

**Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association  
Board of Directors Meeting**

July 7, 2025 6:30pm  
Sanford Conference Room – SCHEELS IcePlex

President Chun Chan called the Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Jenn Warren (Vice-President), Elliot Hitt (Treasurer), John McCollister (Secretary), Sam Everson (Past President), Leah May (Travel League Director), Cody Alderman (Director of City League), and Adam Gorra (Director of Tournaments). Quorum was present. Cherry Hunter (Director of Operations) and Dan Houck (Director of Hockey) were also in attendance. Spencer Wrightsman (Development Director) was absent.

**Open Forum**

Bodhi Giedd presented information regarding his hope to come back to the Flyers program. He was a Flyer, participated in Brandon for 2 years, has two siblings currently in SFYHA, will be a freshman at Lincoln High School and would be eligible for JV/Varsity hockey.

RESPONSE: First step is to secure Player Transfer release from Brandon Hockey.

**Secretary's Report** – Leah May made a motion to approve the June 11, 2025 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Elliot Hitt noted budget for the upcoming season will be discussed in Closed Session.

**Director of Hockey – Dan Houck**

- Worked with Leah May/Cherry Hunter on updating travel program overview document for 2025/26. There will be additional changes based on team counts/registration
- July 8th coaching meeting for HS Coaches (Boys and Lady Flyers) to discuss assistant coaching and season plan/content
- Discussed w/ Chun/Cherry about having an informational session for PW travel families to make sure they understand the content of the PW program as there really seems to be some confusion there
- Finished NHL Coaching Clinic the week of June 16, Topics included: Pre-Scouting Opponents, Offensive Zone Entry, Neutral Zone and Offensive Zone Forecheck, Penalty Kill Implementation, Defensive Zone Arrivals and Defense, and other
- Working on finalizing fall programming schedule w/ Cherry and Brian Prisbe. There are some limitations with ice being out on the Furniture Mart Rink. I spent time going through all available ice on the weekend of July 4th.
- Had two meetings non-SFYHA parents regarding coaching for the 2025-26 season
- Started discussing ice availability/practice planning with Leah May
- Met w/ Raegan Klein and Riley Block regarding Atoms coaching for 2025/26 (they both helped w/ 4yr old program and Atom SS last year).
- Discussed tryout plan w/ Leah May regarding non-SDAHA teams for an opt-in tryout
- Spent a lot of time adjusting fall schedule based on ice availability
- Confirmed all Fall Goalie Clinic dates with Aaron Debates - High School through Squirt
- Pre-season practice schedule and KOTR dates sent to HS coaches
- Secured off-site location for Coaches Meeting in October w/ Pentagon not available - no cost for Knife River meeting room

- **For Discussion:** I did follow up w/ Haley Skarupa after the June BOD meeting about coming in early November to run a Girls Clinic. She is in Blaine, MN 10/26-10/29 for the Women's U18 Team USA tryout/ eval. She could be here for a clinic the weekend of November 1/2. She would like to bring another Olympic Team Member Member/Alum with her when she comes. This time frame would work well for rink (I discussed with Brian Prisbe) and SDAHA games. I would like to come to some conclusion on this at the meeting. She is waiting to hear back from me.

SFYHA Costs:

Flights x's 2 and hotel

Ice Cost-6 hours total (2 groups skaters for 3 hours/group)

Coaching Fee-\$1200/coach (\$2,000 if we just bring Haley)

Brief Bio: Haley Skarupa joined the staff of the U.S. Women's National Team in October 2023. In her role as head scout, she will be responsible for identifying, evaluating, and recruiting potential players for the various levels on the U.S. Women's National Team, including the Olympics, Women's World Championship, Select Series and Under-18 Women's World Championship. Most recently, Skarupa spent time working with the Washington Capitals as a hockey ambassador, assisting the Capitals marketing and youth hockey department in efforts to expand girls and youth hockey development opportunities within the Mid-Atlantic region. As a player, Skarupa spent 10 years as part of the U.S. Women's National Team Program (2009-2019), highlighted by helping Team USA earn gold at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea. She was also part of U.S. gold medal teams at the 2015, 2016 and 2017 IIHF Women's World Championship and the 2011 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship. Skarupa, who played four seasons (2012-16) for Boston College, also competed professionally in the NWHL for the Connecticut Whale (2016-17) and Boston Pride (2017-18). She also played in the PWHPA for Team Women's Sports Foundation and Team Sonnet from 2020-23.

Board members discussed fees for attendees ranging from \$30 each to \$150 per girl and promotion of the event.

**Admin Update – Cherry Hunter**

- Continuing work on Fall scheduling
- Registration Build
  - Non-SDAHA Squirt teams - tryout process
  - Late Fee – need to determine if amount changes
  - Travel Deadline – August 10

**Director Reports**

- ✓ **Director of Tournaments** – Adam Gorra – Tournaments are full and paid. Hotels are being booked. SFYHA will be hosting the SDAHA Youth Varsity Tournament. Chairperson is needed for the state tournament.
- ✓ **Director of Travel League** – Leah May – Added one more tournament to Orange & Blue Squirt teams. All tournaments are booked for Squirt & older. Preliminary practice schedule being created.
- ✓ **Director of City League** – Cody Alderman – Reported ACL League Supervisor Nate Hadrick had no requests at this point.

**Presidents Report – Chun Chan** – Northern Plains District meeting will be held in Deadwood Sept 5-7. Let Cherry know if you are interested in attending. Chun attended the SDAHA Varsity Tournament Bid Meeting.

**Agenda Items:**

**Flyers Expansion Project** – Footings for expansion are completed. SFYHA payments for the project begin at the end of the month Board members discussed user groups and Flyer’s workouts. The high school age players will have one session of POWER Performance and one session at the IcePlex gym.

**SFYHA Codes of Conduct** – Board members reviewed the June 30, 2023 SFYHA Codes of Conducts. Players Code of Conduct will be updated with USA Hockey Player Code of Conduct. Parents Code of Conduct will remain the same. Coach Houck will work on Coach Code of Conduct updates and Jenn Warren will review and suggest updates for the Grievance Policy & Process.

***Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association Mission:***

***To Motivate, Inspire and Encourage Athletic Participation and Good Health through Ice Sports***

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

NEXT MEETING

**TUESDAY – August 12, 2025 6:30 pm**

Sanford Conference Room at the IcePlex

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherry Hunter  
SFYHA Director of Operations

Adopted August 12, 2025 by oral resolution at meeting / written correspondence  
(Date) (Circle one)