



***PYHA Board Meeting Minutes 1/21/2026 - 530pm @  
Thompson Free Library***

**Attendance:** Geoff Shorette, Nick Cannon, Sarah Robinson, Allison Philips, John McNamara, Ryan Edwards, Dylan Morin, Joseph Gould, Brittany Gould, Tyler Erickson, Erica Tapley, Stacy Pullen, Rebecca Moore, Dan Tilton

**1. Call to Order**

- a. Welcome and Introduction of Attendees

**2. Piscataquis Forward**

1. John McNamara from Piscataquis Forward, owner/operator of the Guilford Bed and Breakfast, and organizer of Riverfest 2025 moved to the area recently and will be working on a one year transition to replace Pineland Farms and take over operations at the PICA. John shared with the board PF's mission - To drive equitable and sustainable economic development in the Piscataquis County region by supporting entrepreneurship, workforce readiness, and community innovation. This will include our Piscataquis County Ice Arena! John's wife, Lisa - is development director at Piscataquis Forward. You can learn more about Piscataquis Forward at [piscataquisforward.org](http://piscataquisforward.org)
2. John stressed the importance of getting our ice arena in the black and keeping it open year round!
3. John can be reached - [John@piscataquisforward.org](mailto:John@piscataquisforward.org) ; 404-754-8030; He would be happy to discuss sponsorship and/or other ideas you have for opportunities regarding the PCIA and programming.

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- a. Review and approval of minutes from 12/17/2026
  - i. Motion to accept, voted and approved

**4. Open Forum**

- a. Opportunity for board members to raise additional topics
  - i. Erica brought up looking into offering skating lessons for students at surrounding schools at the Pre-K or Kindergarten level, similar to how 7th graders at SeDoMoCha have the Learn to Ski program and 2nd graders have the Learn to Swim program. If anyone has any ideas on how to move forward with this, reach out

to Erica. For now she will mention this to John McNamara and Administration at SeDoMoCha to bounce ideas around.

ii. Motion to accept Erica Tapley as GTG coordinator, voted and approved

b. Questions and feedback from attendees

## 5. Presidents Report

a. MEAHA Meeting 1/13

i. Some big take-aways - large increase in inappropriate parent/spectator conduct. If a referee ejects a spectator, a letter will be sent from MEAHA with a 30 day ban from any MEAHA affiliated game. MEAHA would like all associations to reeducate spectators about appropriate behavior. The PYHA board will draft communication to association families to make all aware of this process.

b. PYHA President has been in talks with John M, as well as 14u coach, to seek more clarity in regards to recent player ejections. The discussion is still ongoing. Clarification will allow us to better educate players surrounding checking. There is an appeal process that can come from the president or executive board member, will make sure all are aware of this as well.

c. There is also a process for the president to follow that allows associations to request alternate refs or a third ref opportunity as a mentor.

d. Discussions have been ongoing with Jamie Burgoine over T4 standings, specifically with 14u, the SE stats have been inaccurate and PYHA President is working to get those corrected.

## 6. Treasurer Report

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| a. Operating Account | \$52,184.62         |
| Equipment Fund       | \$1,470.94          |
| Fundraising          | \$40,681.11         |
| Bill Orton           | \$7,466.70          |
| Officiating          | \$457.36            |
| <b>Total:</b>        | <b>\$102,260.73</b> |

## 7. Old Business

a. none

## 8. New Business

a. Survey Results-

i. We currently have 49 player responses.

ii. Motion to create a sub-committee to review the final survey results and make a recommendation to the board for team make-ups for 2026-2027 season. Motion voted and approved. The committee will consist of Erica, Sarah, Nick.

iii. Discussion about potential 16u (preseason to high school), this is only offered at the T3 and above level. There is an effort to try to create a T4 16u team and PYHA president does want to put effort into helping this happen. The board will create another survey to specifically inquire interest in this.

iv. A follow-up email will ask for final responses for the survey within a week as well as welcoming anecdotal feedback via email for the committee to take into consideration. Meetings for the subcommittee will be held asap.

#### **b. Girls Development 26/27**

i. 25 girls for current registration, forecast broke down numbers per birth year have helped us come up with ideas for future opportunities. We have missed the opportunity to form a scrimmage team with other girls' teams at the PCIA for the upcoming event Saturday, but a large number of PYHA girls will watch these scrimmages and then attend the UMaine Women's Hockey game and do a meet and greet after.

ii. James from Evolution reached out and asked if our association wanted to create a travel team for the 2026-2027 season. The non-MEAHA league would consist of 6 teams total, guaranteeing a minimum of 20 games. This would be a combo 12u/14u nonleague game. This would be a continued conversation for the subcommittee as we look at survey results.

iii. Sarah reached out to Ryan Welch from Inferno - asked if we can squeeze in a scrimmage with 14u/12u mix or 12u/10u combo, but looking into any restrictions. Sarah will continue to work on coordinating with scheduling and PYHA president will look into any potential hiccups.

iv. Sarah will communicate with girls through the Team Reach app.

#### **c. Tier 3/Tier 4 26/27**

i. Tier 3 tryouts must be held week of March 9, 2026 due to rink schedule

a. The board wants to communicate this potential date for try outs to give families as much heads up as possible.

i. i. Motion to move the February board meeting

to the 11th in order to have a better timeline for advertising, voted and approved.

**d. Board Positions**

- a. 2 open associate positions on the board open-
  - i. Motion to accept Sarah Robinson as the Girls Coordinator, motion voted and approved.
  - ii. GTG filled - see above motion under Open Forum
  - iii. Motion to accept Dylan Morin as board member, motion voted approved
  - iv. Motion to accept Tyler Erickson as a board member, motion voted and approved.
- b. Looking in the future - need for T3 and T4 coordinator,

**9. Registrar Report**

- a. Learn to Skate - 40 registration as of today, closed today, last round
- b. Learn to play - 8 for this last round
- c. In the future should there be a cap or deadline for T4 registration to ensure no last minute changes to teams? Could create a waiting list after the cap is filled.

**10. SafeSport Coordinator Report**

- a. none

**11. Coaching Coordinator Report**

- a. none

**12. Rink Report**

- a. New netting on some nets
- b. See above from John McNamara
- c. Current rink operator is resigning in May, the rest of the staff will stay on.

**13. Equipment**

- a. Triangular and magnetic shooting targets have arrived
- b. Learn to Skate coaches got their jackets last week

**14. Grant Funding**

- a. Nothing new to report, but final report needs to be submitted for the GTG

grant

- b. Balance for GTG needs to be used or it's lost. Next year's goal will be to try hockey for free in the fall.

## **15. Sponsorships**

- a. No news other than the sponsor board was ordered and should be updated this week

## **16. Learn to Play**

- a. See above, moved up 6 players up to 8u

## **17. Learn to Skate -**

- a. Going well in the last session of the season

## **18. Tier 3-**

- a. Tournament this weekend
- b. State playoffs are coming in the middle of February and we are on the low end of potentially not qualifying, but many opposing coaches have given compliments about how much the team has grown and doesn't look like the same team from the start of the season.

## **19. Tier 4-**

- a. 12u select team -
  - i. RSVPs are out and coaches have registered for the Spring Meltdown in Massachusetts, coaches would like the board to discuss covering the cost of the registration fee of \$1600, which would be \$125 per player.
  - ii. Motion to pay 50% of each player's registration fee for the 12u select team, second. Motion failed.
    - 1. Discussion - is there a way to make this equitable for all 12u players?
    - 2. Fundraising will reach out with options to help with registration fees.

## **20. Scheduling**

- a. Working on a full-ice 8u scrimmage after January.

## **21. Fundraising Report**

- a. Need to settle an invoice for t-shirts from Kim Creates, will look into hats next.

## **22. Adjournment**

- a. Summary of action items and responsibilities
- b. Next meeting - Feb 18, 2026 @ Thompson Free Library
- c. Motion to adjourn, voted and approved