

# Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: Jason Mattila, Justin Temple, Lauren Koehler, Amanda Ferwerda, Kyle Dziubla, Todd Carlson, Bill Snow, PJ Gregoire, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Jill Scheibel, Lelsey Steffin, Kaiti Bohacek.

1. **Call to order** – Jason Mattila called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the July 2023 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Joe, second by Lesley. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple) – Rink is moving along on schedule. There will be an opportunity to buy a puck for the bar top.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Erin Ludmer) – No report.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Jason Mattila) – Justin voted in as a Region 4 director! Other updates will be discussed during New Business.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
  - a. **Fundraising** (Mindy O'Brien) – No report.
  - b. **Equipment** (Mark Markham) – No report.
  - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Shane is scheduled to do goalie training, Biser to do pre-season training. Annual coaches meeting is going to be September 7.
  - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Still waiting on the schedule from Edgewood. November is going to be tight. ALDs – Please send tournament schedules to Earl as soon as you have them, he is starting to get inquiries from other clubs for games.
  - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Currently have 196 skaters and goalies registered so far.
  - f. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – WEHL games start August 27th and run every weekend in Verona with exception of September 4th and October 15th. Most of these weekends there is one game, a two-hour break, and then another game. In terms of staffing the concession stand we were wondering a few things: Staffing the stand takes care of DIBS hours (obviously) but registration for this year's season hasn't closed - would this pose a problem? No, should be fine. Do we want it staffed all day even during the 2-hour break? No. There is a full slate of games October 1st, so we'll staff it for sure as registration has closed at that point. Makes sense to try and be open if we can, starting September 11 when pre-season ice starts.
  - g. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – No report.
  - h. **Registrar's Report** (Mike Bakalars) – Just shy of 200 registered to date. Mike sent out the first registration list earlier this week and got some feedback on skaters signed up for the wrong division, didn't get the discount code entered in, etc. Mike will also touch base with Lauren to try and figure out a way to track coaches education requirements. He also needs to talk to Angela about getting a list of girls signed up for the Jr. Lynx program.
  - i. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.

- j. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – 8 boys attending co-ed open house, just completed week 2 of Girls Try Hockey. There have been ~30 skaters out on the ice each week, will be introducing different team options in the next few weeks, potential of 7 U10 and 11 U12 girls.
- k. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – Continue to promote the upcoming Hometown Brewdown event 9/23. Save the Date for the upcoming Dick's Sporting Goods Shop weekend Sept 15-18. Karin, please let Kristen know if new email list for 2023-2024 is ready to use in Sports Engine. It is ready!
- l. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – Hats are ordered for evaluations, coaches jackets will be ordered soon and they are going to pre-order youth jackets. Planning to do the mini-sticks and pucks again, Kaiti will look at other possible options.
- m. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – No report.
- n. **Photography Coordinator** (Jill Scheibel) – Talked to Empire and got possible dates for the first week in November. Will need to coordinate with Earl to make sure the schedule works with practice schedules.
- o. **Tournament Director** (TBD) – No report.
- p. **Girl's Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Included above in Recruitment.
- q. **Update from ALD's**
  - LTP (Danielle Pellitteri) – 10 LTP registered, coaches orientation and practice plan templates are in the works with Beyler and Gehrke.
  - U6 (Wayne Pfahler) – 15 skaters registered so far for U6, expecting many more. Starting to look at tournaments / jamborees, which we haven't participated in much in the past. Between now and next board meeting I'll be coordinating with local organizations to get a league scheduling meeting on the books.
  - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Estimated that they would have ~57, but already have several kids registered that weren't accounted for, roughly 38 registered so far. Talked a few ALDs and will plan to hold a scheduling meeting in the middle of October, Amanda will take over on scheduling.
  - Squirt (Kyle Dzuibla) – Currently have 28 registered, but no goalies. Still looking for another A and C2 tournament.
  - Peewee (Todd Carlson) – Currently have 34 registered, email confirmation for 4 goalies.
  - Bantam (Bill Snow) – Currently have 22 skaters registered. Some interest from Dodgeville about doing a co-op, they would be interested in bringing in 7 total skaters (with 1 goalie). Would put us in a position to have 3 teams of 13 skaters. Earl motions to approve creating the co-op, seconded by Lesley. Motion passed.
  - Mavericks (PJ Gregoire) – Mid to upper 20s registered for U14, only 1 goalie. Registration is a little lower for U12. Continued conversations with other associations about joining together. Board is relooking at the registration fees for U14.
  - Midget (Janis Strutt) – looks like there will be a solid 15 players this year. Been working with ice schedule, but we know it's not 100% yet due to where U18 falls into scheduling.

## 7. Old Business

- a) **Parent Handbook Updates** – PDF version sent out earlier this week, looking for Board approval. Justin approves the Parent Handbook, Lesley seconds. Motion passed.
- b) **Safe Sport Renewal + Background Checks** – Reminder to complete each of these if you haven't already.
- c) **CPR and AED Training at the Rink (Karin)** – Scheduled on September 14. Joe to talk with ALDs about when to hold this for coaches and then reach out to Karin.
- d) **U6 and RWB Jerseys** – Planning to go through House of Hockey, 40 jerseys for U6, 70 jerseys for U8, 60 jerseys for LTP (helpful to have two different color jerseys, black and orange). Use the same sizing breakdown that Joel used last year. Karin to email Todd and Joel.

- e) **Transfers** – Two that we need to take action on tonight. First transfer (Dill): Kyle to motion to approve the transfer, Todd to second. Motion approved. Second transfer (Blaney): Todd to motion to deny the transfer, Karin second. Motion approved.
- f) **Tanner Kaltenberg** – Planning to meet with Kristy as well as Joel or Kari on behalf of VAHS Booster club as well.
- g) **Culture Education Liaison/Leader** – Have an idea of someone from the association that would be a good fit for this, Jason will reach out and then we will circle back.

*This person will be responsible for disseminating information that pertains to the continuous improvement of your association culture and will also be the person who makes sure that all of your coaches, parents, players, officials and association officers have reviewed and signed the USAH Code of Conduct promise as part of your association pre-season welcome process. On the WAHA web page there is a place to list the name and contact information for your CEL and your Safety Officer.*

## 8. New Business

### a) Association Conference Updates

- i. **Safety Officer:** Mainly responsible for reporting concussions. Head coaches will submit concussion details to the safety officer, who will report to WAHA. Lauren volunteered to do this.
  - ii. **Locker Room Policy:** Doesn't need to be exactly verbatim, but need to ensure that we have the locker room policy posted on the website. Should probably start collecting phones before heading into the locker room. Need to have the head coach and a second locker room monitor assigned for each team. Jason will send the new policy and the current policy to Brian for review.
  - iii. **Digital Scoresheets:** WAHA is going to offer some incentive to use this prior to mandating its use moving forward. It will cost \$4 per game per team, WAHA will pay 75% back to the club for the first year, 50% for the second year, and then it will be mandated. Would need to purchase at least 4 iPads, looking at roughly \$1,000. \$5,000 initial expense, should get \$2,000 back. Lauren motions to move forward with using it for this season, Karin seconded. Motion passed.
- b) **PeeWee Tournament** – Looking to host another tournament in either January or February, won't be able to pick a specific weekend yet. Unsolicited feedback would be PeeWee C2, but we will revisit next month.

9. **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Justin, seconded by Kyle, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.