



Maine Coast Storm: 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 7th, 2025
Time: 6:30pm
Location: MRC Boardroom

Standing Agenda Topics:

Attendance

X	Kristin Falla		Danielle Nelson	X	Iride Piechoki
	Bo Hoppin	X	Todd Adams	X	Jen Corbett
X	Valerie Hilchey	X	Micah Kelly	X	Regina Dennis
	Erica Gates	X	Ruth Thyen	X	Tiffany Whitehouse
X	Kristen Smith	X	Andrew Marshall	x	Reppenhagen couple
X	Nick O'Hara	X	Brook Brewer	X	Jessica Duffy
X	Monica Karam	X	Alaina Gerrigan	X	Jenn Winters
X	Amy Clark				

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Falla at 6:35 PM.

Public Comment

A community member asked whether this was the appropriate time to submit a request.

Adjustments to the Agenda

No adjustments were made.

Presidents Report

2024-2025 Storm Hockey President's Report

Dear Storm Community:

It was an action packed season this year for our Maine Coast Storm players and families. I'm proud to say that we provided playing opportunities for all kids who wanted to play hockey.

At the 10U level we fielded one Tier 4 team, after initial tryouts thoughts that we might have enough kids for two teams. The team grew as a unit and made a run in the MEAHA state tournament. Thank you to Coaches Tyler Smith, Mike Seeger and Therese Winterheart for all your efforts.

At the 12U level we were able to field two teams, one at Tier 3 and one at Tier 4. We referred to the two teams by colors, to define them in another way, other than their tiers.

The 12U Black (T4) team was dealt an initial challenge of its goalie quitting less than an hour before its first game. Despite some initial doubts about the team's viability to play a season without its initial rostered goalie, we got creative. I received a couple of goalie waivers (including play-up) from MEAHA and a couple of Black skaters also took turns in net for the team. This team also created playing opportunities for a kid who left hockey and initially thought he would only play house and a player who moved up from learn to play. Despite the team's early hurdles, it finished strong and played in two tournaments' championship games. Thank you to Coaches Chris Hedstrom and Dave Preston.

The 12U Red (T3) team had uncertainty at the start of the season, if it would be able to be competitive with other teams in the MEAHA T3 league. The team was competitive in the T3 league, with numerous ties and some wins. Thank you Coaches Ryan Gates, Phil Bellows, Nick O'Hara, Ryan Bergan, and Tyler Smith.

The 14U team started off with some wariness of having enough players to field a team. With the uncertainty, the team declared for the Tier 4 division. More players joined the team, and the team had an exciting season that finished with a MEAHA T4 State Championship. Thank you Bo Hoppin and Marcie Howard for coaching.

The Storm House program continued to be popular, with five teams. This year we added a New Years Eve Round Robin, to create some additional playing opportunities during winter break and to round out our House Hockey schedule. It was well attended and well received. It was a great family NYE family activity that ended by early evening.

This year Storm will receive over \$2,000 in Grow the Game grants from MEAHA. We outpaced other organizations by about \$1,000. Our larger grant award was in large part to our "Other" grant application for the Skate with the UMaine Black Bears season kick off event. Hosting the UMaine Hockey Practice and Skate with the Bears event was a great fantastic way to expose our greater community to hockey here in the midcoast.

We are in a reasonable financial position, but have had to continue to raise tuition rates as ice prices continue to increase. This year ice was \$265 an hour, and we spent over \$75,000 on ice. Next year MRC ice will be \$280, and we project ice to cost Storm about \$86,000.

Our Hedstrom Scholarship Awards continue to outpace the tournament proceeds. The youth division tournament proceeds were about \$1,200 with an additional \$1,000 donation, totaling \$2,200. Storm awarded \$2,387.50 to the Hedstrom Award winners this past season, and about \$3,000 in need-based scholarships. A goal for next year is to reenergize the tournament fundraising. We will build our own Storm Hedstrom Tournament Committee who will help organize the event and hopefully create some new fundraising strategies for the event/scholarship fund. Thank you to Beau-Unis for the Theo Hedstrom jersey donation. The new jersey display honors Theo and shares his story and the scholarship program in his memory.

Thank you to our board members for their continued service to our organization. We are 100% volunteer run, and without you all, our hockey program wouldn't be what it is today.

Thank you for your service to our outgoing board members Jennifer Corbett and Regina Dennis, we appreciate all your efforts over the last couple of years. And thank you to Bo Hoppin, former board president and most recently vice president, for your many years of leading Storm hockey. Bo has been a great mentor to me, and has brought a wealth of institutional knowledge to our organization. Bo, we hope to see you in some guest starring coaching roles next season, and hope you still take my "have you ever seen this" phone calls.

The next few months we will continue to plan for upcoming season. And more importantly we look forward to welcoming our Storm players back on the ice for the 2025-2026 season!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Falla
Maine Coast Storm President

Bylaws & Board Role Discussion

- Dennis raised the idea of the Volunteer Coordinator being a shared position.
- Proposal to create a dedicated Hedstrom Charity Tournament Chair.
- Karam discussed potential grant reimbursements through Grow the Game.
- Duffy asked if the grant role includes community outreach.

Voting Eligibility

Marshall clarified that eligible voting members include any parents attending the meeting and affiliated with the Storm.

Bylaw Revisions

- Discussion on amending the bylaws:

- Proposal to revise Article 4, Section 4 to add two new board positions and to move officer nominations from April to May as presented by Falla.
- Motion made by Dennis, seconded by Hilchey. Motion passed by majority vote.

Board Nominations and Elections

Nominations and approvals for the 2025–2026 board:

- President: Falla (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Corbett) Falla elected with majority vote.
- Vice President: Adams (Nominated by Falla / Seconded by Corbett) Adams elected with majority vote.
- Secretary: Nelson (Nominated by Falla / Seconded by Dennis) Nelson elected with majority vote.
- Treasurer: Brewer (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Corbett) Brewer elected with majority vote.
- Registrar: Thyen (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Corbett) Thyen elected with majority vote.
- Coaching Director: Marshall (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Corbett) Marshall elected with majority vote.
- Fundraising & Sponsorship Director: Duffy (Nominated by Corbett / Seconded by Dennis) Duffy elected with majority vote.
- Marketing & Communications: Smith (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Hilchey) Smith elected with majority vote.
- SafeSport / Player Safety: Gates (Nominated by Piechocki / Seconded by Corbett, O'Hara withdrew) Gates elected with majority vote.
- Scheduler: Hilchey (Nominated by Falla / Seconded by Corbett) Hilchey elected with majority vote.
- Girls Program Director: Kelly (Nominated by Corbett / Seconded by Adams) Kelly elected with majority vote.
- House Program Director: Piechocki (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Corbett) Piechocki elected with majority vote.
- Grow the Game Grant Coordinator: Karam (Nominated by Dennis / Seconded by Hilchey) Karam elected with majority vote.
- Volunteer Coordinator: Winters (Nominated by Falla / Seconded by Corbett). Winters elected with majority vote.

Meeting Adjourned 7:48pm