



Minutes - Board of Directors

May 11, 2026, 7 PM @ STMA Arena Community Room

Board Members Present: Amy Hertzog, Kristin VanHeel, Rachel Johnson, Chad Olson, Megan McChesney, Kevin Hillman, Tim Steier

- I. **Call to Order-** 7 PM
- II. **Addition or Amendments to Agenda as Presented-**
- III. **Approval of Minutes-** A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Megan McChesney to approve the **April 26 Working Minutes**
- IV. **Gambling Report-** Tyler Stone
 - A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Kevin Hillman to approve the gambling report as presented. Motion approved.
 - Expenses
 - [Albertville 10% Fee](#)
 - [YOY Comparison Start FY 2023](#)
 - March 2026: \$457,582.68
 - NTE Apr 2026: \$501,200
 - NTE May 2026: \$453,050
 - NTE June 2026: \$473,300
 - Updates/Other Items
 - Annual Audit
 - Tom Bowlin, Auditor, Engagement Letter & Expense Approval: \$7,050 includes audit and certified inventory
 - American Legion Post 216 (Princeton) - \$2,500
 - STMA Trap Team Donation (Big Al's) - \$1,250
 - Bravera Food Shelf Donation - \$1,000
 - Surety Bond Renewal - \$100
 - LG1004 Board Reports
 - March 2026
- V. **Voting Board Reports-**
 - **Mite/8U Director-** Brandon Schmidt
 - **D5 Representative-** Chad Olson
 - USA Hockey Officials registration opened May 1. Virtual seminars will begin in August.
 - All tournaments must be sanctioned through USA Hockey. Tournament rosters must be verified by the host association. Associations risk fines



- if rosters are not properly verified.
- District 5 will be loop in District 4 for certain levels, with final levels still to be determined.
- Discussion was held regarding the proposed statewide AA league for Bantam AA, Peewee AA, 15UA, and 12UA. The statewide league is currently on hold while a mock schedule is being developed to evaluate feasibility.
- District 10 is expected to have approximately 4–5 Bantam C teams and 8–9 Peewee C teams for the upcoming season.
- Third jersey guidelines were reviewed. All third jersey designs must receive approval, including ensuring proper contrast between jersey and number colors.
- Minnesota Hockey renewed its contract with GameSheet for an additional three years.
- Chad Olson volunteered to serve on the Recruitment & Retention Committee.
- Regional tournament assignments for the 2026–27 season were announced:
 - Peewee AA National – Buffalo
 - Peewee A West – STMA
 - Peewee B West – Monticello
- Associations were reminded that district approval is required for all out-of-state tournaments.
- Buffalo shared updates regarding facility planning, including discussions with the city regarding a potential second sheet of ice. Peterson Arena is expected to be retired.
- Monticello and Forest Lake will host a Junior Gold tournament in December. A tournament spreadsheet will be distributed.
- Upcoming District 5 meetings:
 - June 3
 - August 5 (Presidents Meeting)
- The Gear Up Minnesota Grant through Minnesota Hockey was discussed.
- “Pass the Puck” recruitment initiatives were reviewed.
- Upcoming meetings and scheduling dates:
 - Registrars Meeting – August
 - Schedulers Meeting – October 10
 - Mite Schedule Meeting – Early December



- Squirt A Districts may take place later than usual this season due to the late Labor Day calendar.
- District leadership decided against implementing tiering this season in order to maintain competitive parity.
- Goalie participation and development were discussed. STMA currently has nine Bantam-level goalies, and Buffalo reported having only two goalies across four Bantam teams. Potential opportunities for goalies to play in Buffalo were discussed.
- **Registration Director- Open**
- **HOC Admin- Kevin Hillman**
 - Learn to Skate Update – Community Education will oversee the program and will utilize the USA Hockey Learn to Skate model. Kevin will coordinate setup and implementation.
 - Dryland Update – Discussion was held regarding continued development of the dryland space, including weights and a shooting area, with additional spaces being explored. Focus will remain on maximizing use of the dryland area throughout the season and ensuring coaches are educated on available resources and expectations. Emphasis was placed on providing coaches with the proper tools and structure rather than requiring them to independently develop programming. Scheduling and access to the space will continue to be evaluated. Additional discussion centered around creating a more unified development model that better integrates coaching development, player development, and shared resources across the association.
- **Girls/Boys Travel Directors- Rachel Johnson and Megan McChesney**

Tournament registrations are underway as well as room blocks for away tournaments that are not “stay to play.”

VII. Executive Report

- **VP of Operations- Adam “Woody” Schoh**
 - Tournament Budgets – Tournament expenses were tabled for further review. A motion was made by Chad Olson and seconded by Kevin Hillman to approve tournament registration fees as follows:
 - Bantam C – \$2,050 (8 teams)
 - Peewee C – \$1,950 (8 teams)
 - 12UB2 – \$1,950 (8 teams)
 - 10UB – \$1,850 (8 teams)

Motion approved.



- Multi Year Jersey Discussion - Tabled
- **VP of Finance-** Tim Steier
 - Discussed ongoing transition items, including organizational credit cards and banking updates. Work continues on account access and transition logistics. Discussion was also held regarding closing the Midwest Bank account and ensuring appropriate individuals are added to necessary accounts.
- **VP of Communication-** Kristin VanHeel
 - Jersey Design – Jersey design discussions are currently in progress.
 - Non-Voting Coordinator Appointments – A motion was made by Tim and seconded by Chad Olson to approve the following non-voting coordinator positions:
 - Mandy Michels – Volunteer Coordinator
 - Jenna Dyba – Communications Coordinator
 - Danielle Bloom – Mite/8U Coordinator
 - Joe Avarca – Recruitment & Retention Coordinator
 - Kelsey Brempell – Sugar N Spice Jamboree Coordinator
 - Tom Hanson & Jarod Worth – Advertising Co-Coordinators
 - Kara Jandro – Mite/8U Registration Coordinator
 - Further recruitment efforts for additional non-voting coordinator positions will continue.
- **President-** Amy Hertzog
 - Arena Board Update – Updates were provided regarding open skate programming, ongoing concessions discussions, and arena improvements. Discussion also included banners in the Gold Rink, including identifying and ordering any missing banners. Plans for a 40x40 concrete shooting area behind the arena were also reviewed.
 - Registration Director – Megan Huggins was named as Registration Director.
 - Girls HOC – Brandon Mitchell was named as Girls Hockey Operations Coordinator.
 - High School Program Discussion – Meetings were held with both the boys and girls varsity high school coaches regarding player development and long-term program growth. Discussions centered around evaluating and improving development models, tryout processes, and overall player pathways. Concerns were raised regarding the use of non-sanctioned evaluators and ensuring alignment with USA Hockey standards and philosophies. Additional discussion focused on continuing to strengthen



association culture, player development, and long-term talent growth.

- Junior Gold – Discussion was held regarding Junior Gold participation numbers and tournament planning for the upcoming season.

VI. **New Business-**

- Tryout Jerseys – A motion was made by Tim Steier and seconded by Megan McChesney to the purchase the 36 tryout jerseys at an estimated cost of \$2,160; including girls jerseys consisting of 11 Adult Small, 12 Adult Medium, and 1 Adult XL goalie jersey, along with boys jerseys consisting of 1 Youth XL goalie, 2 Adult Small goalie, 2 Adult Medium goalie, 1 Adult Large goalie, 3 Youth XL player, and 3 Adult Small player jerseys for the upcoming season. Motion approved.

VII. **Old Business-**

- Board members and coordinators were asked to clean up and update Crossbar association accounts and association email accounts, including email signatures, no later than May 13.
- Bantam and Junior Gold team declarations were presented by Chad Olson and Megan McChesney. Proposed declarations included Bantam AA, Bantam B1, Bantam B2, and Bantam C; Peewee AA, Peewee A, Peewee B1 (2), Peewee B2, and Peewee C; Squirt A, Squirt B1, Squirt B2 (2) and Squit C; Junior Gold 18 (2) and Junior Gold 16.

VIII. **Open Forum-**

- John Swanson will be discussed in the future.

IX. **Adjourn- 8:36 PM**