

District 5 Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Meeting Location: St. Augusta Legion

Meeting was called to order @ 6:05 pm

Attendance

Buffalo, Hutchinson, LDC, MOOSE River Lakes, Sartell, Sauk Rapids, St Cloud, STMA, Willmar, River Blades

Absent –

Secretary's Report – Al Setrum

Al provided an oral report. February minutes posted to the website. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Sartell and seconded by STMA with no discussion motion. Motion is approved.

Treasure Report – Jeff Swenson

Jeff provided a written report. Attached is the written report. These were completed and posted to the D5 website. Motion Buffalo Second Sartell motion passes.

Coach in Chief – Aaron Johnson (No Report)

CCM HP/Tier 1/Futures Development – Thomas Johnson

- 14U girls to final 4 (lost in the semi's) 12 D5 girls on this team
- HP program is phase 2 has begun
- Requesting an assistant to help – see the handout
- Future trainings program – statewide was shut down but D5 is going to run this program this year.
- Funding for HP programs for travel like when we go to out-of-state tournaments.

Official's Report – Ryan Szmanski

- Shout MOOSE and LDC for hosting the regions, and Sartell for the State tournament
- Close to 2600 games for the season. Very close to the previous year
- 1 HS state Champ 1 do college champ game; 4 crews worked the state tournament.
- Complaints
 - When top referees get pulled up to a higher level it causes younger referees to get pulled to a high level earlier than experiences would normally happen. They do make more right calls than missed calls.
 - Referees never cost a team a game and you should never blame a referee.
 - Coaches / Players pushing their players to be better towards referees is a stronger message than a referee doing it
- Registration is open for the season, but the seminars don't tell July and D5 in person in the fall.

Tournament Coordinator – Kevin Mooney

- All tournaments need to be sanctioned
- AA, A and Junior Gold tournaments cannot be allowed to have double up on weekends.

- Tournament schedules need to be turned in by May 1st.

Girls Coordinator – Kim Monahan

- NO updates this month

League Coordinator – Mike Graham

- SQB1 had to many league games this past season and will be reduced next year so they can have more scrimmages.

MN Hockey - Nate Wold

- Bring back what associations are doing to bring to the next meeting
- Squirt nets looking at going to an intermated nets
- Roster sizes – 18 skaters and 2 goalies
- New forms coming out for e-bug goalies
- Mike Gramh was nominated for the Presidents Award and will receive the award this upcoming weekend!

Association Updates:

- Hutchinson – Annual meeting and elections. Everything went smoothly. Getting a new sound system in the East Rink.
- LDC – Annual meeting is upcoming. Looking at numbers for next year, and what improvements to the rink
- MOOSE – Election are opening
- River Lakes – Season end banquet. Dryland camp that will open to any athletes for \$50 fee. 7 open board spots
- Sartell – Board elections this upcoming week. 3 spots open with only 1 expressing interesting. Working on leveling for the next year.
- Saul Rapids – Annual meeting this past week. We did get some new faces on the board this year. New D5 next coming. HOC is working on levels for teams this week
- St Cloud – Working on hiring a HOC director. Have 8 candidates. Parents had their party bus to go thank/support the pull tabs rep establishments. A couple board position open
- STMA – Elections are closing end of the week. Looking at how HOC is going to be structured moving forward.
- Willmar – Election is completed 5 spots filled. Will have a full board for the first time in 3 years.
- Riverblades – Sent out yearend review requests and are working through those. A fun event for players/families coming up. Planning for levels and teams for the upcoming year.
- Buffalo – Tonight is the annual meeting with elections.

General Conversation:

Old Business:

- D5 Board Elections
 - Director – Lena G motion to close - Sauk Rapids / Buffalo white ballot

- President (1 Year Term) – Al Setrum / Amanda Pederson Motion to close - Sartell / Willmar
Amanda wins the election
- 2nd VP – Luke H motion to close – Sartell / LDC
- Secretary – Al motion to close – Sauk Rapids / MOOSE

New Business:

- MN Hockey ALEC (Association Leader Excellence Conference) May 1-2 at Marriott Minneapolis West – St Louis Park. Each association needs to have someone attend. \$500 fine if not compliant.
 - <https://www.minnesotahockey.org/leaders>
- D5 Meeting for the summer months
- MN Hockey Surveys – Recruiting and Retention
 - MN Hockey Association Level Information
 - MN Hockey 2025-2-26 Recruitment and Retention Survey
- League Recap
- How'd the season go:
 - Riverblades -League season were good and even. Struggled outside the district. Is the district looking to keep the tier team when there are 2 teams. Yes, that is the plan of the district.
 - B2 level super series – continue with it

*April meeting minutes are in draft status till approved at the May 6, 2026, meeting.

Next Meeting: May 6, 2026 @ 7 PM, St Augusta Legion
Adjourned at 8:27 pm

Proposed Role: Program Coordinator Assistant (Part-Time)

Role Overview

The Program Coordinator will support the continued growth and organization of District 5's High Performance, Fall League, and Futures programs. This role focuses on enhancing program operations, increasing external funding through sponsorships and fundraising, and improving communication through digital platforms.

Key Responsibilities

1. Sponsorship & Revenue Growth

- Identify and secure **corporate sponsorship opportunities** for District 5 programs
- Develop and maintain relationships with local businesses and partners
- Assist in creating sponsorship packages and outreach materials

2. Fundraising Support

- Help organize and lead **team and program fundraising efforts**, particularly for teams advancing to **National Tournament**
- Provide structure and guidance for team-based fundraising initiatives

3. Program Communications & Social Media

- Manage and grow **program-specific social media presence**
- Share updates, highlights, and promotional content for High Performance, Fall League, and Futures
- Help improve visibility and engagement within the D5 hockey community

4. Website & Scheduling Support

- Assist with **website updates**, including program information and registration details
- Support **schedule organization and communication** to families and coaches
- Ensure information is accurate, timely, and easy to access

5. General Program Support

- Provide administrative and operational support across key District 5 development programs

- Assist in improving overall organization, communication, and participant experience
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Goals for the Role

- Increase **program revenue** through sponsorships and fundraising
 - Improve **communication and visibility** of District 5 programs
 - Enhance **organization and efficiency** of scheduling and program delivery
 - Support a **high-quality experience** for players, coaches, and families
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Compensation

- **\$2,000-\$5,000+ stipend**, with potential for growth based on impact and expanded responsibilities