

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, October 12, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Meeting was in person at Sun Prairie Ice Arena.

Board Members Present:

President – Mark Gernetzke
Incoming President – Ryan Dunt
Past President – Eric Morehouse
Treasurer: Stephen Elmer
Secretary – Sara Pieper
Bantam Rep: Kelly Ruhland
PeeWee Rep: Casey Moen
Squirt Rep: Sarah Mahan
Mite Rep – Allison McKee
Mini Mite Rep – Betsey Leonard
Girls' Rep – Megan Davis
Coaches Rep – Larry Clemens

Attendance: Kylie West, Sarah Wyngaard, Tim Clavette, Brianna Behselich, Samantha Sotelo, Kate Fossell, Tara Muszynski, Scott Vandenberg, Josh Erickson, Bipensingh Dodia, Chelsea Lemons, Mat Grasseschi, Brancon Schmidt, Joe Henry, Jacob Wagner

- Public Comments –
 - Attendee expressed concern about coach
 - Attendee asked how players are evaluated. It was shared that evaluators take detailed notes on each player throughout evaluations. Larry hosts set office hours post evaluations for players/parents who wish to review and discuss.
- Affirmation of Email Votes
 - Motion to create a Girls Hockey Committee for the 2025-26 season and give 7 hours of DIBS to each member.
- *Eric motioned to approve. Sara second, motion passed unanimously.*
 - Motion to approve Krista Placencia, Bethany Wagner, Mary Speilbauer as the 2025-26 girls committee members.
- *Betsey motioned to approve. Sara second, motion passed unanimously.*
- Appointments & Membership Changes
 - SPYHA is recruiting a new Communications Coordinator. This role will be posted on SPYHA social channels.
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - Secretary – Sara Pieper
 - September Board Meeting Minutes
 - *Kelly motioned to approve. Casey second, motion passed unanimously.*
 - Treasurer – Stephen Elmer
 - Sent bank reports before the meeting for review
 - All travel teams have been invoiced, and each player has made at least one payment
 - Dragons were billed for ice time
 - Billed \$19,000 of DIBS hours; collected \$7K. \$4K no longer collectable because player is no longer with SPYHA. All other outstanding DIBS will be collected on 2025-2026 season invoice.
 - President – Mark Gernetzke
 - None
 - President Elect – Ryan Dunt
 - None
 - Past President – Eric Morehouse
 - None
- COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - Volunteer Committee
 - Most travel hockey families are signed up for DIBS
 - Fundraising/Sponsorship Committee

- Met with tourism committee. Final decision is pending. If awarded, the funding would help offset ice costs for the Groundhog Games. A total of six organizations applied for this funding.
- SPYHA 2026 Golf Outing will be held on 8.27.2026 at The Oaks
- Communications Committee
 - None
- Registrar
 - Kylie will set up tournaments as soon as coaches are approved
- Groundhog Games Tournament Committee
 - Registration is nine teams ahead of this date last year. Mini Mite tournament sold out in September.
 - Logos and websites for apparel will be delivered next week
 - PeeWees and Bantams: A few open spots; Squirt A and B: light right now
 - Level reps: Working on securing tournament coordinators
 - Raffle baskets will be requested from player families; reps to communicate
 - How do we engage other teams in "Go Pink"
 - o QR code to donate, meaning behind it. One pager to send to teams in advance and next to banner in the lobby. Put pink tape on sticks. Tier One will bring pink shirts. The first \$1000 donated will be matched.
 - o 50/50 raffle?
 - o Mark to see if Tracey and Val will support
 - o Discussed selling pink tape in concession stand.
- Concession Stand Committee
 - Done with official trainings
- USA Hockey Initiatives
 - None
- ACE Director(s)
 - None
- Equipment Managers
 - Ordered equipment needed for equipment room
- Jersey Coordinator
 - Bulk pink jerseys are in. Custom jerseys will be delivered by the end of October.
- Spirit Wear / Bags
 - Spirit shop will be open again for the holidays
- Region 4 Meeting
 - Will report out next meeting; the meeting is the week of October 13
- LEVEL REP REPORTS
 - Mini-Mite
 - 32 players have registered, with additional registrations anticipated.
 - Capitals Mini Mite Groundhog night is November 9
 - Mite
 - Back to Hockey even last week at the rink; hosted 40 participants
 - 61 mites registers; 13 on Girls Mite team
 - Tournaments are almost all booked
 - Badger's "Mighty Mite" skate night is November 1
 - Squirt
 - Rosters are out, scheduling is almost complete
 - Will help promote Groundhog tournament on Squirt social media
 - PeeWee
 - Have volunteer team reps identified for all teams
 - Tournaments and games are booked
 - Exploring the possibility of Badger night for the PeeWees
 - Will host a few clock trainings during practices for PeeWee families
 - Bantams
 - Teams are posted; scheduling is almost complete
 - Recruiting team reps
 - Midgets
 - None
 - Coaches' Rep
 - All teams will be on ice for skills on October 13; PAC will begin on the 20th
 - A few travel players were not evaluated due to injuries

- Bantam team cannot move to three teams, as the third goalie is a high school player and may return to his high school team
- PAC training will be brought in to incorporate strength and conditioning sessions, with the goal of enhancing player development and improving their overall on-ice performance.
- Girls Rep
 - Girls' committee began meeting in September. They will focus on recruiting at the 6-8U level.
 - Committee brainstormed how to use grant money and help grow girls' hockey
 - o Practice jerseys for 8U
 - o Clinics with the Badgers or women in hockey
 - o Ice cost for girls' THFF
 - o Sunday co-ed stick and puck rec program (in-house program)
 - o Partner with other programs to share clinic details (soccer, etc.)
 - o Girls THFF 2x per year
 - Megan is coordinating youth night with the Cougars
 - Dragons rosters are posted.
 - Two individuals who commit to serving as locker room attendants for the season will have their 22 hours covered by SPYHA. It was recommended to roster locker room attendants as a coach in case they are required on the bench.
 - o Motion to give Dragons locker room attendant 22 SPYHA DIBS hours to fulfill their DIBS commitment for the season. Casey motioned to approve. Allison second, motion passed unanimously.
- OLD Business
 - Try Hockey for Free (THFF): The first THFF event was held in September and was successful, generating interest in the Mites and Mini Mites programs. The board is considering hosting a non-USA Hockey THFF event in December to support recruitment for the January Mini Mites session. A December event will be held, pending confirmation of available dates.
- NEW Business
 - Next Board Meeting: November 9 at 6:00 pm
- Adjourn
 - *Casey motioned to approve. Sara second, motion passed unanimously.*
- Closed Session
 - Approval of travel coaches and team reps
 - Parent Coach Development: Going forward, parent coaches will be asked to attend two practices per season at the next age level (e.g., a Squirt parent coach attending a PeeWee practice). Coaches should contact the next-level team coach in advance to coordinate their visit.
 - Coaches and their families are required to volunteer and support home tournaments
 - Non-parent coaches' expenses will be included in tournament fees
 - Decision was made to sunset SPYHA TikTok and X (previously known as Twitter)