

GYHA Board Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

Board Members: Jeff Linn, Don Johnson, Bill Ryan, Ryan Whitehurst, Jeff Barton, Baillie Hults, Aly Miser, Nick Lane, Veronica Lamendola

Guests: Mara Riley, Ben Clark

Old Business

- **August Board Meeting Minutes:** Approved by GYHA
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Social Media & Website

- **Status:** Aly and Veronica reported that social media is doing great, interactions are up.
 - **Action Item: Board member photos:** Veronica requested that board members send in pictures to be added to the website. This will help ensure people can easily identify and get in contact with board members if needed.
 - **Action Item: Adding skating coaches to the website:** Don will resend skating coach info to Aly.
 - Both head coaches are currently on the website. Assistant coaches should be added as well.
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Financials

- **Checking Account:** The checking account balance is over \$165,000.
 - **Action Item: Fund Placement:** By the next meeting, the board should vote on where to place these funds, potentially in an Edward Jones or other savings account. (No change for the current Edward Jones account).
 - **Venmo Account:** Need to change the Venmo account name from Nick's name to Ryan's.
 - **Cash Deposit:** Bill gave Ryan \$60 from jersey sales and \$195 from T-shirt sales.
 - No further questions for Ryan
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MITES Program

- **Practices:** Practices have been added to the schedule for set dates, these additional practices will take place on weekends throughout the season. Coaching staff will rotate the color groups assigned to each weekend practice. This allows coaches to reduce the number of players on the ice at a time, creating more space for our larger mites group this year. Switching between color groups is not allowed due to skill level discrepancies.
- **Action Item:** Veronica requested a closed session for further discussion.
- Bill will draft a letter regarding weekend practices for board review.
 - The decision to add practices was considered a good one.
 - Additional weekend practice dates do not have color designation yet.
 - GYHA acknowledges that this modified schedule will not work for everyone.
- **Lady Stars:** Girls will be added to co-ed color groups after the head coaches have assessed skill levels.

Jamborees and Home Games

- The Mites program offers 4 home games and 3 jamborees; the board must do its best to offer this.
- The current schedule does not seem fair to all skill levels; changes are expected.
- **Gargoyles Jamboree at Greensboro Coliseum (2/28):** Approved, but requires selling 200 tickets and \$1,000 in ice time. All GYHA teams will be there.
- Mara requests GYHA cover costs for a cookout after the jamboree; the board decided to revisit this conversation at a later date.
- Jamborees and home games will be half- or cross-ice, not 4 ice divisions, as previously used by WSYHA during I-40 games.
- **Home Jamboree (10/12):** Greensboro Gargoyles representatives are coming to this home jamboree. A food truck will be present. All GYHA teams except 8U Developmental will participate.
- **Lower-Level Games:** Don will look into organizations with lower-level teams to invite lower-level GYHA teams to their away Jamborees.
- Red and White now have 3 home jamborees.
- More travel opportunities will arise for Red and White teams.
- Don suggests potential for the Red and White teams to travel to Greenville, NC on 3/08. To be discussed as the season continues and skill levels are assessed.

Administrative & Program Guidelines

- **Pictures:** White Rust Photography is scheduled for October 22nd.

- **Jerseys:** Jerseys have arrived (Marci picked them up) and should be handed out next week.
- **I-40 Carolina Classic Fair Game (Winston-Salem):** Will give White and Red preference for the game, then fill in remaining spots after RSVP's.
- **Future Guidelines:** GYHA will need to determine how program setup and guidelines are worded for the future. Consider allowing 2018 and 2019 birth years to register first, next season.
- **Staffing:** Don asked if it may be necessary to have head coaches for each color group and a team mom to help coordinate. Ben, Mara, and coaches don't feel that is necessary at this time.
- **LTP (Learn to Play):** LTP is at 50 registered. Sign-up restrictions have helped prevent families who have completed LTP numerous times from registering again.
- Ben Clark and Mara Riley exited the meeting at **7:24 PM**.

THFF (Try Hockey For Free)

- **Attendance:** 38 sign-ups resulted in 25 in attendance.
 - Attendees will receive a free session for the next LTP on March 7th.
 - **Volunteering:** Don would like to reach out to the Gargoyles about volunteering to coach, similar to the Thunderbirds.
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Closed door session

Session Adjourned- 8:30