

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



Board members present: Brooke McKenna, Kayla Nisson, Sam Herrick, Ryan Drew, John Kearney, Jeff Lamoureux, Barton Burdette

Others present: Sarah Benson, Nancy Fenn, Frank Salvoni

Call to Order: Brooke McKenna called the meeting to order at 6:10pm, quorum established. Approval of August meeting minutes with minor, typo edits. Minutes approved.

Discussion

Executive Director - Frank Salvoni - Still seeking head coaches for 8U and 12U teams. Finding the right coaches is proving to be more challenging than expected. Frank continuing work to build a fund to help cover costs for assistant coaches' travel expenses. 5B Hike for Hope (5B Suicide Prevention) scheduled for 9/13/25. We will add information in the newsletter, board discussed supporting this important cause.

Motion - Sam made a motion to donate \$250 to the 5B Hike for Hope - Barton second, all approved.

Frank requested the board establish a discretionary fund for the Director to use in areas outside existing expense categories.

Motion - Barton made a motion to establish a \$2,500 discretionary fund for fiscal year 2026, with the option to revisit the amount at a later date if necessary - Kayla second, all approved.

Frank shared the challenges around limited goalies for older groups, and conflicting priorities for some goalies. Discussion on need for flexibility in assigning goalies, recognizing potential parent frustration. Bottom line, goalies require special consideration and support. Frank shared that the first session of the new Girls Power Hour, which runs for 4 Sundays in September and October, was well attended; 18 girls ages 6–14 participated.

Evaluations for 12U and above coming up on 9/15–9/18, 9/21. All team announcements will be made at the same time on 9/24. Evaluation system: competencies rated on 1–4 scale, in five categories: Skating, Stick handling, Hockey sense, Attitude. Parents not allowed in the building during evaluations. Parent tips for how to talk with their children, and how not to talk, will be provided.

Shoulder Check Program – Presentation by Annie Leady – Mental health initiative to normalize conversations and support athlete well-being. Emphasis on culture-building through language, signage, banners, and routines. Rollout plans: 12U and above–pledge and intentional conversations about culture, purpose, etc; 6U–10U–explanation of language seen on banners; locker room chat by Frank for each team. Parent meeting introduction on October 6. Coach buy-in critical. The Shoulder Check pledge could be used as potential practice closer. Banners at entrance and locker rooms, location TBD. IAHA has asked for a statewide rollout across all age levels for consistency.

Registrar's Report – Nancy Fenn - Registration numbers strong; above historic levels for this time of year. Bauer program expected to boost registrations in December(+20 skaters). Some losses in Bantams; Pee wee registration lower than expected. Early-season skates are popular and revenue-positive.

Donations at registration have netted more funds given overall, but from fewer donors. Scholarship decisions to be made by a small, confidential committee again this year. Still using SSS platform; Sam to research alternatives. Emphasis on fairness, professionalism, and accessibility.

Tournament schedule nearly complete. Practice schedule needs to be approved by the board.

Motion - John made a motion to approve the practice schedule for the 2025-2026 season - Ryan second, all approved.

Hailey Ice – Sarah Benson - Rink's leadership is going well; rink atmosphere is positive and fun.

Treasurer's Report – Barton Burdette - Current position: \$11K ahead of same time last year. Fundraising strong. \$700 earned from SVYH kids helping with Wagon Days parade. Slight lag in registration funds due to late registrants.

President's Report– Brooke McKenna - Brooke presented the final draft of the updated SVYH Bylaws, which underwent legal review and IAHA review.

Motion - Jeff made a motion to approve the updated Sun Valley Youth Hockey Bylaws dated September 2025 - Kayla second, all approved.

Under the new bylaws, some board members' terms have changed, with new term end dates. Brooke also announced some retiring board members. Both Jeff and John reported they will be leaving the board at the end of the calendar year. This will leave SVYH with four board seats to fill over the next few months.

There was a brief discussion about the scholarship pool this year. Final amount to be reported at October meeting, where the board will need to approve moving funds out of the scholarship fund to cover.

Brooke shared some highlights from the IAHA Fall Meeting, including a reminder that locker room monitors are mandatory at all age levels, in-person coach training and a specialized ADM training will be offered to organizations, and that the same grants will be offered this year, but with a special emphasis on goalie development.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49.

Next Board Meeting: 11/5/25, 6pm Hailey Ice Cafe
Minutes submitted by Brooke, SVYH President, 10/7/25