

February 2025

Rushmore Hockey Association General Membership Meeting

Date: 2/10/25

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Thunderdome

Board Member	Present	Absent
Brad Eggers	X	
Dan Krohn		x
Brad Lee	X	
Cody Minnerath	X	
Corey Norris	X	
Dan Laughlin	X	
Dave Bender	X	
Domnick Janitell	X	
Joelle Neutzling		x
House Representative		x
Loren Jensen	X	
Megan Archer	X	
Rachelle Williams	X	
Rebecca Mann	x	
Ronda Simmons	X	
Sandra Weaver	X	
Shannon Wirth	X	

Motion	First:	Second:	Time:
Call General Meeting to Order:	Brad Eggers	Dan Laughlin	6:00pm
Previous Meeting Minutes Approval:	Add Nov. 1 st and 2 nd as dates for Robby G. Camp – David Bender	Rachelle Williams	
Meeting Agenda Approval:	Sandra Weaver	Rachelle Williams	
Meeting Adjourned:	Corey Norris	Cody Minnerath	7:16pm

Important Upcoming Event:	Date:
March Boar Meeting	3-10-25
Stick it to Cancer Night	2-22-25

Report	Discussion	Follow Up
Presidents Report: Brad Eggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RHA has selected their second SD Hall of Fame inductee, Micheal Kelly. Brad Eggers proposes RHA pay for Micheal’s table and hotel room for the Hall of Fame dinner. Micheal currently lives in California, but the offer will be extended to him. Tables are about \$800.00. David Bender makes a motion to approve paying for a table and his room if he chooses to go, Cody Minnerath seconds the motion. The board passed the motion with no objections. After the vote Ronda Simmons suggests adding a line item to the early budget for this purpose. Loren Jensen makes a motion to appropriate \$1,500.00 to the yearly budget for a table at the yearly banquet. Domnick Janitell second’s the motion. Motion is approved by the board with no objections. Ronda Simmons voices concerns about the recent changes to the yearly SDAHA banquet. In past years the banquet honoring seniors was held during the Varsity State Tournament. Holding the banquet at this time gave all players an opportunity to support their peers. This also gave younger players something to work towards. With the recent changes, 	

	<p>the banquet is now being held on a different date in conjunction with The Hall of Fame dinner, making it more challenging for all players and families to attend. This would mean a separate trip across the state, more hotel nights, and expensive tickets for dinner. Tickets to this event are \$65 per person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stick it to Cancer night will be February 22nd. The t-shirt order is now closed. • As an FYI to RHA, Roosevelt will be closed for 6 weeks this summer as they do major repairs to their ice. 	
<p>House Report: No house representative present</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representative present at today's meeting. • Brad Eggers reports they had their senior night last weekend; it was very successful. They have 7 seniors this year, 2 of them were recipients of RHA scholarships. 	
<p>Tournaments: David Bender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Bender reports that the JV state tournament hosted by RHA is coming right up. As of now they do not have any outstanding items to take care of. The t-shirt design is done, Shirt Shack is doing online orders for this. The state-approved tournament schedule is now available and dibs are filling up. The program design is in progress and will be finalized once the qualifying teams for state are determined. Zam drivers will be set up amongst qualified drivers. There will be a dedicated skate sharpener. Only four experienced individuals will handle score sheets: no dibs for this task. • Michelle Valco reports that the Mite tournament for March is on track as well. They currently have 9 different associations bringing teams, including Northern Hills. The games will start Friday at 3:30. Roosevelt ice has been obtained. Coaches will receive contact information for the Rush game, each team is to make their own arrangements for tickets to the game. Hotel room blocks have been set up if teams choose. • Brad Eggers reports that RHA's long-time contact is no longer with Liv Hospitality. 	
<p>Financial Report: Sandra Weaver</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of Activity (Profit & Loss): This year's registration income is up 7.8% over last year with no increase in fees. • Revenue: We are trending lower in revenue related to games played in the Thunderdome, but with the delayed season of home games this year, hoping February makes a difference. • Referee expense: Travel is down due to more local refs, overall referee payments down due to less games. House ref payment increases started mid-January. • Utilities finally slowed down, with only water being higher than prior year. • Overall net is \$71,596 currently to date, comparable to last year. • Upcoming significant expenses: February – April mortgage payments of \$44,377 plus refinancing costs (unknown). Insurance premiums of approximately \$21K – 25K. • Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet): Our unrestricted cash in the bank covers 14 months of expenses based on a rolling 3-year average 	

	<p>of \$224,803 per month. This means currently, without any additional revenue coming in, we can support a little over 1 year of operating expenses.</p>	
<p>Facilities Report: Cody Minnerath</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is damage to the new zam door, unfortunately it has been hit 2 times this season. Cody will be working this summer to take apart the door and repair it. Sandra Weaver requests attempting to order parts ASAP to avoid any tariffs as these parts come from Canada. • There have been several occasions where the ice rink has become excessively warm, resulting in the ice softening by midday. Soft ice becomes a safety issue when the JV and Varsity play on it. The ice is warming because the bleacher heaters are running constantly. There are people in the concessions pushing the button every 30 minutes, eliminating a cool down period. Cody Minnerath will be working to identify a solution to this issue. He may explore options such as a new switch or a Wi-Fi-enabled switch that allows for remote deactivation. • Cody has been adding more coolant to the compressors, which may indicate that the compressors need a new seal. The maintenance crew has added coolant over the years. Cody is looking for a longer-term solution. • A few weeks again one of the zam water heaters went down. The next day the other one went down as well. Without these water heaters ice cannot be maintained. Cody Minnerath and Jason Mann were able to get the heaters back in working condition within the day, saving RHA thousands of dollars and successfully avoiding having to cancel any games. One of the water heaters is original to the building, they are looking to get this replaced. Cody and Jason Mann have investigated a tankless system, however after doing research it is not a great option due to the lack of capacity on these systems. A new water heater will cost about \$13,000. Cody and Jason are looking to work out a sponsorship to get part of this paid for. • The concrete pad where the zam is stored is settling, Cody is seeing about getting this jacked up. He is looking for sponsorship for this as well. It has gotten worse over the last 2 years. • Cody is arranging for a skid steer to remove the ice once the coolers are turned off. This process was implemented last year and proved to be very effective. Last year, RHA did not receive a bill for this service, and Cody plans to work with the same company again, offering them a banner in exchange for their work. • This summer Cody will be looking into fixing the parking lot entry as this is starting to dip. 	
<p>Recruitment: Rachelle Williams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachelle Williams would like to transition the Recruitment team to new leadership. Ideally, a parent of a younger player will take over. She has potential candidates in mind and will train the successor over several months. • Corey Norris states that Harney Little League may be reaching out to place a banner at the dome in trade for RHA placing a banner at one of 	

	<p>their fields last fall. Per Brad Eggers they are welcome to hang a banner anywhere on our property.</p>	
<p>Fundraising Report: Allisa Orban</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squirts recently did a popcorn fundraiser and made about \$3000 in 4 days. This fundraiser was super easy and can be done by any team as it was 100% online with direct shipping. • Allisa will be working through the off season by watching how other teams are doing raffles to get ideas for RHA. • Shannon Wirth suggests looking within our organization for a grant writer to start applying for grants for RHA. • There are opportunities to do fundraisers over the summer if any team would like to get a head start on securing funds for the season. Allisa will coordinate this with team coordinators if there is interest. 	<p>Ask if anyone in the association is a qualified grant writer.</p>
<p>New to Referee Program:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan Cathcart is interested in taking over this program from Bob Steffy. Recently Ryan's son became a certified referee, he is now familiar with the steps to take. Having this one point of contact will be ideal. He will also work to get more refs equipped and set up as well as getting information out to new referee's. 	
<p>Boys Varsity Nationals: Ronda Simmons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronda Simmons announced that the boys' Varsity team has the opportunity to be awarded the bid for Nationals in Irvine, CA from March 26th to 30th. The bid will be revealed after this weekend's games against Sioux Falls. This is an earned spot, and teams must be asked to bid. Last year, RHA secured a spot and placed 3rd. Fundraising will begin once the bid is confirmed. • This honor comes with a price tag of about \$20,000. If selected the team will have about 4 weeks to fundraise this money. The bulk of the expenses will be travel as the team plans to charter a bus from Rapid City to Irvine, this is a 20-hour drive. Other expenses will include the tournament fee, hotel rooms for the bus drivers and coaches. • Ronda comes to the board to request the board wave the 20% fundraising fee up to \$20,000.00 similar to what was done last year when Varsity went to nationals. If the team raises over \$20,000.00 extra money will be subjected to a 20% fee. She also requests RHA cover the tournament fee of \$1,700.00. The Varsity team was scheduled to host a tournament this year, however it was cancelled at the last minute due to a lack of teams signing up. Currently the varsity has a team fund balance of \$4232.00 that can be used for the tournament fees. • Last year the team quickly raised enough to cover the expenses with a few different fundraisers. They had a text-a-thon that raised about \$10,000. There was approximately \$4,232.00 left over at the end of their trip. • Dan Laughlin mentions that this event represents a significant milestone in the hockey careers of many of these players. This is something huge for them to end their career with RHA on. This is a big deal for our organization and these kids. Dan would like to see RHA support these players by waving the 20% fundraising fee but would have Varsity pay for the entrance fee with their team funds as this was the intended use of these funds. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Weaver would like to see the varsity pay the 20% fee on any fundraised fees; any direct deposit funds are not subject to the fees. • Alissa Orban (non-board member) states that all other teams are subject to the 20% fee. She recommends planning ahead and building funds during the summer, instead of waiting for the announcement. This was disputed because the teams are invited based on their record throughout the season, typically they only have a few weeks' notice. • Shannon Wirth states that Varsity Nations should be the only exception to the 20% rule. • Becky Mann motions to waive the fee completely. Domnick Janitell second this motion. The Board continues to discuss motion, vote for this motion was not held. Dan Laughlin suggests going to a showing of hands for the vote. • Sandra Weaver would like to make an amendment to Rebecca Manns motion. Sandra would like anything past \$20,000 be subject to the 20% fee. If they fundraise \$25,000, \$5,000 would be subject to a 20% fee. • Shannon Wirth made a motion to wave 20% fundraising fee up to the full cost of the tournament. Any leftover money will then be subject to 20%. Only money earned from fundraising is subject to the fee. Any direct donations are not subject to the fee. Domnick Janitell seconds the motion. The board votes to approve the motion with one nay vote. 	
Strategic planning meeting: Board discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, about half of the board attended a strategic planning meeting at an external location with a certified strategic planning coach. This meeting provided significant opportunities for RHA. The coach has offered his services pro-bono, which typically cost around \$40,000 for a complete 2-3 year commitment. The coach follows the EOS Process. The goal of strategic planning is to guide RHA into the future. Planning will focus on capital, recruitment, and business goals. Goals will be established, and each president will receive a roadmap on how to uphold these goals annually. This roadmap aims to enable RHA to expand and succeed in the coming years. • The board seeks candidates to lead this multi-year program. Members must commit significant time: initially 3 days of 7 hours every 30 days to set goals. RHA needs 4-5 people with experience in sales, marketing, finance, and facilities. Interested individuals must commit to the entire duration. • No one on the board is opposed to taking advantage of this huge opportunity, however the time commitment is the hardest part. • Brad Eggers would like a volunteer to head up this program. Alissa Orban states she would head the program, Sandra Weaver will co-lead with her. 	
Zam Road: Ronda Simmons and Cody Minnerath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banners for the companies who donated to the zam road have been placed. Ronda would like to do a post on Facebook using before and after photos. Cody is to get these photos to Ronda. 	Zam road before and after photos.
Camps: Brad Eggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad Eggers would like RHA to promote any camps being held in Rapid City. This summer there are already several camps coming to Rosevelt. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mario Lamoureux camp has been set for October 17-19 at RHA. The coaches have requested the camp focus on skating. RHA has not yet received any information on the price for this camp. 	
<p>Ladies in Laces: Ronda Simmons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ladies in Laces event is scheduled for March 11th. Ronda Simmons has applied for the liquor license for this date. An email has been sent to all families to encourage moms to sign up. This year, a food truck or pizza at the dome is planned instead of traditional concession stand food options. • There will also be a live Chase the Ace drawing at the event. Ronda will also be planning to make a zam road announcement. 	