

HINSDALE CENTRAL HOCKEY CLUB

BOARD MEETING

Willowbrook Ice Arena

October 20, 2025

MINUTES

Attendance:

Jay Scharkey, Don Draudt, Julie Rzeppa, Louise Crabb, Kelly Staver, Jennifer Tallard, Rick Joutras, Coach Brooks. Special Guests: HCHC Players, Wesley Ryan and Ryan Mahler.

President's Report:

Update on JV Team Additions:

Zack joined the meeting to provide an update on the addition of our double-rostered players, Sebastian and Connor, to the JV team. He reported that their inclusion was greatly needed and has already made a positive impact. Both players seem to really enjoy playing with their high school friends and for HCHC. JV players and their parents have responded enthusiastically to this addition to the team. Overall, a win for the club and a great way to recruit new talent.

Board Succession Planning:

Jay proposed initiating the process to fill Board positions for next year, particularly the President's role. This will allow time for the incoming president (and other officers) to shadow current board members.

Bylaw Amendment Proposal:

Rick proposed an amendment to the club's bylaws to allow for double rostering under specific parameters:

- Permitted only when total player numbers fall below 36.
- Limited to one season before a player must commit to a single club.
- Double-rostered players will pay 50–60% of full season fees.

Motion: Jay moved to present the amendment for adoption at the next board meeting.

Second: Julie seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Coach's Report:

Game Rescheduling and Philanthropy Opportunity:

Coach Brooks shared that the Plainfield team manager reached out to see if we could reschedule the back-to-back JV/Varsity games on Saturday, December 13th at Willowbrook due to a philanthropy conflict. Plainfield participates annually in the Wreaths Across America fundraiser at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Joliet, honoring fallen soldiers. This year the event falls on 12/13 and conflicts with our scheduled games. Plainfield proposed rescheduling the games and asked if we would like to participate in the event, offering to cover any ice rescheduling fees. Board agreed to participate. James will coordinate with the Plainfield club to reschedule the games to available Thursday nights.

Senior Night:

The Board agreed that Senior Night will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026.

Team Pictures:

Still awaiting confirmation of a date from Coach's mother for team photos.

Fundraising Report:

New baseball hats have arrived and are available for sale.

Secretary's Report:

Future changes to JV and Varsity schedules will be managed by Garrett moving forward.

Social Media & Recruitment Report"

- Recruitment letters are ready to be sent out to prospective families.
- Focus should also engage 6th-grade families for future recruitment.
- Kelly will contact the Konieczka family to revisit Camden's potential participation on JV for the remainder of the season at a pro-rated fee.

Upcoming Recruitment Skates:

Two recruitment skates for 7th and 8th graders will be scheduled — tentatively one in January and the other in February. The sessions will be extended to allow additional time for:

- Tours of the rink and locker room.
- A presentation about the club.
- A Q&A session with current parents and board members.

Special Guests: HCHC Players, Wesley Ryan and Ryan Mahler**Business Club Proposal:**

Guests Wesley Ryan and Ryan Mahler presented a proposal to create a Business Club for hockey players within HCHC. The concept would establish members and a Junior Board composed of six student leaders, each assigned a specific role and mentored by corresponding adult board members. The purpose is to provide leadership experience and foster business and organizational skills among the hockey players.

The Board encouraged Wesley and Ryan to take their initiative a step further by gathering the required 50 student signatures from their Hinsdale Central High School peers to gain official recognition as a school club. Doing so would not only legitimize the organization within the school but also help raise awareness of the hockey program and boost attendance at games among non-hockey students.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 20th at 6:30 PM at the Hinsdale Library.