

MID AM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2026 MINUTES

MEETING: Mid Am District (District) Meeting was held via a Zoom conference call. The meeting was called to order on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 8:00 pm EST by President John Karolcik. Biff Cummings (BC) performed a roll call. Nineteen members attended, with seventeen of the twenty-one voting members, so a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE (in no particular order): John Karolcik, Paul Day, Tom Gawlik, Biff Cummings, Roy Davis, Ed Gingher, Jim Weaver, Bill Switaj, Renee Lofspring, Ladd Wagner, Kathy Santora, Craig Scully, Doug Losure, Roger Wallin, Andy Wolf, Dave Caruso, John Folmer, Chris Stern, and Zach Hill.

AGENDA:

1. **Conflicts of Interest:** John requested possible COIs with any agenda items. None were identified.
2. **Motion Last Meeting Minutes (Biff):** The Board reviewed the minutes from the District's Winter Meeting held January 22, 2026. John F motioned to approve. Zach seconded, and the Board voted to approve.
3. **Update Treasurer Report (Tom):** Tom shared his report. He indicated that the numbers are similar to last year. Income from investments is up \$110k. Expenses increased due to hosting the Level 5 Coaching Clinic. Overall, the District is in a positive position. Paul suggested that we consider investing more money into the Foundation after Nationals.
4. **Motion New Associations:**
 - a. **South Metro (Youth Travel House/Rec):** Keith was not on the call to report. It was decided to hold on a vote until we hear from Keith.
 - b. **Columbus Warriors (Disabled):** Renee reported that she was contacted about a new organization in Columbus. John F. motioned to approve. Craig seconded. The Board voted to approve.
 - c. **Cincinnati Blind (Disabled):** Renee reported that she is working with a group in Cincinnati to start a program. John F. motioned to approve. Craig seconded. The Board voted to approve.
 - d. **Change in Association- Winterhurst/Ohio Flames/Lady Barons (Youth Tier 2, Travel, House/Rec):** Ladd reported that the Barons are getting out of girls hockey, and they are looking to transfer leadership and organization to Winterhurst. Ladd thought it would be a positive change. The group would be called the Ohio Flames rostered through Winterhurst. Gilmore will still register Tier I girls.
5. **Update 2026 USA Hockey Annual Meeting:**

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- a. **Residency:** John reported that recent discussions with the Presidents opened some borders to allow Tier 2 players to cross into adjacent Districts. John proposes that we try to keep players inside our District.
 - b. **Out of Affiliate Players (starting 27-28 season):** John reported that the Youth Council has moved back the approved timeline for the Tier 1 rules regarding out-of-affiliate players. Some affiliates in the northeast have made their own agreements to allow players to cross borders.
 - c. **Development League (starting 27-28 season):**
6. **Update 2026 Mid Am District/States Tournament:** John reported that, based on last night's meeting is going to set up a meeting with the tournament chairs to discuss the tournaments. Keith reminded teams that they will need credentials early due to the tight schedule.
 7. **Update 2026 Mid Am Annual Meeting (July 24-25, 2026):** Lori has things lined up for the meeting to be in the Cranberry Marriott.
 8. **Update 2026 Mid Am District Select Tryouts (Columbus, May 8-10, 2026):** Names are coming in, and invitations are going out after Districts.
 9. **Update Association Education Policy:** Roy asked everyone to start considering updating their slides for next season's presentations.
 10. **Update Mid Am Hall of Fame Committee:** Keith was not on the call, but he still needs to set up a meeting.

Future Meetings: March 12, 2026, and April 23, 2026

New Business: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Paul motioned to approve. Zach seconded, and the Board voted to approve.

Meeting minutes by Biff Cummings