

## Minnesota Special Hockey

### Board Meeting Minutes

2.9.2026

#### Zoom Meeting

Members in attendance: Holly Tchida, Tom Schunemann, Kay Morris, Tia Graves, Amanda Pickett, Brock Buckellew, Scott Foley, Cathy Carter and Jen Lynch. Guests: Jared Wieseler and Nick Hadfield. Absent: Jane Cashin, Rob Schaust and Keith Kloubec.

Secretary's Report: (a) In last month's minutes, there have been requests from our athletes to skate at Mariucci arena or Grand Casino arena, like we had in the past. Tom would be willing to reach out to Coach Matzko to see about skating at Mariucci. (b) Motion made to approve the January minutes as written. Seconded and approved.

Nick's Report: (a) Grants from the Wild replacing Split the Pot can be up to \$50,000. The gambling licenses have been approved for the Wild. (b) 2/16 Hockey without limits at the Roseville oval MSH skates from 12-1pm. (c) Diversified hockey night will be 3/1. MSH will participate in the second intermission scrimmage. A registration will need to be created for 10 skaters. There will be a plus one ticket for those who skate and tickets for a suite to be shared with the deaf program. (d) MN Wild has program sales nights available. They need 30 volunteers. The program would make \$1,500. (e) Nick could possibly provide or reimburse parking if we had an event at Mariucci Arena or Grand Casino Arena.

Treasurer's Report: presented by Holly. (a) There is a difference in funds this year due to no Split the pot raffle and of fall classic this year. (b) Travel expenses and ice rental bills have started coming in. (c) Scott is working on the grant for with the Wild for the Split the pot funds. (d) Motion made to accept for the financial report. Seconded and approved as written.

Do coaches or managers need to stay with an athlete until their ride comes? (a) Do we have a policy? Holly is going to check. (b) Does it matter if they are their own guardian? (c) Coaches and managers will need to be aware of our decision in this matter.

Summer skate clinics: (a) Lakeville 4 weekends in August, ice has been secured. (b) St. Cloud 2 weekends in September, ice has been secured. (c) St. Louis Park 2 weekends in October. Ask Jane to secure ice. (d) Goal is to raise \$30,000 from sponsors for the clinics. (e) Do we have marketing materials to put in front of donors? Jared has a 1-page document. He will send it to Tom, and they will work on adding sponsorship levels to the document. (f) Lucas a volunteer from St. Thomas is willing to help with marketing.

Brock can help connect him. (g) Who do we target for sponsors? Amanda will reach out to a connection at Scheels in St. Cloud. Brock has contacts with Scheels corporate in Moorhead. Jared will forward marketing materials for Amanda with the sponsorship levels included.

Hockey day Lakeville: Biggest crowd, great atmosphere.

Alexandria Jamboree: Tom will follow up with Dale to see he has everything he needs.

SHI Festival: (a) Tom will finalize a function for one night. (b) 40 players are attending. 2 buses. 1 will pick up in Blaine the other in Edina. (c) Tom has pins for exchange. (e) Tia has sent 3 emails reminding people to check their hotel reservations. Tia will call tomorrow to see if the hotel can tell who has made reservations.

Diversified hockey night: (a) MSH will need people for the table. We need to check with Nick if we need 4 people. Jen is willing to be at the table.

Madison Tourney: \$200 stipend for players traveling to Madison.

Can anyone cover the Dakota County resource fair 3/5 in Apple Valley? Let Jen know if you can help.

Coaching: 1 coach is not returning. Brock is starting to work on that.

Marketing: (a) Do we need a new tablecloth and flag with the new logo? Jen will get a new tablecloth. All printed materials have the new logo.

Apparel: (a) Last jersey order is in. Cathy is distributing them. (b) Cathy and Tia have had poor communication with Duluth/ Grand Rapids. What can we do to improve communication?

Old jerseys with Wild on them are on going to be allowed on the ice. They cannot be worn for practice. How do we keep them off the ice? Do we collect them to get your new jersey? It may be hard for our players to give them up. People like to keep them for keepsakes. Do we offer to make them into a pillow or something, so they are not wearable?

Jen and Jared are looking for photos from past skating clinics to use on sponsorship materials. Please send if you have any.

Equipment: (a) Always looking for more skates. (b) Brock would like to do an equipment drive at HF to help get equipment to those who need it. Possibly having something in the parking lot. Tom reported there will be restrictions on what is allowed in the parking lot of the HF this year. We need to check with HF to see what is allowed. (c) Is there a way to get a skate deal with a skate brand for our players to offset costs? Could MSH offer funds towards skates? Could we offer \$100 reimbursement for skates? If we do a

reimbursement, do we send players to a specific store, Strauss or Westwood sports? Also sharing with families that skate lease programs are available and explaining how that works. (d) Brock will reach out to coaches to see if players need equipment, especially skates. (e) Brock is also going to reach out the Blaine Play it again retail store about our equipment drive and see what hockey equipment they have that weekend.

Sincerely,

Kay Morris, Secretary