensure they are ready for the Junior Gold teams. Recruitment of non-parent coaches is ongoing. A challenge will be planning until November, when registration numbers will determine whether there will be two or three Junior Gold teams. Mike Underwood will connect with John Swanson to ensure the Junior



Gold on-ice and player experience is under John's purview.

IX. **Old Business-**

- Discussion of Sports Psychology - Tabled until August meeting.

X. **Open Forum-**

XI. **Adjourn- 8:54 PM**