

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

Thursday, November 21st, 2024
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: **Justin Temple, Kyle Dziubla, Lauren Koehler, Adam Sodersten, Kris Canto, Aubrey Freeman, Amanda Ferwerda, Wayne Pfahler, Eric Helsher, Bill Snow, Mike Bakalars, Katie Baus, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Joe Beyler, Mindy O'Brien, Megan Seefeldt, April Rabedeaux, Lesley Steffin, Kristen Manning, Kendra Noll, Kaiti Bohacek, Mike O'Brien**

1. **Call to order** – Justin Temple called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the October 2024 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Eric, second by Katie. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O'Brien) – There are 5 dasher boards that they are trying to sell, please let people know if you know of any businesses that are interested. Planning to have open skate and open hockey options on Black Friday. Culver's Cup is coming up in December.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Nice fundraising from raffles for squirt and bantam tournaments ~\$3100. Toot & Kate give back night ~\$800. Erin appreciates everyone's efforts regarding staying on budget.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Justin Temple) – No report.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Registrar's Report** (Adam Sodersten) – All rosters are finalized and approved. A handful of coaches need to finish up a few requirements.
 - b. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – Hockey cards need to be turned in by December 1. Culver's night is Wednesday, December 18 from 5-8pm. Planning to do a spaghetti dinner on a Wednesday night, might also try and do a pancake breakfast (Skate and Cakes). Should look at doing it during one of the days off of school in January or February.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Everything going well.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Practices are in through 2nd week of February.
 - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Registration is still open for LTP, U6, U18, and Jr. Lynx. Mite tournament is full. Opened registration for the girls U14 tournament today.
 - f. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – Everyone has nameplates, new Maverick jerseys arrived, and jerseys from Bantams moving to high school are all accounted for.
 - g. **Equipment** (Megan Seefeldt) – Outfitted 91 kids this year. All new equipment is ordered and put away.
 - h. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
 - i. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – We are ~\$5,000 over where we were last year, the tournaments have been huge. Mike has been a huge help with stock and getting things ready.
 - j. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – There are 10 shifts open between now and December 1. 244 completed hours or 122 completed shifts. 1556 hours remaining to be collected by families. 370 hours or 185 shifts are posted through 12/31/2024. 66 hours or 33 shifts are open for now until 12/31/2024.

- k. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – No report.
- l. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – We started a monthly girls hockey email to share upcoming girl events. I will work with Justin and Katie to figure out if we should send to all girl parents or just U12 and under for future emails. We moved the date of the U8 Girls Jamboree to December 29th. It now follows 2 home Mavs games so we planning a girl parent mixer and hope to involve all ages of girls in the jamboree. I'm working with Katie and Aubrey on a Mavs Big sister program for the U6 girls teams. Hope to send that out tomorrow.
- m. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – Need CATS nominations. All coaches have stickers.
- n. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – Youth night will be January 17. Hop Haus on January 22. Next week Kristen will be sending it out on Tuesday. People are sending pictures in on Sunday for tournament winners for social media posts.
- o. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Apparel store is up and running. Still hoping to work with Signs by Caitlin to do some products.
- p. **Photography Coordinator** (April Rabedeaux) – Pictures were taken over the last 2 weeks, only 3 skaters are missing. U18 pictures will be December 6.
- q. **Tournament Director** (Kendra Noll) – Squirt C1/C2 & Bantam A/B - Around 400 skaters so far. \$1500-1600 in Raffles each tournament and \$3200-3300 in Concessions each tournament. Next up is Squirt A/B December 7 & 8. For next year, consider giving DIBS (maybe 1/2) for someone besides the team manager to be a "team rep." It would be helpful for someone else to take on the fundraising/decor/goodie bag organization piece-or at least be the lead. If ALDs can share the message that the expectation is for teams to fully fill ALL game jobs, it would be helpful. It's much less stressful for everyone if those are filled a week ahead of time instead of "winging it" and assuming someone will step up. The expectation is that those are filled since this is a free tournament for Verona.
- r. **Update from ALD's**
 - LTP (Kris Canto) – Still have folks signing up, currently have 42 skaters.
 - U6 (Aubrey Freeman) – All teams start games on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Two teams are signed up for a tournament on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.
 - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Everything is good, Mite tournament is full. 8 red, 12 white, and 8 blue teams. There are already several teams on the waiting list. Should look at adding a second sheet for the Mite tournament next year because it is such a big money maker for the club.
 - Squirt (Wayne Pfahler) – The season is going well for Squirts. Wayne is thinking about making changes to how the Squirt practices are structured in order to get kids on the ice for 3 hours each week. He is talking to coaches and will also get feedback from parents before moving things forward.
 - Peewee (Eric Helsher) – Everything is going well. Skills sessions will end up being 1 time per month. Eric makes a motion to dual roster Coraline Robbins (Mavs C goalie) on PW C2, seconded by Amanda. Motion passed.
 - Bantam (Bill Snow) – Bantams are officially approved.
 - Mavericks (Katie Baus) – All teams are stable.
 - Midget (Mike Bakalars) – End up with 1 team of 13 skaters and 1 goalie.

7. Old Business

- a) **Goalie Development and Quick-Change goalie gear** – The gear is difficult for the kids to put on so it hasn't been great so far. It doesn't allow for more reps, it just spreads the time out over a few weeks. It also takes time for the coaches. The main issue for our association is the Mite to Squirt jump when kids need to sign-up for full time goalie. The quick-change goalie gear is part of a 5 year-

study that is being led by USA Hockey and will likely be mandated in the near future. Justin will reach out to see if other clubs have feedback. Eric makes a motion to form a goalie development committee, second by Aubrey. Motion passed. Will work on forming the committee in December.

8. New Business

- a) **Ice Hockey Systems club membership** – It is an online database for drills and lessons. Kyle motions to purchase a membership for all coaches up to \$850, second by Katie. Motion passed.
- b) **Old Southwest Jerseys** – Will plan to put them in the bar and ask for a donation.

9. Motion to Adjourn – Motion to readjourn by Eric, seconded by Joe, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.