

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association

Board Meeting

Thursday, August 21st, 2025
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: **Justin Temple, Kyle Dziubla, Lauren Koehler, Troy Rost, Adam Sodersten, Bryan Lind, Aubrey Freeman, Wayne Pfahler, Amanda Ferwerda, Katie Baus, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Cathy Woods, Desiree Bates, Matthew Baus, Lelsey Steffin, Kaiti Bohacek, Julie Kuprianczyk, Kendra Noll**

- 1. Call to order** – Justin Temple called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
- 2. Approve Minutes from the July 2025 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Kendra, second by Lesley. Motion passed.
- 3. Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O'Brien) – Ice is mostly sold out, but there will be a few changes. Concessions should plan to open on September 7.
- 4. Treasurer's Report** (Troy Rost) – Troy provided a detailed budget review of last year's finances and our projections through end of 2025. We will start reviewing these details every month.
- 5. President's Report/Region 4** (Justin Temple) – No report.
- 6. Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. Registrar's Report** (Adam Sodersten) – All ALDs have reports of current vs. potential people registered.
 - b. Fundraising** (Cathy Woods) – No report.
 - c. Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Coaches committee meeting last week, they reviewed the evaluation process and are going to make a few changes. Wayne is going to do some math analysis to determine if we should adjust the weighting of the skills night. Shane is willing to work with us on pricing for his work with the goalies. We will propose giving him \$5,000 up front for 18 sessions, which matches our budget. Joe will reach out to Shane directly with this offer in writing. Justin would like to propose giving all teams 30 minutes to 1-hour in the shooting room every 2 weeks. Lesley makes a motion to approve the off-ice training plan for Squirts, PeeWee, Bantams, and Maverick teams. Second by Kaiti. Motion passed. Biser will run preseason sessions.
 - d. Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – In the thick of it, all games are added to SportsEngine. All teams will play during the fall break weekend.
 - e. Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Several registrations are still open. We could still use more 3v3 registrations, so spread the word. Team Genius will automatically review on September 19 for roughly \$900.
 - f. Jersey Coordinator** (Julie Kuprianczyk) – Julie collected ~20 LTP jerseys so far. We will ask for donations one more time so that Julie has enough time to place an order. Julie will order 70 jerseys for U8 and is also placing her first nameplate order.
 - g. Equipment** (Megan Seefeldt) – No major updates, just prepping for the season and is in the process of applying for equipment grants.
 - h. Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.

- i. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – We should open the concession stand on Sunday, September 7. Pepsi is no longer supplying slushie machines/mix and will be picking up our machine as it was provided by them. The board said we absolutely need to have a slushie machine! For concession stand trainings, Brian is planning to do 2 sessions early in the season. Kaiti suggested creating a video recording of the session as well, which is something we should consider.
- j. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – They will start getting DIBS sessions open now that we know the concession stand will open on September 7.
- k. **Recruitment** (Kate Louther) – Please share the Try Hockey for Free event (9/13) on our social media, weekly emails and webpage. You can also share the post with your own networks (i.e. your own neighborhood social media sites or groups you are part). We are trying to get the word out as we only have 9 kids registered (through the USA Hockey website). Volunteers are also needed for the event, please share the following Sign Up via weekly email. We are looking for parents, coaches and PeeWee+ youth helpers.

USA Hockey has templates for flyers but I do not have Adobe Pro to edit PDFs. I sent Adam Sodersten an email this week so he may be able to help. Should we create our own flyer or use USA Hockey Templates (see attached for one type of example-there are several other versions as well)? Anyone able to help with this if Adam is unable to help me with the USA Hockey templates or if we need to create our own? How do I get these printed? Is there a way to be reimbursed for getting these printed? Adam took care of this today, you can reach out to Troy to get reimbursed for any printing costs.

I received an email from WAHA for a \$1000 grant. Details are here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z54EkjdhKBrlCVndZ53XyVNGwN7zbkS-/view?usp=sharing>. To apply for the grant, complete this form: [WAHA Try Hockey for Free and More Grant Submission Form](#). I can apply if the Board approves.

As a follow-up to the Try Hockey for Free event, would it be possible to add a 6-week LTP option at half the cost to support the above grant? Then, if kids want to continue with the remaining 6 weeks of LTP, they could pay the other \$50? This would require another registration form and not sure if that is worth the trouble but it may be an option to encourage families who are on the fence. We don't think that this is needed.

We need to start thinking about the homecoming parade-it's October 3 at 4:15pm. Do we want to do this? I will be out of state and unable to be present. If we do participate, I will need a point person to direct folks to (happy to coordinate but will need someone to be the point person day of). I will need to submit an interest form by Sept 17. We are OK to skip this.

- l. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Girl's Try Hockey is going really well. Megan could use help with gear collection and also on-ice help. On-ice time is 5:30-6:30pm.
- m. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – No report.
- n. **Communications** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Kaiti needs all information by Thursday; newsletters will be going out weekly on Fridays. Please email Kaiti exactly what you want the communications to say.
- o. **Apparel** (Amada Lindow) – Our new vendor will be onsite for the 3v3 tournament, Kendra and Eric will follow-up about what specific time and where the table should be.
- p. **Photography Coordinator** (April Rabedeaux) – No report.
- q. **Tournament Director** (Kendra Noll) – Need more PeeWees, Squirts, and girl teams for the 3v3, please spread the word.
- r. **Update from ALD's**

- LTP (Bryan Lind) – Adam will help to create a flyer for PeachJar.
- U6 (TBD) – Adam makes a motion to appoint Desiree Canto as the U6b ALD, second by Aubrey. Motion passed.
- RWB (Aubrey Freeman) – Currently at 42, 19 other potentials. There are 9 possible girls from the Girls Try Free event. Aubrey should find a tournament director for the Mites tournament next month. We will plan details for the Mites tournament at the next board meeting.
- Squirt (Wayne Pfahler) – 58 registered, includes 3 FT goalies and 3 PT goalies.
- Peewee (Amanda Ferwerda) – 4 goalies, 1 need a release. 41 skaters currently registered, 4 more possibilities, 1 of which needs a release.
- Bantam (Eric Helsher) – Numbers are looking great for 3 teams: 45 skaters and 3 goalies (thanks to Kyle for the 3rd). The question now is how many of our 12 freshmen make high school. Given our good numbers, we turned away potential transfers at the B and C level. For A, we need to leave the door open for kids from smaller clubs to try out, per WAHA. If we take transfers, it will be to hedge on high school losses. The plan will be to place the Verona kids first and then add up to 2 transfers on the A team as long as they score within the top 8 skaters. The A team could have up to 17 skaters until High School tryouts.
- Mavericks (Katie Baus) – 13 skaters, and 2 goalies from 5 associations. They are hoping to get 2 more skaters. There are 2 co-head coaches. Justin is going to help them apply for an exemption for state tournament eligibility since the 5th association only has 1 girl. McFarland reached out and asked to co-op since they have 6 girls a 1 goalie at the U14 level, but it will not make sense for us with our current numbers. We at most would take up to 2 girls from Oregon that wouldn't have a home.
- U18 (TBD) – ALD is still vacant, also do not have a head coach. Tara could potentially help schedule.

7. Old Business

- a) None

8. New Business

- a) **Transfers** – We need to vote on the following transfers: Motin to approve both by Adam, second by Lesely. Motion passed.
 - i. (Squirt)
 - ii. (Squirt)
- b) **Parent Handbook Updates** – Lauren will send out a shared Google doc to everyone on the board for review and suggested updates by **August 31**. Areas we know need updates: Bantam and Mavs evals.
- c) **SafeSport and Background Checks** – All board members need to complete Safe Sport training (required each season) and a background check (required every other season). Lauren will send an email with all of the information and links. Our goal is having this done for all board members by our September board meeting, which is on **September 18**.

9. Motion to Adjourn

– Motion to adjourn by Katie, seconded by Aubrey, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.