

**Watertown Hockey  
Association  
10/23/24 - 6 PM  
1812 Brew Pub on the River  
Meeting Minutes**

<p><b>Board Of Directors</b> Vega Nutting Michael Ledoux Chris Nethers, <i>Learn to Play Liaison</i> Jordan Reber Shane Caswell</p>	<p><b>Executive Committee</b> Vega Nutting - <i>Board President</i> Michael Ledoux - <i>Board Vice President</i> Brian Nutting - <i>WHA Treasurer</i> Amanda Caswell- <i>Secretary</i> Michelle Rist - <i>WHA Registrar</i> Jonathan Rose - <i>Ace Coordinator</i></p>
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- **Establish Quorum Present-** Majority of Directors (4 or more) required  
**Board members present-** Vega Nutting, Mike Ledoux, Chris Nethers, Jordan Reber, Shane Caswell  
**Executive committee present-** Vega Nutting, Mike Ledoux, Amanda Caswell, Michelle Rist
- Call Meeting to Order and Consent Agenda (*Vega*)
  - 6:19pm
- Approve Meeting Minutes from September 25 and 29, 2024 (*Vega*)
  - Vega: Motion to Approve both sets of minutes
  - Jordan: 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to approve both sets of minutes
  - Ayes: 5
  - Nays: 0
  - Abstentions: 0
- Officer Reports
  - Registrar (*Michelle*)
    - With teams being set, registration has slowed. Registration will remain open for season for any new players. Age verifications and registration with USA hockey are occurring.
  - Secretary (*Amanda*)
    - Google Drive Creation
    - Continued discussion about Google drive creation was presented. Derek Notz suggested alternative options to Google drive. Shane, Amanda and Derek will meet to explore options for storage alternatives; a recommendation will be presented to the board.
- Directors and Coordinator Reports
  - Tournament Coordinator (*Ginger Sherrill*)
    - The mite jam was canceled due to only 1 team registering.
    - Contacts for local restaurants for tournaments involvement and advertising have been identified.
    - The 12U tournament has been sent out on social media for advertising; 10U will follow.

- A checklist system is being developed for tournaments that can be used each year. As we go through the season, a comprehensive list of what is needed and how to run tournament will be recorded.
  - Webmaster (*Derek Notz*)
    - Progress is being made to organize and revise the WHA website. He is still waiting on some administrative permissions to continue his work.
    - Amanda is going to give him the previous meeting minutes to post on the website.
    - A recommendation was made to purchase and enable Dibs on sports engine to use as a volunteer sign up and for donations.
      - Mike: Motion to approve purchase of Dibs for 2024-25 season
      - Chris: 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to approve purchase of Dibs for 2024-25 season
      - Ayes: 5
      - Nays: 0
      - Abstentions: 0
  - Valkyries Girls' Program (*Amanda*)
    - Registration is up to 40 girls for the program. A 13U team (18 players total) participated in the Massena tournament. Parent and player feedback was overwhelming about the positivity of the tournament. Parents and girls appreciated the opportunity for girls to play on a unisex team. 3 female coaches participated in the team for the weekend.
    - 2 practices are planned for the program in November.
    - There are currently 3 other 12U all girl teams in the Snowbelt league, no idea about 10U level. It was suggested that a proposal be taken to Snowbelt to start/allow a pre/post season option for girls in the 2025-26 season.
- Committee Reports
  - Coaching Committee
    - No Report.
  - Finance/Budget Committee (*Vega*)
    - Budget forecast with current registration numbers will be provided next meeting. This will include tournament and extra ice budget. Breakdown of tournament costs for 6/8U teams from 2023-24 season will also be provided
- Old Business
  - Open Positions on Board and Committees (*Vega*)
    - Michelle Rist was asked to accept nomination for board due to her long time involvement in the executive committee as the registrar. She accepted the nomination.
    - Two other candidates, Ginger Sherrill and Derek Notz, had submitted their letter of interest for a board position.
    - Ginger Sherrill and Michelle Rist were chosen for 2 open board positions.
  - Emergency Action Plans, and basic first aid/CPR equipment (*Shane*)
    - Pictures have been taken for emergency action planning. Work will continue on the plans.
    - Each team was issued a first aid kit. If additional supplies or restocking of items are needed, a QR code is in each box that links to an email where supplies

- can be requested.
    - A discussion about reporting injuries took place. This is something the association would like to work towards in the future. Perhaps a fillable form that can go directly to the Google drive that will be created.
    - Shane was appointed as the safety officer for the WHA.
  - Golf Tournament Plan 2025 (*Amanda*)
    - A discussion ensued about continuing the golf tournament fundraiser. Vega is going to gather information she has gathered over the years and create a plan to move forward.
  - Status of 16U & 18U refunds from last year (*Vega*)
    - All have been distributed.
  - 6/8U Program Proposal
    - Text vote for 1 year agreement for PowerPlay Sports to provide coaching and additional ice time
      - Unanimous Vote on 9/30/2024
    - Deliverables and outcomes were included in the proposal and will be used to evaluate the program at the end of the season.
  - 10/12U Team Rosters
    - Unanimous Text vote on 10/23/2024
  - 14U Rosters
    - Unanimous Text vote on 10/21/2024
  - Board Members Required to Register as Volunteers (*Michelle*)
    - All are done and are enrolled in Sports Engine site.
  - Sports Engine Sites (*Michelle*)
    - Board and managers have their own site that is working well for communication. Both board members and managers are encouraged to use the sites for communication in lieu of personal device texts. It was emphasized that board discussion should take place on site for documentation and clear communication.
- New Business
  - P.O. Box (*Vega*)
    - For convenience, it was proposed to move the WHA PO box to Dexter.
    - Chris: Motion to move WHA PO box to Dexter.
    - Mike: 2<sup>nd</sup> to move WHA PO box to Dexter.
      - Ayes: 6
      - Nays: 0
      - Abstentions: 0
  - Snowbelt Updates (*Vega*)
    - Preseason information will be sent out tomorrow by scheduler for 10/12U.
    - All games must be completed by Nov 24 for preseason.
  - USA Hockey Rosters (*Vega*)

- Coaches must be registered with USA hockey, age specific modules completed and safe sport training before taking ice. Imperative this is done.
    - Michelle has identified some issues and will contact about completing requirements.
    - Issue were identified from NYSHA the last week and video was pulled that showed players not rostered and coaches not adequately registered. All must be rostered and registered before permitting to take ice and represent the WHA for any event.
  - Discipline (*Vega*)
    - 1 case has been reviewed by committee. The board will be informed if any action is necessary.
- Other Business:
- Action Items:
  - Shane, Amanda and Derek Notz will meet to explore options for storage alternatives; a recommendation will be presented to the board.
  - Brian will budget forecast with current registration numbers will be provided next meeting. This will include tournament and extra ice budget. Breakdown of tournament costs for 6/8U teams from 2023-24 season will also be provided
  - Amanda will work on creating a proposal to be taken to Snowbelt to start/allow a pre/post season option for girls in the 2025-26 season.
  - A discussion ensued about continuing the golf tournament fundraiser. Vega is going to gather information she has gathered over the years and create a plan to move forward.
  - Shane is going to continue work on emergency action plans for the association.
  - Michelle is going to contact any players and coaches that need verification and materials to be on ice.
  - Vega will gather information for golf tournament and present next steps for planning at board meeting.
  - Vega will complete process to move PO Box to Dexter.
  - Brian will purchase Dibs for Sports Engine.
- Meeting Adjournment