

Sun Valley Youth Hockey Board Meeting
Hailey Ice Cafe – January 8, 2025



Board members present: Brooke McKenna, Kayla Nisson, Ryan Deal, John Kearney, Jeff Lamoureux. Sam Herrick, Barton Burdette attended via Zoom.

Others present: Gene Korby, Sarah Benson, Scott Smith, Nancy Fenn

Call to Order: Brooke called the meeting to order at 6:05pm, quorum established.

Approval of December 2024 meeting minute; Sam reminded board of action item from December meeting - Jeff to follow up with Overspeed. Minutes approved - Kayla motioned, Jeff seconded, all approved.

Board vacancy:

Motion - Brooke made a motion to elect Gene Korby to the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy left behind by Jessica Pollock - John second, all approved.

Motion - John made a motion to elect Gene Korby as Board Secretary - Ryan second, all approved.

Discussion

Executive Director - Scott Smith

Skills with Scott holiday camps went great with professionals brought up from Colorado. There was one complaint from the 19U Girls' Captain that they would have preferred skating with the High School Boys team.

Evaluations before winter break were great. There are two teams left to evaluate, Bantam A and B teams.

There has been some discussion about the PeeWee A team swapping practice times with the 19U Girls on Thursdays. The 19U team has been averaging around 9 skaters per week on a full sheet of ice. PeeWee A has 17 skaters and does not have a full sheet of ice at any of their practices. Nancy brought up the challenges around shifting schedules mid-season and further stated that the 19U team needs to own their low attendance. Nancy suggested the PeeWee A team take the empty ice on those Thursdays when the 19U team is travelling. Jeff also offered to invite the 19U team to practice with the JV team to free up the ice on occasion for the PeeWee team. Jeff to follow up.

Registrar's Report – Nancy Fenn

The Girls' Showcase, Futures Game and Girls' Alumnae Game all went well. Somewhat low attendance at the Futures Game due to the holidays, but the Alumnae Game was “magical” and

well attended. Nancy suggests that we figure out how to do a December Boys' Alumni Game, maybe as a fundraising event, to capture boys home from college as well.

The kids loved Skills with Scott over break, but she would have liked to see a higher percentage of SVYH skaters attend, given that it was a free option open to all. She suggests we consider Fall for this kind of camp in the future, or a mid-season/mid-week window.

Squirts home tournament went really well. It's a reminder that our Team Managers do an immense amount of work for these events. The PeeWee home tournament is coming up and we have 16 teams committed. They will be using both ice rinks!

More donations came in over the holidays, many of which were restricted to a specific team, which is not usual. The biggest fundraising disappointment for the season was the Wreath Fundraiser. Revenue was flat, but Webb expenses increased by a whopping \$10,000 and kickback was \$1,000 more than last year meaning our net income was quite a bit less. Should we find another way to raise \$20K-\$30K, or negotiate pricing with Webb, or consider team incentives to encourage more sales? The Board recognizes the timeline for wreath sales is tight and could contribute to decreased income. Sam suggests an alternative fundraiser, such as a Puck Shoot-a-Thon.

Hailey Ice – Sarah Benson

Girls' Showcase drew skaters from all over the US and Europe! It was high caliber hockey. Val is expected to do more girls-specific activities in the Spring. Hailey Ice is trying to stay open this Spring to support different opportunities like this.

Grunnah Power Skating held a camp over the holidays with somewhat low attendance. They will be back with Elevated Hockey at the end of August. Planet Hockey will be here in June. Sarah trying to secure a June Overspeed camp for girls. Overspeed will be back for full camps in July.

Suns games are selling out for their 50th season!

SVYH Treasurer's Report –

Review of the budget to date. Increase in donations over the holidays. Final Wreath Fundraiser figures will be presented in January.

President's Report– Brooke McKenna

Another community member has expressed interest in joining the board, Ryan Drew. Sarah highly recommended Ryan! Brooke to meet with Ryan and report back.

Discussion about the High School Varsity team purchasing their own breezers. The skaters organized, designed and paid for the breezers themselves. After seeing the team wear the breezers in practice, the board received some complaints from JV team parents about lack of uniformity across teams. Although not expressly violating IAHA or SVYH rules, the Varsity breezers could open the door to other teams designing their own breezers that don't follow SVYH colors, etc. It was decided that some language be added to the Guidebook to let any team know who might be interested in adding breezers or altering the SVYH uniform in any way to seek prior approval from the board. The board will allow the Varsity team to wear their breezers this season, but further discussion will need to be had about this issue before next season.

Brief discussion around ShoulderCheck, a youth hockey initiative to encourage peers to reach out, check in and make contact with each other. The organization was created after the suicide of a young hockey player and is intended to help hockey programs build a positive environment of peer support to mitigate future suicides. Assistant Coach and parent, Annie Leady, is friends with the organizers of the initiative and will bring educational materials to a future board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm. Jeff motioned, and Kayla seconded.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday February 5, 2025, 6:00pm, Hailey Ice Cafe
Minutes submitted by Brooke McKenna, SVYH President, January 30, 2025