

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association

Board Meeting

Thursday, June 15th, 2023
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: Jason Mattila, Lauren Koehler, Erin Ludmer, Danielle Pellitteri, Amanda Ferwerda, Kyle Dziubla, Todd Carlson, Bill Snow, Janis Strutt, Joe Beyler, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Desiree Bates, Lelsey Steffin, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek, Mike O'Brien

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the May 2023 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Lesley, second by Karin. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Mike O'Brien) – Were able to get the boards from The Shell for a large cost savings, huge thank you to everyone who came to help! Kristen to send out a thank you note. Roof is up and should be done by the end of this week, everything else progressing as planned. Hometown Brewdown tickets will go on-sale in early July. Still working to raise money. We were able to get a liquor license as of Monday for this building, will need to apply again once the new rink is done. Also planning to have an Event License as another way to generate revenue.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Starting to work on the yearly budget, ALDs are working to identify number of skaters. Let Jason or Erin know if you have ideas. Kyle mentioned that some tournament fees have gone up, should probably move everything up by \$100.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – No report.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – No report.
 - b. **Equipment** (Mark Markham) – Will start working on equipment order after the budget is approved.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – No report.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – ALDs should send Earl how many teams they are going to have at each level so he can start figuring out ice time.
 - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Set-up all the team pages for the upcoming year, ALDs can start adding tournaments or other information. Going to go back to the original SportsEngine set-up instead of moving to the new functionality.
 - f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – Concessions is closed until the season begins.
 - g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – Need to start thinking about the DIBs requirements since we will have a 2nd concession stand.
 - h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – No report.
 - i. **Tournament Director** (TBD) – No report.
 - j. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Starting meeting with Todd (House of Hockey) to start looking at apparel.
 - k. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
 - l. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – Had a decent turnout at the Hometown parade. Planning to have a booth at the All City meet (July 27-29) to do recruiting for both girls and boys. Would like to offer a 1 day 1 hour try hockey event in September for older kids. Timing of this might be tough with us

opening registration early, so August would be best. Earl will work on identifying a date in August. Motion to approve by Danielle, Desiree to second. Motion passed.

- m. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – Will start promoting the Brewdown event.
- n. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – Ordered socks for the upcoming season, ready to put them in the store. Per the email vote, Karin ordered the requested number of additional jerseys in the larger sizes, which are scheduled to arrive in August. Also started to source fabric for nameplates, so that should be on track.
- o. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – No report.
- p. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – 18 girls signed-up for the Girls Skate Free event so far. Would prefer to use the term Junior Lynx Recreation team as opposed to anything with 'cross roster', but they will revisit whether they want to be officially classified as a recreation or cross roster team. We would like to include jerseys in the fee, so we just need the estimated cost for the budget approval.
- q. **Update from ALD's**
 - LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – No report.
 - U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – Survey is out to families to gather numbers and will report them in the next week. Otherwise U6 is looking good.
 - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Survey will go out tomorrow. Wondering if we will get a second set of goals and boards, not currently in the plan for this year due to the cost. Could potentially look at using the grant money.
 - Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – Projecting 48-50 skaters, hoping for 4 teams. Should have 3 goalies. Started to register for some tournaments.
 - Peewee (Todd Carlson) – Projecting 65-66 skaters, if we include girls we would be at 70 skaters.
 - Bantam (Bill Snow) – Projecting 39 skaters, Dodgeville is interested in a co-op with us and have 4-5 skaters. Registered for the Green Bay tournaments.
 - Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) –
 - a. The goal for the season will be to have 3 teams again at the U14 level and 1-2 teams at the U12 level.
 - i. We will be up front with families that we are proceeding with the mindset that all of our teams will be ineligible for the WAHA State Tournament with the current 4 association rule put in place.
 - b. Both the U14 A and B teams have been submitted to play in the Northern Illinois Hockey League for this upcoming season
 - i. The final cost for the league is still being finalized by their board, but the costs from last season was a \$500 organization fee and a per team fee of \$800-\$900.
 - ii. These fees go to the running of the league and cover all ice for the playoffs.
 - iii. The seeding round for NIHL this year begins September 15th so we will need to look to wrap our tryout process by early to mid-September.
 - c. For pre-season ice we will look to start at the end of August like last year to accommodate the earlier tryout timeline
 - i. I have already had a brief conversation with Joel on the earlier ice need and he has it noted down.
 - d. I am working with the other associations in the area to either gather a list of '09-'12 birth year girls or have them sound out information about the Mavericks to their players.

i. I will host parent meetings again in late June to early July to go over what the Mavericks are, what the season will look like and to answer any questions that may come up.

e. For the U12 and U10 age groups we are still having conversations with the girl's representatives from the Polar Caps on how we could potentially work together to grow the numbers and work towards like skilled setups.

▪ Midget (Janis Strutt) – No report.

7. Old Business

a) **State Tournament for PeeWee C1** – Still entered as Polar Caps on the website, Jason will follow-up.

8. New Business

a) **CPR and AED Training at the Rink (Karin)** – Will look to set-up a training for coaches or parents in September. There is a non-profit group that would be willing to host the training for free if we don't need certifications, which we don't. Makes sense to target October and November once all the coaches are finalized.

b) **Parent Handbook Updates** – Lauren will save it as a Google doc and send it out for review via email and would like any changes submitted by Friday, July 14. Focus areas, clean-up DIBs language, add girls hockey, Junior Lynx potentially.

c) **Safesport Renewal and Background Checks** – Reminder that all board members need to complete this by Labor Day, Lauren will send out an email with details and links for Safesport and Background checks. Once you get your certificate of completion, email it to Lauren.

9. **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to readjourn by Amanda, seconded by Desiree, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.