



Great Falls Amateur Hockey Association Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes

Date: 8 July 2025

Time: 6:30PM

Location: Great Falls Ice Plex, 4001 29th Street SW, Great Falls, MT 59404

1. Call to Order

- By: Mike Pancich
- Time: 6:32PM

2. Executive Board / Voting Members Attendance

- **Board Members Present:**
 - President – Mike Pancich
 - Vice President – Mike Zook
 - Secretary – Corey Smith
- **Division Representatives Present:**
 - High School – Erik Stober
 - 14U – Mona Williams / Becky Kujava
 - 12U – Meghan Haynes / Neal Popichak
 - 6U / 8U – Scott Bambenek / Scott Moodie
 - House League – Amber Heck / Cody Lee
 - 19U Girls Hockey – Willow Rossmiller
- **Board Members Absent:**
 - Treasurer – Jennifer Chambers - Proxy Votes to C. Smith
- **Division Representatives Absent:**
 - High School – Jeff Winkler - Proxy Votes to E. Stober
- **Guests/Observers:** Ryan Meyers, Jamie Gumenberg, Mark Apuzzo, Alay Apuzzo

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Date: 10 June 2025
- Motion to Approve: Scott Moodie
- Second by: Erik Stober
- Vote: Unanimous (Motion Approved)

4. Approval of Treasurer Report

- Motion to Approve: Erik Stober
- Second by: Mike Pancich
- Vote: Unanimous (Motion Approved)

5. Executive Board & Committee Member Reports

- Board Members:
 - President Report – Mike Pancich
 - Coaching Committee Process
 - Mike acknowledged responsibility for not providing clear guidance to the Coach-in-Chief (CiC) regarding the proper protocol for both the Coaching Committee selection and the head coach selection





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process. Matt Leaf proceeded based on the information that was presented to him at the time.

- 2025–2026 Season Registration
 - All required paperwork for the 2025–2026 season has been submitted to MAHA (Montana Amateur Hockey Association).
 - SafeSport Compliance
 - The Association is currently seeking a SafeSport Monitor to ensure ongoing compliance with USA Hockey regulations.
 - Ice Plex Coordination
 - A meeting with the Ice Plex management is scheduled for next week (15 July 2025) to discuss ice usage and scheduling for the upcoming season.
 - Vice President – Micheal Zook
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - Treasurer – Jennifer Chambers
 - Certificate of Deposit (CD) Accounts
 - Becky Kujava rescinds her original motion
 - Two motions were brought forward concerning the CD maturing on June 20, 2025: ☐ Motion by Becky Kujava: *“Renew the current CD maturing for 3 months at 3.85% and open a new CD at our 7-month special rate of 3.75%.”*
 - Future Discussion Item: Evaluate options for additional CD deposit accounts at the next scheduled meeting.
- Division Representatives
 - High School – Erik Stober
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - 14U – Mona Williams / Becky Kujava
 - A request was made for updated player roster numbers.
 - Amber Heck will distribute bi-weekly roster reports moving forward to ensure timely and accurate tracking.
 - 12U – Meghan Haynes / Neal Popichak
 - A player currently rostered on an AA team in another association has requested a Letter of Good Standing from our organization. Maghan H. and Mike P. will follow up with the family.
 - 10U – Matt Baker
 - The Association is evaluating the formation of two (2) 10U teams for the upcoming season and is currently in need of one additional Head Coach.
 - Mike P. will investigate the transfer of association paperwork for a 10U player seeking to play in Great Falls rather than Helena. He will follow up with Matt Baker and Amber H. to clarify the process and determine next steps.
 - The Association is still seeking one (1) additional 10U Representative to support team coordination and planning.
 - 6U / 8U – Scott Bambenek / Scott Moodie
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - House League – Cody Lee / Amber Heck





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- The Association still needs to fill coaching positions for the upcoming season.
- Outreach will be made to Jeff Heimel as a potential coaching candidate.
- 19U – Willow Rossmiller
- Initial meetings have been held with Helena, Havre, Big Sky, and Butte to explore the formation of co-op teams for the girls' program.
- Discussions are ongoing to evaluate the best option that supports development and participation for all involved associations.
- Committee Members:
 - Registrar – Sarah Carper
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - Equipment Manager – Ty Hoffman
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - Referee – Ken Speidel
 - President Approval granted to appoint Ken Speidel as the Head Official for the Association.
 - This appointment will be formally added to the 2025-2026 GFAHA Policy Manual and will be placed on the agenda to update the Bylaws at the annual meeting in May 2026 to reflect the position and its responsibilities.
 - Ice Foundation – Helena Harper
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
 - Web / PR – Amber Heck / Mike Zook
 - It was noted that the registration link on the website navigation bar is not functioning properly and needs to be addressed.
 - Corey requested the addition of a dedicated tab on the website to post Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes for association transparency
 - Motion to Approve: Mona Williams
 - Second by: Becky Kujava
 - Vote: Unanimous (Motion Approved)
 - Concession – Jordan Keller / Chelsea Keller
 - Individuals Added to Account: The account was changed to reflect Chelsea and Jordan Keller for concession-related financial transactions with First Interstate.
 - Square System: The Square point-of-sale system has been reconfigured to better support concession operations.
 - Vendor Evaluation: The Association is currently reviewing the Coke vs. Pepsi product offerings to determine the best partnership option moving forward.
 - Inventory Management: Concession inventory will be re-stocked as the season approaches.
 - Coordinator Appointment: Mike P. approved the appointment of Chelsea as Concession Coordinator, working jointly with Jordan in this role.
 - Tournament Director – Mona Williams
 - A Tournament Director email account has been created to streamline communication and coordination.
 - The Association is currently working with the Ice Plex to confirm tournament dates, including the potential of a joint event with the University of Providence (UP).





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- Intent to Play Process: Mona and Zook are collaborating to finalize the Intent to Play request process for upcoming tournaments.
- Goalie Development Coordinator – Amber Heck
 - Goalie Camp will continue through the end of July to support skill development.
 - The Goalie Academy is scheduled for July 31st – August 3rd.
 - Amber will send out a blast email to promote the event and ensure awareness across the association.
- Fundraising – Amber Heck
 - The Association will hold a “15 Guns in 15 Days” Raffle **from** November 1–15.
 - Mike P. and Zook will coordinate with Scheels to select the firearms to be raffled.
 - A check is needed by the Treasurer to cover the cost of the firearms.
 - This raffle will serve as an additional option to help members meet their fundraising requirements for the season.
 - Heck Memorial Golf Tournament
 - The Golf Tournament was a success, with 34 teams participating.
 - There was a great turnout, and the raffle baskets were well received, contributing to the event's overall success and fundraising efforts.
- Ice Scheduler – Sarah Carper
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.
- Coach-In-Chief –
 - See New Business Section
- Safe Sport Coordinator –
 - There were no updates or action items to report at this time.

6. New Business

- Coach-in-Chief Report
 - Coaching Committee Process
 - A summary was provided outlining the Coaching Committee selection process and the coaching appointment process.
 - The Coach-in-Chief will meet with the 8U group to discuss the vision and potential revamp of the division, referencing recommendations from recent email communications.
 - Coaching Committee Members
 - Chair: Matt Leaf
 - Members:
 - Jeff Heimel
 - Clinton Topel
 - Motion: Scott Moodie motioned to approve the committee selection
 - Second: Erik Stober
 - Vote: Approved (1 abstained)





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- Head Coach Selections

Division	Head Coach	Motion By	Seconded By	Vote Outcome
10U (Team 1)	Marc Troyer	Becky Kujava	Matt Baker	Approved (100%)
10U (Team 2)	Try-Outs Pending			
12U	Mark Apuzzo	Neal Popichak	Meghan Haynes	Approved (1 abstained)
14U	Mike McIntosh	Amber Heck	Willow Rossmiller	Approved (100%)
High School (JV)	Try-Outs Pending			
High School Varsity	Josh Dahl	Erik Strober	Neal Popichak	Approved (100%)
High School Varsity	Reed Link	Erik Strober	Jeff Winkler	Failed (7 Nays, 5 Yes, 3 Abstained)
Goalie	Marcus Ivey	Meghan Haynes	Scott Bambenek	Approved (100%)

- Assistant Coaches

- Assistant Coaches will be selected by the Head Coaches and subsequently approved by the Board.
- Policy Update – Grievance & Discipline Chairperson and Approval of Policy Manual
 - Motion: Amber Heck moved to approve the updated language for the Grievance & Discipline Chairperson and to grant full approval of the revised Policy Manual.
 - Second: Becky Kujava
 - Vote: Unanimous (Motion Approved)

7. Open Forum / Public Comment

- Jamie Gumenberg –
 - A question was raised regarding team formation at the High School level:
If there are not enough players to form both a Varsity and JV team, and a player does not make the final roster for a single combined team, will a full refund be issued?
 - The Board will review this scenario and clarify the refund policy to ensure transparency for all families prior to final team selections.

8. Next Meeting

- Date: 08 July 2025
- Time: 6:30PM
- Location: Great Falls Ice Plex. 4001 29th Street SW, Great Falls, MT 59404

9. Adjournment

- Motion by: Becky Kujava
- Seconded by: Meghan Haynes
- Time: 8:35PM

