

EYHA Board Meeting
Essex Rink Classroom
March 19, 2026 7:00pm

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present: (9 for quorum)	Helen MacAndrews	Sean O'Connell	Renee Soutiere
	Rick Villami	Tracy O'Connell	Brianna Yarnell
	Corey Labor	Tonra Riehl	Jen Villamil
	Mike Lorenz	Tracy Liebenow	Dave Alofsin
	Dominic Cloud		

Board Members Absent:	Frank Parisi	Joe Baird	Kim Lassy
	Chris McGinty		

EYHA Community Members:	Justin	Amber Walsh	Nikki Mayhue
	Chamberlain		

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Sean O'Connell, President, called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

2. **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve [February](#) minutes, **Corey Labor** motions **Jen Villamil** seconds. February Minutes approved.

3. **EYHA Member Communication:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the general public an opportunity to address the board on matters that are either not on the agenda or are slated for action. Any discussion, if any, will be limited to determining next steps.)*
 - Welcome to Justin, Amber, Nikki
 - Amber - feedback on the season - had a great season, would like to volunteer / support team as team parent
 - Skills discussion

4. **Previous Action Items:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members an opportunity to review previous action items)*

February:

 - ~~COREY: Awards Ceremony 3/24 - Choose awards and set up agenda~~
 - ~~HELEN: Add bio to candidates for board positions~~
 - ~~HELEN: Send email to association about Championship weekend~~
 - ~~HELEN: Send email to association of team forecasts for 26-27 season~~
 - ~~EXEC BOARD: meet to brainstorm open board positions~~
 - ~~EXEC BOARD: creation of subcommittee to clarify evals / team organization (head coach, VP travel, President, director of player development)~~
 - ALL: Promote RAFFLE

5. **New Business / Presentations:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members with an opportunity to discuss various issues. Any action to be taken, if any, would occur at a future meeting.)*
 - Awards night (3/24 @ 6pm EHS Auditorium)
 - Corey will put together agenda
 - Annual Meeting (April 16)
 - Open Board Positions (voting): [Board Positions Doc](#)
 - EXECUTIVE BOARD: - all elected for 1 yr in April

- President: Open
 - 1st VP House:
 - 2nd VP Travel:
 - Secretary / SafeSport Coordinator:
 - Treasurer:
- Growth Grants
 - Renee will submit. Deadline is Oct 1st.
 - Coaches / board members should submit ideas to Renee by July 1st and then the board will discuss in August/September.
- [10U/12U Mini Camp](#)
 - Corey sent email to families from last year asking for feedback
 - Corey asks for feedback from coaches about players
 - Board agrees to not run mini camp this year in lieu of coach feedback
- Goalie fees at 16U/18U
 - Cap of 18 skaters and 2 goalies per split season team
 - Board will review budget for 16U/18U and re-assess goalie fees for season
- Community Relations director discussion (Tracy L / Helen)
 - Committees - including non-board members - Tracy L will take lead
 - Yamboree Committee
 - Calcutta Committee
 - Friday Night Lights Committee
 - State / Regionals Tournament

6. Executive Updates: *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide board and administration representatives an opportunity to report out on the current activities of various programs, board committees, etc. There may not always be a report from each group if there have not been any changes since the last time this was on the agenda.)*

- Director of Player Development - Joe Baird:
 - Spring skills are on track. Matt Welch has been fantastic with the goalies. We have a ton of kids (especially in the younger group). Since we started spring skills:
 - 2023 - 84
 - 2024 - 90
 - 2025 - 95
 - 2026 - 112
 - There's also anecdotal evidence we're "doing it right" on the player development side. We had 7!!!!!!! 12U and 14U players make NEDs this year who had NOT made it before.
 - Discussion of spring skills program
- VSAHA rep - Rick Villamil:
 - Discussion of 10U - VSAHA is investigating benefits of ½ ice games at 10U (recommended by USA Hockey)
 - VSAHA is NOT moving to ½ ice for 10U for the season, however would like to explore options to provide 10U players more opportunities for “puck touches” while on the ice
 - Goal: to bring up overall ability of the age group by playing ½ ice games
 - Notes:
 - Not meant for first 3 months of the season
 - Not meant for every game
 - Not meant for all tiers

- 4 v 4
 - 8U nets
 - April 11th - BAHA is hosting a 10U ½ ice jamboree @ Leddy
 - VSAHA is asking for EYHA to host a jamboree next season
 - 1616 update
 - Gamesheet update
 - continues to be used throughout the state and understanding the nuances of the app
 - VSAHA will alert association regarding players who commit multiple penalties
 - Brianna Yarnell, Girls Director:
 - Update of girls program
 - Sean O'Connell, President:
 - Stepping down from President role
7. Next meeting date:
- April 16, 2025 @ 7:00 pm. Location: EYHA Essex Rink Classroom - ANNUAL MEETING
8. Executive Session:
- None needed
9. Adjournment: 9:28 PM