

NCYHA Minutes January 8th , 2025, 6:30 PM, Middletown Police dept

Attendees: Stephanie, Adam, Erik K , Steph L, Eliza, Jen, Kris, Melissa, Jill, Aubie

BOD Vote:

Vote to approve December Minutes– Yes

#	Description	Person/Position Responsible	Status	Update/Notes
1	Create a document that explains what is done each month with links to emails, etc.			Will form a committee
2	Equipment Swap	Melissa Danks	Need update	Live!
3	Checking clinic			Check with Balance–need to make sure there is a clinic this season and all seasons moving forward–Erik will check in
4	Recruit New positions			Xmas director

Board Updates:

- President: Dan will come to next meeting for updates on Godbout scholarship
- VP: Handled a couple issues from tournament and team level issues. Both are closed at this time.
 - SCHL–hoping to pull in one more team
- Registrar:
 - 1. LTS Full both days
 - 2. House League had one add per Aubie, but will close 1.31.26
 - 3. Building the 2026-27 EVALUATION reg now. It will automatically import sports engine data so the users dont have to (and I won't have to deal with parents registering themselves lol- if you all knew how many did this you'd be surprised. There are added steps to fix so I am excited to streamline). I cannot import USA hockey since we are not AA team (apparently that is a thing USA hockey would allow us to import from USA hockey to the registration if we are a AA team only, sigh).
 - 4. I have started the master annual calendar. Probably good to share it around and have folks build on it.
 - 5. The sports engine parent and coaches guide. So long delayed. I will get this done this month!
 - a. I still feel it may be good to do a live session in late summer early fall.
 - 6. Website- I am still working on getting word out there on how to use the site (loading images is the big one) and am making updates often.
 - a. Sponsors?
 - 7. Coaches- 1 coach had issue, but needs to work with USA Hockey to work it out. Seems like the rest are all clear. Will run a report again later this week to be sure.
 - The OPEN POSITIONS and soon to be open positions need to be announced/recruited.
- Scheduler:
 - U14 was posted much to late by SCHL, a lot of complaints
 - - January practices posted, February aim to have up middle of month
 - - Tryouts are planned for week after SCHL playoffs, we should get flyers out

- - Some reschedules to be done, trying to work with coaches but some is out of our control with other teams too
- - We have some extra ice I am hoping coaches motivate to find scrimmages and/or get SCHL selects, etc to take

- **MDP:**

- Mdp is going great brought up a handful from Lts which is always the goal.
- No need for medals to be ordered as we have enough
- Balance is continuing To be well received. I think we could possibly drop to every other week next year (possibly at all levels) as kids are starting to burn out a little on the skills
- **Mites:**
- U8A came in second in the Xmas tourney
- U8B won one of the sides
- We just hosted our second Jamboree and everything went smooth
- Extremely involved group of coaches which is encouraging
- Need to start prepping for a mass exodus from our mite level up to the squirt level.
- Believe we only return 2 from A and 4 total from our B teams
- We need to start educating Mdp and even Lts parents about tryouts and travel processes

Food for thought based on my teams parents and other word of mouth

- **Xmas tourney:**
- Try our best not to schedule whalers teams first game of tournament
- Consider talking to rinks (depending on how xmas falls) about an opening night prior to the first full day. Maybe this looks like Newport Vs a local team like warwick for a few levels. Understand travel, rink availability etc can effect this happening.
- Consider a rule in line with Schl where teams can only have a certain number of dual rostered players. Ie canton mite and squirt teams were nearly 60-70% Aaa players. We want to give our kids good competition but don't need "tournament" teams to do that.
- **Travel teams:**
- Consider moving our top teams to a different league like Phl or south east mass.
- 1 A, 1 B and 1 C team at each level. Rest of the kids go to house so we can build that up off Aubies great foundation to be similar to a small developmental league
- Explore a Whalers sponsored tryout based "tournament team" for a summer tournament series or push for a Newport county team in the town cup
- **Coaching/board seats**
- Board seats (at least voting members) and possibly all as well as head coaches (possibly all assistants) should receive some type of discount for their players. Most other organizations do this
- With Jeff leaving (sorry to hear) I think we need to evaluate splitting the Mite level director off to stand alone. This would allow for a developmental director that would handle Lts and Mdp.
- Thinking a BOD editable google sheet might be a good idea for our Bod members to be able to log suggestions/concerns they hear as the season goes on so that things don't get lost in the shuffle of the meeting minutes

LTS:

- winter session off to a good start with ~110 skaters. Sunday skate sold out
- - we're good on on ice coaches for this season. Got 15-20 parents for each group
- - will need to order both jerseys and medals for 2026-27. Got enough for this session

- - sad to say this is my last season. my family is moving away to CT this summer. Need to find a new LTS director. I'll start asking on ice coaches to see who might be up for it
- Girl's program:
 - Position
 - I plan to finish out next year, but if someone was interested I would be happy to give them the position, share the position/ train them this upcoming year.

Narwhals

1. Extra jersey's for U10 players came in and were distributed. Still have not got an invoice on jersey's for this year, but when I do, I'll send to Eliza.
2. Scheduled a game against Warwick Lady Canes for U10 and U12 teams for January 28th at St. Georges. It may be a good opportunity to invite Whalers girls to come watch. Plan is for Warwick to host the girls for a game in February as well.
3. Next and last tournament is February 27-March 1 in Worcester.
 1. Found out a U10 team planned a tournament for that same weekend so unfortunately we are missing two girls from U10.

General

1. Sent an email regarding NED Tryouts for 2013/2014 girls.
 1. One parent reported a U12 team with 5 girls is at a tournament the weekend of the camp.
2. Still want to host another clinic for our girl players - need to reach out to St. Georges, Salve, and maybe even East Bay Riptides.
3. Planning to have a Whalers girls night at one of East Bay's home games.

- Level Directors:
 - **Midget Update:**
 - As I think he already mentioned Bryan is not planning on continuing in the position. We drafted a midget letter and potential survey for families to send out so we can plan for tryouts/next season. Can discuss/finalize at meeting.
- Treasurer:

Monthly Financial Summary: Our checking account balance as of 1/6/26 is \$184,812.79. Our savings account balance as of 1/6/26 is \$108,006.30. Combined total of \$292,819.09. The checking account balance on this date last year was \$228,307.99. We did not have a savings account this time last year (savings account was opened on 1/24/25 via a transfer from the checking account in the amount of \$75k).

Activity since 11/30/25:

Significant revenues - Savings account interest (\$248.57), Whalers Clothing/Swag/Raffle Sales (\$11,196.94), Shooter Tutor Reimbursement (\$600.00), Christmas Tournament registrations (\$4,250.41), Sports Engine registrations (total of \$31,559.39).

Breakdown:

- \$506.27 - Girls Tournament Registrations

- \$7,498.76 - Travel Registrations

- \$23,554.36 - House League / MDP / LTS Registrations

Significant expenditures - Ice rental (\$52,387.24), Storage (\$145.00), Coaching dues (\$65.00), Referees (\$3,466.50), Skills Clinics (\$250.00), On-ice Supplies (\$216.11), Christmas Tournament Expenses (\$8,481.86 - breakdown will be in Christmas Tournament financial summary), Tournament reimbursements (\$2,250.00), Gas Lamp board meeting (\$99.31), Annual meeting hall and bartender fee (\$40.00)

Open items:

1. Christmas Tournament financial summary - finalizing
2. Joe Bardenheier dispute
3. Past due Sports Engine accounts—Erik K will reach out by phone to families owing \$

- House League:
- Equipment Manager:
 - Uniform Vendor
 - Met with rep from Verbero about moving our Team Store back to them based on quality feedback and my customer service experience with Arrow
 - Received samples which will be brought to the meeting—**reviewed difference in quality**
 - **We can have a fitting day—verbo they will send samples**
 - Facebook Swap
 - Working on it. I had another parent who has more experience help me understand the process of creating the site.
- Player safety:
- Travel Coordinator:
 - Travel coordinator updates: I will send another reminder out to cos coaches that they need to reach out to me around 2 weeks before travel to the islands. I have been getting a few requests the week of or not at all (I find it or I hear from the travel team). I've sent a couple of reminders, but I'll send one out again.
- Christmas Tournament:**Feedback in survey results**
- Webmaster:

Confirm Future Meeting Schedule: Monthly board meetings, first Wednesday of each month, 6:30 pm.

- February 5th