HAYHA Board Meeting

Meeting Date: November 13, 2025, 05:24 pm

Attendees:

Board: In-Person: Chad, Scott, Melissa, Sabrina, Chuck, Joe, Mike

Virtual: James, Adrienne

Board adjacent: Lance Wilson

Rink: Brandon Vonada

Notes

Between meetings business:

- **Motion to approve out-of-area request for Aurora Vaughn to play on the 14U Girls team:**

Motion – Mike

2nd – Melissa

Did not vote - James

Motion passed unanimously

- **Motion to approve a play-up request for Camryn Ellington to play up to 19U Girls.**

Motion – Mike

2nd – Melissa

In Favor - Sabrina, Chuck, Scott, Mike, Adrienne

Against - Joe, Chad

Motion passed

- **Motion to accept the Disciplinary Committee's recommendation of a Level 1 Verbal Warning to Bane Brown.**

Motion – Chuck

2nd – Mike

Did not vote - James

Motion passed unanimously

General Items

- **<u>Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes:</u>**

Motion – Chuck

2nd – Joe

Motion passed unanimously

Disciplinary and Membership Requests

- The board approved **one disciplinary action** and processed **four girls play-up requests** and **12 out-of-area girls player requests** through **MAHA**, showing steady compliance and player movement management (08:30).
- Joe reported **nine out-of-area requests approved**, with one pending, indicating continued engagement with MAHA processes.
- The board agreed to generate buzz around the **Ray Tillman Volunteer Award** with a **December nomination deadline**, aiming to increase community recognition and involvement (14:29).
- Grant submissions to MAHA, expected by the end of the month, will be approved by the executive committee with the entire board invited to provide input, streamlining workload while maintaining transparency (15:51).

Financial Management and Expense Systems

- The organization is improving financial clarity, with October-only and year-to-date financial statements reviewed, revealing a **negative balance in Yeti's account** linked to carryover discrepancies and pending payment plans totaling approximately **$11,000** (18:59).
- Chuck was assigned to work with Yeti representatives on monthly **budget reconciliation reports** and to clarify the **$2,403.54 carryover** versus Yeti's claimed **$7,005**, ensuring accurate fiduciary oversight (21:32).

- The board approved reimbursement of **$254.32** to Joe for Yeti socks purchased personally due to payment system limitations, emphasizing preference for direct use of HAYHA debit cards going forward (23:57).
    - **Motion to reimburse Joe $254.32 for the purchase of socks for the Yeti teams.**

Motion – Joe

2nd – James

Motion passed unanimously

- To simplify expense tracking for approximately **14 compensated coaches**, the board approved paying up to **$500** for an **Expensify subscription** at **$5 per user monthly**, enhancing expense submission accuracy and auditability (33:43).
    - **Motion to purchase the Expensify app for $5 per user (up to $500), to track non-parent coaching expenses.**

Motion – Joe

2nd – Scott

Motion passed unanimously

- A **Wells Fargo credit card** with **2% cashback and no annual fee** was approved to improve expense management without incurring unnecessary fees, preferring it over a Capital One card with higher spending thresholds (24:14).
    - **Motion to allow Rachel to move forward with Wells Fargo credit card application.**

Motion – Joe

2nd – Mike

Motion passed unanimously

- **Motion to have Rachel move the existing HAYHA CD to a new 3 month CD with better interest.**

Motion – Joe

2nd – Mike

Motion passed unanimously

Operations, Facilities, and Equipment

- Brandon provided key updates on rink operations, emphasizing that all ice schedule changes must be coordinated through Scott and the rink to maintain order among major ice users like figure skating and curling (42:39).
- The discovery of **alternative-material pucks** causing **broken glass** led to a directive for age reps to inform teams to avoid bringing personal pucks, protecting rink infrastructure and minimizing costly repairs (44:27).
- Age reps will also communicate to coaches that **older kids should use benches when exiting ice to avoid delays**, improving practice flow and respecting ice time constraints (49:39).
- Brandon announced his departure effective **November 26th**, with Jed assuming his responsibilities and no plans for replacement, signaling a leaner rink operations model (48:19).
- The board approved selling **cross ice boards for $3,000** to Big Sky, recovering value and reducing storage costs, with Rachel tasked to reflect depreciation in financials (17:50).
  - **<u>Motion to sell HAYHA's second set of cross ice boards to Big Sky for $3,000.</u>**

Motion – Chuck

2nd – Joe

Motion passed unanimously

Tournament and Team Management

- The board is enhancing tournament oversight, developing a spreadsheet to track team tournament sign-ups, costs, and numbers to analyze future budgeting and reimbursement policies (54:22).
- Reimbursement policies clarify that **travel is reimbursed only for non-parent coaches attending HAYHA paid events**, aiding cost control and transparency (54:22).
- Lance stressed the importance of maintaining **certified rosters and avoiding redlined players or coaches** to prevent **$500 fines and game forfeitures**, with communication protocols for timely roster updates emphasized (56:27).

- The board discussed challenges with **6U and 8U tournament sign-ups** and considered lottery or timed opening approaches to improve fairness and access, with Lance tasked to explore timing options for tournament registration openings (57:09).
- The varsity head coach has made a request to allow a goalie from outside of the HAYHA program to practice with the varsity team one night a week when one of the rostered goalies isn't participating due to a conflict with the Junior team. The board did not vote but provided direction for the coach to attempt to fill the need, utilizing HAYHA members first.
- **<u>Motion to allow a 10U eligible skater to practice with the 14U girls team.</u>**

Motion – Joe

2nd – Melissa

Motion passed unanimously

Coaching and Volunteer Coordination

- The board agreed on creating **welcome emails for coaches and team managers** that clarify roles, expectations, compensation, reimbursement, and available resources, aiming to improve communication and coach empowerment (22:30).
- Crossbar's current coach application system sends a generic confirmation; plans include tailoring follow-up emails by coaching role to clarify offers and responsibilities (22:50).
- The board acknowledged gaps in coach awareness of tools like **Ice Hockey Systems** and agreed that onboarding communications should highlight these resources to increase usage and coaching quality (26:18).
- Lance will assist in managing volunteer eligibility verifications to ensure compliance with background checks and SafeSport certifications, while team managers will be encouraged to coordinate directly with volunteers for locker room monitoring roles (01:04:19).
- The board approved an exception to the **compensated coaches policy** allowing payment for a **fourth non-parent assistant coach** for the 2025-26 season, funded by a donor, preserving policy integrity while addressing current needs (41:44).

- **Motion to approve exception to the Compensated Coaches Policy, allowing payment to four 2nd tier assistant coaches. Payment will be made using a donation provided by a HAYHA member.**

Motion – Joe

2nd – Mike

Motion passed unanimously

Fundraising and Sponsorship Strategy

- The board approved launching a **player-driven fundraiser using the PledgeStar platform** within two weeks, with prize thresholds set at **$250, $500, and $1,000** and prizes capped at about **10% of donation levels**, aiming to maximize participation and fundraising returns (42:38).
  - **Motion to approve use of the fundraising platform, PledgeStar. Prizes will be given to members who reach fundraising thresholds of $250, $500, and $1,000.**

Motion – Chuck

2nd – Joe

Motion passed unanimously

- The fundraising revenue will be tracked by age division but pooled in the general fund for flexible use, supporting diverse organizational needs (37:58).
- A new **website sponsorship opportunity** was approved offering logo placement on the homepage for **$250 per season** with a cap of 20 sponsors, providing a low-effort revenue stream and engaging local businesses (02:13:51).
- The board discussed apparel sales and potential partnerships with local vendors, weighing risk versus reward, with no immediate decision but ongoing exploration to optimize merchandise revenue (45:56).

Strategic Event Planning and Ice Scheduling

- Discussions on hosting **state tournaments versus 6U/8U jamborees** revealed complexities in rink availability, financial returns, and scheduling conflicts (47:12).

- The board favors retaining the **6U/8U jamboree**, a proven revenue generator and community event, while exploring possibilities to host state tournaments without sacrificing existing successful events (51:29).
- Jed, the rink manager, requires removal of the jamboree to host state tournaments, but the board views this as a negotiation stance and plans to maintain both events if feasible (51:29).
- The board plans to negotiate with Jed emphasizing their commitment to the jamboree's financial and developmental value, while expressing willingness to coordinate state tournaments around Bighorn game schedules (52:18).
- Scheduling flexibility, such as earlier game starts and use of off-peak weekends, will be explored to accommodate multiple events without overburdening rink resources (56:55).