

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

**Thursday, September 21st, 2023
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine**



Board members in attendance: Jason Mattila, Lauren Koehler, Erin Ludmer, Mike Bakalars, Danielle Pellitteri, Wayne Pfahler, Amanda Ferwerda, Kyle Dziubla, Todd Carlson, Bill Snow, Janis Strutt, PJ Gregoire, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Mindy O'Brien, Adam Sodersten, Brian Severson, Lesley Steffin, Brian Lindow, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek, Eric Helsher, Mike O'Brien, Mark Markham

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the August 2023 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Wayne, second by Erin. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O'Brien) – Second rink is moving along, goal is to be ready to go by December 1, 2023. Email out to people to order pucks for 'Top Shelf', there will also be a Toot and Kate's night on Thursday, November 9 (25% of all proceeds will go to the rink). We will need volunteers to help put the boards up and do a few other things, could be either the last weekend in October or the first weekend in November.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Collections so far are \$110,000 with \$190,000 left to collect. Erin went back to apply all the Early Bird discounts; she will apply multi-skater discounts after we close registration.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – Region 4 meeting last night. We will need to act on the Locker Room policy, several compliance items that need to be taken care of in November. Not much interest in doing the Region 4 scheduling meeting, will likely take place the third week of October at MIA. No decisions made about State tournament seeding.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – Hockey Fantasy sweepstakes is a go again this year, tickets will be \$20, we will get \$11 per ticket. Also planning to do a night at Culvers, but waiting to hear the specific night. A Maverick parent suggested hosting a Kendra Scott night, Avanti would also like to host something.
 - b. **Equipment** (Adam Sodersten) – Held a few sessions so far, will continue holding sessions through Learn to Play. Currently have enough equipment for 110-115 kids, all new equipment is here.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Held coaches annual meeting on September 7, preseason ice starting now.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Game schedules are blocked for all teams, we do need someone to help with Bantam scheduling and Maverick C team. Practices are up through October. We will have 4 sheets from Dodgeville each week if needed, some high school practices will be in the morning. The last weekend in January (27-28) is held for the PeeWee C2 & 8 team tournament that we will host.
 - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Everything should be up-to-date, registrations now closed for Mavericks, Squirt, and PeeWee.

- f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – No report.
- g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – Will need to figure out how to run the concessions stands once the second rink opens, and how we are going to staff the bar.
- h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – 390 total skaters registered, ALDs need to remind coaches to register on SportsEngine.
- i. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
- j. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – 28 kids signed up for Open House on October 7 (kids 8 and under). Homecoming parade is October 13 at 4pm.
- k. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Girl's Jamboree is February 9. 31 girls are signed up for the Junior Lynx, 20 U12 and 11 U10. 41 girls did the girls try hockey event, had 11 girls that signed up for the season.
- l. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – Send anything to Kristen that needs to go out by Wednesday, communications will go out on Thursdays.
- m. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Hats came in that will be given away during evaluations, coaches jackets have been ordered. Youth jackets were ordered online. Getting ready for the first round of apparel, which will be online.
- n. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – Maverick teams and Bantam players have jerseys. Week of October 2 will be PeeWee, October 9 will be Squirt.
- o. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – Jill is working with Empire to create a team photo schedule and should have it the next week or two.
- p. **Tournament Director** (TBD) – No report.
- q. **Culture Liaison (Eric Helsher)** – WAHA provides a bare minimum of what this role needs to entail, but we will be doing more for our association. Would like to formalize the code of conduct for parents along with standard disciplinary actions. Would also like to find ways to talk about and recognize positive behavior throughout the year, code of conduct is the base for expectations. Will need to include more discussion about this at the beginning of the season at initial team meetings. Would also like to provide new coaches mentors. This starts with all of us on the board and we need to set a good example. People can just let Eric know directly if they are interested in joining the subcommittee.
 - Wayne motions to approve the "CATS" framework, PJ seconds. Motion passed.
 - The committee will need to set a budget for signage, apparel, etc. Mark makes a motion to approve \$2500, Erin seconds. Motion passed.
 - Lesley makes a motion for the Culture Liaison to be 2-year term, non-voting, and Tier 2 (\$350 ice credit), Lauren seconds. Motion passed.
- r. **Update from ALD's**
 - LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – 16 registered so far, should get more from the Open House. Danielle will work with Joel to see if we can do a punch card for them to be able to go to Open Skate. ~5 volunteers so far, will also figure out who needs high school service hours. Will also potentially offer ice time to U6 skaters. Christina is going to create a whole season's worth of practices that can just be recycled year to year.
 - U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – Annual scheduling meeting on Monday, October 2. Have 30 kids registered so far, hoping to get a few more. Combined U6/U8 youth night at the Capitols on Friday, November 17, which will be a fundraiser for the organization.
 - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – 55 fully registered, which is more than last year. Planning to have 6 teams, have a full group of 18 coaches. Planning on 1 red, 2 or 3 white, 2 or 3 blue. There will only be 1 set of Mites equipment this year but can consider purchasing another set for next year.
 - Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – 45 registered so far, with only 2 goalies. Set on 4 teams.
 - Peewee (Todd Carlson) – 56 skaters registered so far, with 4 goalies. 18 coaches.

- Bantam (Bill Snow) – 43 skaters (this includes Dodgeville), with 3 goalies. Set on 3 teams. Earl will work on adding more practice ice.
- Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) – Ended up around 45 players with 3 goalies. First games start up next weekend. PJ motions to add Ivy and Avery to the C team, Janis second. Motion passed.
- Midget (Janis Strutt) – Waiting for evals to happen, there are currently 14 skaters but they do need a goalie. Earl will take care of the ref schedules.

7. Old Business

- a) **SafeSport Renewal + Background Checks** – Reminder to complete each of these if you haven't already. ALDs will be tracking this for the Team Managers.
- b) **CPR and AED Training at the Rink (Karin)** – 10 people attended the CPR night. Adam will contact the Fire Department to see if we can coordinate opening the AED. Bill motions to donate \$100 to Cardiac on Campus (the group that came in to hold the session), Lesley seconds. Motion passed.
- c) **Tanner Kaltenberg** – Jason to follow-up with Kari.
- d) **Digital Scoresheets** – Will be a meeting in early October, haven't heard anything else.
- e) **PeeWee Tournament** – Confirmed for January 27 and 28, 2024. Will be an 8-team state tournament style for C2 teams.

8. New Business

- a) **Evaluations** – Schedule is out, thanks to everyone for helping. There will be a board meeting to approve the rosters on Saturday, September 30 around 8:30pm. Voting members are required, others are welcome to attend.
- b) **Mavericks Showcase Weekend** – Finalized weekend is March 15-17. Looking to have 24 teams, Earl will block off both sheets of ice.
- c) **Cell Phone Policy** – Need to go based off the WAHA policy for now, but phones will need to be collected before going into the locker room. Earl to make a motion to budget \$1,000 for something to collect phones, Lesley seconds. Motion passed. ALDs to figure out what they want to order.

9. **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to readjourn by Wayne, seconded by Erin, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.