



UTAH AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes



Meeting Date:	7 July 2025
Meeting Location:	Maverik Center/ Zoom
Chaired By:	Geoff
Minutes By:	Don
Minutes Status:	Approved

Agenda Item:	1	Topic:	Roll Call / Quorum Confirmation		
Name	Representing	Present	Name	Representing	Present
Executive Board Members					
Geoff Fisher	UAHA President	Yes	Mariko Rollins	Exec. Vice President	Yes
Adam Bailey	Treasurer	Yes	Don McFarland	Secretary	Zoom
Cody Madsen	VP Adult / Disabled	Yes	Anna Erickson	VP High School	Yes
Jacob Hickman	VP Youth	Zoom	Bryce Mannek	VP Discipline	Yes
Melissa Mossberg	VP Girls	N	Tim Odell	VP Tier	Yes
Sara Doure	VP Growth	Yes	Quorum Achieved (Requires X)?		
Board Appointed Staff					
Vacant	Webmaster	--	Mandi Berim	Safety Coordinator	Zoom
Wendy Radke	SafeSport Coordinator	N	Robyn Eyre-Long	Utah Registrar	N
Michael Strahan	CEP Rep / ADM Coord.	N	Reid Jacobson	Goaltending Dev.	Zoom
Tim Tate	Utah Referee in Chief	N	Andy Van Wagoner	President WIHOA	N
District / National Office Attendees					
Kathleen Smith	RMD Director	Y			
Other Attendees:					
Shelly Higginbotham	Sky Canyon HS trustee	Zoom	Jeff Kite	Jr. Grizzlies	Zoom
Kristen Bowness	Mammoth Youth	Zoom	John Howe	PC Ice Miners	Zoom
Mark Loewen		Zoom	Nikki Jones	Wasatch Wild / PC	Zoom
Randy Abbey	Jr. Grizzlies	Zoom	Iphone (283)		Zoom
Dave Nichols	Utah Sled	Yes	Casey Lenhart	Utah Sled	Yes
Sara Smith	Utah Olympic Oval	Yes			

Agenda Item:	2	Topic:	Review / status of June 2025 meeting minutes			
Presented by:	Don					
Discussion(s):	Reviewed the 3 changes that were submitted (HS accreditation, name change for Jr Mustangs, USA Hockey Tournaments Support). There was no further discussion on the minutes.					
Approval:	Motion By:	Tim		Second By:	Sara	
	For:	All	Against:	None	Abstain: None	

Agenda Item:	3	Topic:	Old Business – Legal Counsel Options Update		
Presented By:	Geoff				
Initial Discussion:	Geoff is sending email to Steve Stapleton, with team on CC, with the request to become our legal counsel. From there, a proposal will be drafted and sent forward to the board for review. At this time, there is no decision being made.				



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Motion:	Motion By:	None	Second By:	None
	Motion:	None		
Discussion(s):	None			
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A
	Abstain:	N/A		

Agenda Item:	4	Topic:	Old Business – P&P Revision Committee update		
Presented By:	Geoff				
Initial Discussion:	<p>Bylaw committee update provided. A request was made for members to submit their roles and responsibilities (as they understand them). This needs to be submitted to the policy committee.</p> <p>Kathleen’s preference is to have roles defined in the bylaws and the job descriptions are set in the p and ps.</p> <p>Sara was asked to coordinate this and send an email to the board, to solicit this information. If unclear on role, coordinate with Geoff.</p> <p>This information doesn’t need to be formatted for publishing, because it will be submitted for review through the committee.</p>				
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A	Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	N/A			
Discussion(s):	N/A				
Approval:	For:	--	Against:	--	Abstain: --

Agenda Item:	5	Topic:	Old Business – Annual Training Venue / Dates Update		
Presented By:	Don / Geoff				
Initial Discussion:	<p>Meeting date is 9 August, from 9A-12P, at the Olympic Oval. The attendees will need to include Registrars, Presidents, Safe Sport Reps, and anyone else interested.</p> <p>Sara asked if the youth committee should meet at that time and Geoff’s sentiment was to bring everyone.</p> <p>It was clarified that there is also a one-hour online session for registrars, prior to the portal being opened. That is a different activity.</p> <p>This will also be available to the growth committees.</p>				
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A	Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	N/A			
Discussion(s):	N/A				
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain: N/A

Agenda Item:	6	Topic:	Old Business – Status Updates, as needed		
Presented By:	Kathleen				
Initial Discussion:	60 at girls camp, with one injury. Kathleen offered appreciation to Kristen at Mammoth present. She was able to bring a PWHL player, a D1 player and others. Of note was a disconnect with awareness, because the PWHL player mentioned she had played with Little Caesar’s and then the kids started to pay				



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	<p>attention. There was also conversation about selecting schools based on degree program rather than hockey.</p> <p>Likely looking at Steiner for the venue again, based on their ability to support it.</p> <p>As for the update on the HS academic credit for hockey, this is on hold until the state has an attorney on retainer, in order to address the potential risks to the state. Sara has options to work through this, and is happy to provide more info when the time comes.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A		Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	<i>None</i>				
Discussion(s):	N/A					
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain:	N/A

Agenda Item:	7	Topic:	New Business – Proposed U AHL Committee			
Presented By:	Jacob					
Initial Discussion:	<p>Looking for formal approval for the submitted names, as the reps for 2025-2026 season, which were all put forward by their respective member organizations.</p> <p>It was noted that all but two members of the committee are returning.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	Jacob		Second By:	Don	
	Motion:	<i>Approve the U AHL committee, as proposed on the agenda submission.</i>				
Discussion(s):	Tim – Is Nicki able to cover both? She served in this capacity last year and has done very well in filling the role for both organizations.					
Approval:	For:	All	Against:	None	Abstain:	None

Agenda Item:	8	Topic:	New Business – High School Hockey Idaho Exemption Requests (3)			
Presented By:	Anna					
Initial Discussion:	<p>A discussion was started about the eligibility of high school students for summer league. The question has been on incoming 9th graders and the impact it could have on the player’s high school eligibility for 4 years of hockey.</p> <p>It was clarified that the hockey season ends with Nationals, so the spring / summer season would count towards their next season (although they may be enrolled in 8th, their 9th grade season eligibility begins 1 April). It was also clarified that Seniors are ineligible to play after 1 April. The board was consistent in the belief that these incoming 9th graders are eligible to play and UHSH can administer the league. It was also clarified by Kathleen that IMR can be for the current or next season, for the summer program.</p> <p>This season’s spring / summer program was administered by a different approach that made it tough for incoming players to assimilate into a team,</p>					



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	<p>because the teams were all mixed. HS wanted to know if they were permitted to run a summer league for middle school, given their charter for HS only. The consensus was that it was acceptable, but this was not voted upon. Adam mentioned that the logistics of the previous spring seasons were much better. This season, with 6-8th graders playing together, the physical size of players made it tough to be competitive. The preference was to revert summer programs to focus on the established boundary teams.</p> <p>Don redirected the discussion, with the point of our agenda being fairly full and the agenda item was for the approval of three Idaho residents, who played in Utah last year, based on their proximity to the state boarder and / or a lack of options in Idaho. These requests were previous submitted and approved through the HS board, before coming to the UAHA board. A motion was made by Anna, with the caveat that we need to notify Idaho' affiliate of the request, based on a previous agreement with them. It was also clarified that this is required annually.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	Anna	Second By:	Jacob		
	Motion:	<p><i>Move for the three Idaho resident players (Haven Bruton – North Girls, Emilee DeWitt – Sky Canyon, Stryker Barrett – Sky Canyon), who have requested to play Utah High School Hockey, are allowed to play on Utah HS teams, contingent on a release from Idaho.</i></p>				
Discussion(s):	<p>Tim asked if this is going to be stopped with US Hockey border restrictions in the future? The response was that club HS hockey is considered rec level and this concern needs to be addressed on a national level. The real concern that pushed the state boundary discussion was back east, where kids will cross boarders more frequently. Out here, Idaho will want to know why there are playing in Utah and what programming Idaho needs to introduce to ensure these players have a place to play.</p> <p>There was no further discussion and a vote was called.</p>					
Approval:	For:	All	Against:	None	Abstain:	None

Agenda Item:	9	Topic:	New Business - Current P&Ps and Roster Requirements for Practices and Games			
Presented By:	Jacob					
Initial Discussion:	Jacob said that after submitting the motion, based on discussions with other board members, it was decided that it would be better to clear up this issue in the current P&P revision process, and requested to table this topic.					
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A	Second By:	N/A		
	Motion:	N/A				
Discussion(s):	N/A					
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain:	N/A

Agenda Item:	10	Topic:	Sled Team / Disabled Hockey Budget			
Presented By:	Cody					
Initial Discussion:	Cody spoke with Dave and the request was to ensure that programming is					



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structured to ensure sled is considered and included (e.g., coaching, development camps and such).

Dave sent Cody some budgetary numbers for the 2025 Sled tournament, but it was received last night and it was not shared with the entire board. From Dave's email, Cody asked for clarity on the request for future consideration on covering the budget shortfall.

Cody offered the floor to Dave, to help the board understand the request. Dave asked for emphasis on inclusion of sled players in events. This would include inviting sled players and goalies to any development sessions. Although the stance is to not include able-bodied and sled players in the same game, there is a precedence that this is acceptable for camps. Additionally, including sled team coaches in coaching clinics would be desired. It was clarified that the player development camps, spoken about tonight, were USA Hockey programs geared toward the national development team and that these are national programs. There are not really any national coaching sessions beyond the Coach Development Program, to date, but there is a desire to improve that statewide.

The discussion shifted to Ted Stevens Act, which is foundational in allowing the US Olympic Committee and Paralympic Committees to operate. As incorporated into Title 36 section 220524 clause 9:

“(9) encourage and support amateur athletic sports programs for individuals with disabilities and the participation of individuals with disabilities in amateur athletic activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities in programs of athletic competition for able-bodied individuals;”

Dave clarified the mission statement of UAHA, as published on the UAHA website. This says UAHA is to provide a fun, safe and properly supervised atmosphere for all players and for all that love the game of hockey.

Kathleen Smith, Rocky Mountain district representative and USA Hockey legal council member injected that she sees the angle being taken and asked if there was an awareness of the six disciplines under disabled and adaptive hockey. Dave indicated awareness. Kathleen went on to clarify that it is the responsibility for USAH, the respective district and the affiliate responsibility to fulfill all of these disciplines. She indicated that she didn't believe spouting off on the Ted Stevens act to be the best foot forward for this. Dave clarified that he is trying to share information and he isn't sure that everyone has an awareness, despite a claim that the info is known.

Kathleen believes that USA Hockey is responsible for many programs and disciplines (e.g., the 6 disabled / adaptive disciplines, youth coed, youth girls, adult coed, adult female, etc.) and that no one is trying to exclude sled from any programming, but that they are a part of the program consideration. They



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were given money in the past season and supported for inclusion as a sub-affiliate under UAHA.

Kathleen indicated that she believed the approach being taken was use portions of the law and tell the board, “because it says this, you have to do this.” She reiterated that this is not a true statement. Dave indicated that wasn’t his intent and Kathleen encouraged a rewording. Dave indicated that he wanted to educate and request for involvement in development camps for goalies and coaches. Dave indicated that he’s been in some UAHA meetings and heard about various programs that have offerings, and would like to see sled included. Kathleen encouraged him to ask for inclusion as it comes up and Dave indicated that he was simply trying to stir the discussion for others to consider it and he will ask about specifics when they are mentioned. Dave was appreciative of the feedback on the approach, since it wasn’t intended to be accusatory.

Sara offered clarification that the development camp last week was for 2012 born females and included a deaf goalie. She indicated that her daughter is also a deaf goalie who participated in a development camp and is working with the national deaf team program. She indicated that there are some efforts being made in that area and, when appropriate, will be shared. She also clarified that coaching clinics are often centered around youth coaching, since the developmental path is more complicated than coaching it can be tough. She also clarified that there are far fewer adult teams that include a coach, given the nature of how it is played. She committed that when these are being set up, there will be consideration for when it is appropriate to add adult coaches. She requested and encouraged the sled folks to reach out when they see an opportunity to participate in.

She spoke to “learn to play” opportunities being set-up for the various adaptive and disabled disciplines.

Geoff asked who coaches the team now and Dave indicated that it was him, based on a budget issue that they hope to change in coming seasons.

Tim’s request was to help this board understand the unique needs for sled coaches so we can help with support. This may be for resources in neighboring states that area available, or for opportunities to do coaching clinics through onsite or virtual sessions. Tim also clarified the development camps being discussed and their purpose.

Dave reiterated that his goal was for introduction and alignment. He spoke to coaching needs and Mariko also clarified that the coaching education activity is for registered coaches and available to him now. Since he is an adult organization, he would not be invited to the coaching opportunities for youth coaches. Clarification was offered that the youth to adult line for sled is between 16 and 17 years old, with 16 YO players being rostered as youth and 17 YO players rostered on adult teams.



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Sara asked about youth sled opportunities and Dave mentioned that he was approached by SEG / Mammoth Youth about the potential for a youth sled program. The grant application was sent, and they were offered money, but the amount wasn't sufficient to start the program, which Dave believes to have sent a signal that "they weren't so interested in developing a program for youth." Kathleen interjected that this is the wrong attitude to have, since money was awarded...just because it wasn't your desired number does not mean that they don't care. Kristen (Utah Mammoth) added that they are working with the NHL to fund a learn to sled program and this was not included in the budget number, so it didn't need to be taken from money allocated. Additionally, the Mammoth plan to donate ice once the South Towne site is opened. Additionally, there is work being done for equipment needs, but it isn't solidified. She reiterated that they are committed and doing work to put the pieces in place and fund it, but not with the grant that Utah Sled was already given. She affirmed there is more to come, but it isn't fully approved just yet so the full picture may not be clear, but they are committed to making this happen. She didn't want to overpromise and underdeliver but started a similar program with the Tampa Bay Lightning 10 years ago and aims to do the exact same thing here, which is a prominent program. She is also working with the Olympic team as well. She reiterated that the Mammoth have a very strong desire to build a sustainable program for all of adaptive hockey, not just sled. Dave appreciated the clarity, because he was unsure of how to get the program off the ground for Sara provided accolades for Kristin, with one aspect being her push to make one rink at South Towne accessible for sled and deaf hockey. Sara mentioned an appreciation for what Kristen is trying to do and acknowledged her as an incredible asset for the hockey community.

Dave was uncertain on the purpose of this meeting was general budget but believes a majority of their budget will be through Mammoth (based on some MOU activity) but wanted to through out to UAHA that an opportunity would help fund further development if funding doesn't solidify through the Mammoth. This would be a topic for the future.

Adam mentioned that this is a perfect meeting to know the sled hockey wants, so it can be plugged into the state budget and reviewed holistically. Casey (Utah Sled) indicated that the submitted budget was specific to their tournament, and the specific ask was for ~half of what was given last year. Mariko asked for clarification on all of the sources of income for the tournament, to help better understand funding sources and their use. She also indicated that this discussion is probably best tabled until next meeting, when a clearer picture can be shown on adaptive program needs and the Mammoth program support.

Ried Jacobsen offered support to help coach goalies in the sled practice at Steiner. Don sent email with Dave and Ried, to connect them, in order to better coordinate on this.



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	<p>Dave offered some statistics on the previous tournament, with 8 teams and 94 participants. There were even Utah Grizz players coming and a few of them getting into the sleds. They are looking to grow to 10 teams this year and are not offering some of the incentives offered last year (to get Utah on the map). The budget for the event was sent to Cody last night and couldn't have happened without the support of UAHA.</p> <p>The team went to a few other tournaments, including one in Albuquerque, where they scored their first goals and thought they were going to win. There has been tremendous growth over the season. They participated in a national tournament, where they were probably too ambitious on their tier 4 bracket, and held their own. There is some good organic growth from players bringing their friends along. They have 2 females currently. They have opportunity for able bodied participation.</p> <p>Cody committed to sending the information supplied to the board and recommended tabling the discussion to the next meeting. The board expressed appreciation for the Sled group and their efforts to grow the program.</p> <p>Kristen identified that there is a try sled for free event on 7/30 in Park City.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A		Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	N/A				
Discussion(s):	N/A					
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain:	N/A

Agenda Item:	11	Topic:	New Business – Budget Discussion			
Presented By:	Adam					
Initial Discussion:	<p>The discussion started with Adam proposing a collection of budget requests, followed by the collected information being emailed to the board, with a vote by email.</p> <p>The board discussed the budget for various programs and initiatives. They agreed to consider subsidizing national-bound teams' tournament entry fees, including sled hockey.</p> <p>The youth budget was reviewed, with Jacob requesting a subsidy for tournaments like was done last year. The board also discussed expansions to the player assistance fund, but considered adding a community service requirement for recipients. They decided to keep the current system for now but may communicate expectations to organizations about community service. Adam noted that we are budgeting to run a deficit this year, and will use excess funds for programs that come along the way.</p> <p>Of particular note was discussion about the website updates and maintenance. For the website, we discussed the webmaster position, which can either be</p>					



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	<p>done through a paid individual or through volunteer management. There was discussion on the website maintenance and if this could be handled by existing volunteers, though more complex updates might require professional help. The board also discussed social media management, with Don noting current limitations in due to account permission restrictions due to set-up through Robyn. There was discussion on the need for content generation, despite a payment to some managing the platform.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for a social media and website presence for UAHA. They decided to allocate \$5,000 in the budget for a part-time social media position rather than hiring a full-time webmaster. They agreed that the social media role could be filled by someone within the hockey community who understands the organizations and content needs.</p> <p>The info is being collected and Adam will build out the final budget to send out, followed by a vote.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A		Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	N/A				
Discussion(s):	N/A					
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain:	N/A

Agenda Item:	12	Topic:	President's Agenda			
Presented By:	Geoff					
Initial Discussion:	<p>Geoff proposed creating a player development committee, with Kristen Bowness as the chair. The purpose of this committee would be to discuss ways to improve player development and engagement across the state, through focusing on all directors together and defining strategy. The hope is to include Joe Bonnet, the USA Hockey development director for Pacific and Rocky Mountain district. The goal is make everyone better through enhancing coaching pathways, player growth strategy and program development directors. More to come on this, but the hope is to have a 1, 3 and 5 year plan with the committee consisting of anyone interested in helping.</p>					
Motion:	Motion By:	N/A		Second By:	N/A	
	Motion:	N/A				
Discussion(s):	N/A					
Approval:	For:	N/A	Against:	N/A	Abstain:	N/A



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UAHA Committee Section Reports		
Section	Owner	Discussions
In the interest of time, it was suggested that only those with critical updates would present.		
RMD	Kathleen smith	Tournament dates are moving up, so need state tier champs by 2/8. The district tier tournament dates are 2/26-3/1. National tournament dates for HS is 18 - 22 March. Tier I is 24-29 March and tier II is 25-29 March. These dates will be entered on the state calendar.
VP High School	Anna Erickson	Nothing
VP Girls	Melissa Mossberg	Not present
VP Adult / Sled	Cody Madsen	Nothing
VP Youth	Jacob Hickman	Dates for early season are planned for Oct 17-18.
VP Tier	Tim Odell	Nothing
VP Growth	Sara Doutre	Nothing
VP Discipline	Bryce Mannek	Nothing
Registrar	Robyn Eyre-Long	Not Present
CIC/ADM	Michael Strahan	Not Present
Goaltending Development	Reid Jacobsen	Nothing
SafeSport	Wendy Radke	Not Present
Safety Director	Mandi Berim	Nothing
Webmaster	Vacant	N/A
Treasurer	Adam Bailey	Nothing
Secretary	Don McFarland	Nothing
Executive VP	Mariko Rollins	Nothing
President	Geoff Fisher	Nothing

End Of Meeting: Closing			
Next Meeting Date / Location:		4 August 2025/ Maverik Center	
Adjourn Meeting:	Motion By:	Tim	Second By: Bryce
	Discussion:	None	Time: 9:53PM