

# Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: **Justin Temple, Kyle Dziubla, Lauren Koehler, Erin Ludmer, Adam Sodersten, Aubrey Freeman, Amanda Ferwerda, Wayne Pfahler, Eric Helsher, Bill Snow, Mike Bakalars, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, April Rabedeaux, Lelsey Steffin, Brian Lindow, Kristen Manning, Kaiti Bohacek**

1. **Call to order** – Justin Temple called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the December 2024 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Lesley, second by Erin. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O’Brien) – Everything is going well.
4. **Treasurer’s Report** (Erin Ludmer) – Tournaments so far is \$4,600, Fundraising so far is \$16,100, Concessions so far is \$21,000. Next month, Erin will be billing people for unworked DIBS hours, which should have been completed by March 10.
5. **President’s Report/Region 4** (Justin Temple) – No report.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
  - a. **Registrar’s Report** (Adam Sodersten) – Patches are rolling in.
  - b. **Fundraising** (Mindy O’Brien) – No report.
  - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – No report.
  - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – All practices and games should be on the website calendar, officials have been obtained or requested for the rest of the season including PW A state tournament.
  - e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – No report.
  - f. **Jersey Coordinator** (Karin Shippar) – We all agreed to stay with the current socks because they are much better quality. Karin is starting to schedule jersey returns with the team managers.
  - g. **Equipment** (Megan Seefeldt) – Emails for equipment return times will go out soon. I’m in the midst of preparing for the great ‘equipment return’ in the coming weeks by organizing and cleaning out the cage. FYI you may notice more mouse traps in the back room of the mezz. Please keep an eye out and report any evidence of vermin to building maintenance right away.
  - h. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
  - i. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – No report.
  - j. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – No report.
  - k. **Recruitment** (Angela Hunt) – No report.
  - l. **Girl’s Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Meeting with U6 girl parents yesterday, which was very positive. Will try and have a U8 team next year as well. Thanks to Kaiti for helping to coordinate some events with the Badgers. Angela reserved ice with Earl for April, May, and September to organize some girl events. Angela would like to reserve ice on Sunday nights for April – September for all of 2026, no concerns. They will be getting 2 \$300 grants.

- m. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – Hockey rule emails going out, coaches get together last year, they could use another 1-2 nominations before the end of the year.
- n. **Communications** (Kristen Manning) – Request from Verona Lacrosse to send information out about registration in this week's email.
- o. **Apparel** (Kaiti Bohacek) – All pucks are ordered.
- p. **Photography Coordinator** (April Rabedeaux) – No report.
- q. **Tournament Director** (Kendra Noll) – PeeWee C2 tournament is March 1-2, Kendra is also helping PeeWee A with state on March 8-9. Proposed date for 3v3 next fall is September 13.
- r. **Update from ALD's**
  - LTP (Kris Canto) – No report.
  - U6 (Aubrey Freeman) – Last games are this weekend, family night is February 24.
  - RWB (Amanda Ferwerda) – Last games are this weekend, tournament is March 1-2. New nets are in, they are working great.
  - Squirt (Wayne Pfahler) – Wayne is planning to meet with all incoming Squirt parents, 1 team is going to state. Proposal from USA Hockey at the Squirt level is that they would go to intermediate nets (54 inches compared to 72 inches) and that they would go back to 5v5 half-ice.
  - Peewee (Eric Helsher) – All 4 teams are preparing for state, first 20 minutes of practice doing skating is making a big difference.
  - Bantam (Bill Snow) – 3 teams are going to state, we are done after this weekend. Great feedback from the Dodgeville families. Next year, Dodgeville will likely be able to field their own team, so wouldn't need to co-op. Jordan is interested in being the Bantam A coach again next year.
  - Mavericks (Katie Baus) – Coordinating a Mavericks Info Night for PeeWee Girls on 2/27 to help prep parents for next year. Coordinating a Girls High School Info session on 3/5 with coaches from the Lynx and the Icebergs (Fury unavailable). Reaching out to area clubs to send initial info and work on getting numbers for next season. I haven't had much luck (outside of our own club), honestly. No one has shared specific player contact info (just one club let me know their current 2012 count of girls). Mavs B/C home tournament: The home tournament was cancelled, so thank you to Earl for helping us secure a double header each to close out our seasons. A cohort of Chinese hockey coaches and administrators are coming to Wisconsin in early March. They have an interest in our approach to girls hockey in the area, so we've invited them to watch a Mavs practice on 3/12 and then they will meet with Justin, PJ & Randi after the practice to ask questions. They also plan to attend one of the PW A state games when we host the tournament. In response to this, there is a similar exchange of a US cohort of Hockey coaches and administrators going to China in June. They are looking for applicants.
    - a. Mavs A: Submitted reimbursement for balance of final tournament of the season.
    - b. Mavs B: Made it to NIHL blackhawks tournament but lost 1-2 in first game.
    - c. Mavs C: Still working with Biser to coordinate a skating clinic
  - Midget (Mike Bakalars) – Season has another month. They are currently in a league, but there is no real benefit, so it doesn't make sense to do this again next year. Mike will let the

## 7. Old Business

- a) None

## 8. New Business

- a) **Current Open Positions –**

Interest so far in open positions:

- i. Treasurer: None
- ii. Fundraiser Coordinator: None (1 suggestion in January)
- iii. Communications Director: 2
- iv. DIBS: None
- v. Concessions Inventory Coordinator: None
- vi. Recruiting and Retention: None (1 suggestion in January)
- vii. Apparel Coordinator: 3
- viii. Jersey Coordinator: 1
- ix. CATS: None (1 suggestion in January)

- b) Concessions for next year** – We need to challenge people to think about ways we can improve, we have not been able to fill some recent High School games, which looks bad on the rink. We should send out a survey with 3-4 questions to get feedback from families about what isn't working well. One possible idea is to assign each High School game to one of the youth teams. Justin will talk to Ice Inc to see what they think.
- c) Volunteers for national tournament** – We are looking for volunteers for the first weekend in April, the U15-U16 Tier 1 National Tournament. Justin will send the information to Kristen so she can include it in the weekly communication.
- d) Parents Night Out** – Official date is Saturday, April 5, it will be in Rink 2. We will want to have some sort of RSVP to have an idea of how many people are coming.

**9. Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Eric, seconded by Erin, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.