



Yankton Area Ice Association
905 Whiting Drive
PO Box 235
Yankton, SD 57078



YAIA Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2025
6:00 PM Rink Board Room

Board Members Present: Ryan Rusher, Brian Wenisch, Eric Shoemaker, Abby Sprecher, Sarah Thoms, Jennifer Livingston, Barrie Larsen, Shawn Weber

Guests: Chad Renken, Heidi Enge, Jami Stevens, Karen Schleiger

1. Call Meeting to Order @ 6:01 p.m.
2. Approval of March Meeting Minutes- motion to approve March meeting minutes was made by Eric Shoemaker, seconded by Ryan Rusher, motion passed.
3. Old Business
 - a. Open Skate(Ryan Rusher/Sarah Thoms) –
 - i. Open Skate Rules Sign made by sign tech. (3ft wide x 4ft tall) – Ryan will work on condensing the rules & work to get it done at the end of the season.
 1. Waiting for quote
 - ii. Requesting PA Subwoofers for the rink. I will work with Tim Paulson and Tim H who helped design and install the current system on what we need for our space and will work seamlessly with our current system. \$4000-\$8000 guesstimate. ****To be discussed after this season****.
 - b. Proposal of Building Expansion: Eric Shoemaker
 - i. January 2025 YAIA Board approved this proposal to be presented to 4-H at their February 2025 meeting.
 - i. Eric presented to 4-H at their March 10th meeting.
 1. Next 4-H meeting will be week of 4/14/2025 – 4-H plans to discuss then.
 - c. Review items
 1. Get Apparel Order bids
 - a. Get quote from vendors below and then take profit and online ordering capabilities into consideration. Below the vendors name below are the current items we get or use services for items:
 - JJ Benji
 - Mite of the Nite jersey/shirts
 - HS Practice jersey name and numbers
 - Hockey and Figure Skating apparel
 - House of Brands
 - We get the Miracle patches for the jerseys from them. Note: they send them off to a 3rd party.
 - Royals
 - All Captains(C & A's) for jersey's
 - Dave Spencer Volunteer Plaque name engraving.
 - We order all of the Hockey awards/trophies
 - PeeWee – JV/Varsity
 - Trophies
 - Senior Captain plaques
 - Other Info:
 - Varsity Letters:
 - YAIA purchases the YHS Varsity letters from YHS Athletic Director



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for \$5.00 each.

- Varsity Letter Pins
 - Figure Skate – single white figure skate purchased from Amazon.
 - Hockey – Hockey stick pin (Item# 5118) purchased from www.varsityletterawards.com – contact info: sales@varsitylettersawards.com see the president@yanktonice.org inbox.

2. Scheduler Replacement

- a. Looking for someone to take over Scheduling on 4/1/2025

4. Committee Reports

- a. **Curling – Juliana Dick-Ford**
 - i. **No Report**
- b. **Hockey Coaching – Chad Renken**
 - i. **Coaching Committee**
 1. Meeting with Ryan Rusher about Coaching Apps
 2. May meeting – Head Coach list for approval
 3. **Handbook review - Assistant captains**
 - a. **Handbook has 3 Assistant captains**
 - b. **SDAHA/USAH has 2 Assistant captains(Rule 202)**
 - c. **Process to remove a Captain’s letter if deemed necessary.**
 - **Table a,b,c until May meeting**

4.

- c. **Figure Skating – Jamie Stevens / Heidi Enge**
 - i. Jami Stevens is stepping down from FS Co-Director. She will resume Performance Coordinator #1 for 2025-2026 season. Lisa Hagemann as Performance Coordinator #2.
 - i. Request to have Laura Drake approved as FS Co-Director, with Heidi Enge.
 1. Motion to approve Jami Stevens as Performance Co-Coordinator, Lisa Hagemann as Performance Co-Coordinator and Laura Drake as FS Co-Director was made by Ryan Rusher, seconded by Brian Wenisch, motion passed.
 - i. Equipment proposal for new figure skates submitted by Sarah Smith. See the proposal at the end of the minutes.
 1. Motion to approve the Figure Skate equipment proposal as submitted by Sarah Smith made by Ryan Rusher, seconded by Jennifer Livingston, motion carried.
 - iv. Interest in forming a Synchro Team – discussion started, and the Board expressed interest in this, we would just have to work out the logistics of timing to allow for the Zamboni to run and keep games on schedule.
 - v. Figure Skate Coach Pay Scale proposal for 2025-2026 season.
 1. Table for now as there are other pay reviews needed that could be submitted for approval at the same time (i.e. Open Skate monitors).

YAIA Figure Skate Coach Pay Scale					
Yrs of Service	0	1	2	3	4+
Coaching up to Freestyle 5+	\$16.00 ph	\$17.00 ph	\$18.00 ph	\$19.00 ph	\$20.00 ph
Coaching up to Freestyle 2	\$15.00 ph	\$16.00 ph	\$17.00 ph	\$18.00 ph	\$19.00 ph



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Notes:

- Slightly higher rate for coaching the higher Freestyle levels 3-5. These coaches have passed these levels themselves, and can teach the higher level elements correctly to avoid injury.
 - All figure skate coaches are required to register for Professional Membership with ISI, complete Safesport Training and background screening.
 - In recent seasons, the majority of YFS coaches have coached for 1-3 seasons. Most are college students attending Mount Marty or USD, who quit coaching upon graduation. Only 1 local coach has coached more than 4 years.
- d. **Registrar- Amy Schramm**
- i **No Report**
- e. **Safety Committee – Tona Larsen / Karen Schleiger**
- i **No Report**
- f. **Executive Report – Sarah Thoms**
- i **4-HLeaders Meeting**
 1. Sarah has sent Mary Fiedler a Lease Agreement to present to the 4-H board.
 2. We must ask permission from 4-H to access the building during our off-season April 1st -September 30th.
 - i **Other:**
 1. Director & Officer Insurance Policy- Ryan Rusher
 - a. Working on quotes
 2. We need to add “under the bleacher” cleaning to the general cleaning duties next season.
- g. **Treasurer Report – Jennifer Livingston**
- i Budget Committee – Jen Livingston, Ryan Rusher, Dan Bentley, & Kevin Perakslis
 - ii The treasurer’s report was presented.
- h. **Vision Committee – Shawn Weber**
- i If you are interested in joining the Vision Committee, please contact Shawn Weber. Email to be sent to YAIA
 - i No Report
- i. **Social Committee – Stephanie Marlette-**
- i 3/14/2025 – Annual YAIA End of Year Skate tentatively from 6:00-8:30 p.m. with possible Varsity State Tournament Watch party(depending on game times).
 1. Had approx.100 in attendance
- j. **Hockey Development – Karen Schleiger**
- i Summer offerings –
 1. Programs and Dates booked- registration will be activated soon.
 2. Roller Hockey is waiting for 4-H approval
 - i Beadle carnival scheduled for 4/24, plan to do outreach event.
- k. **Alumni Committee – Shawn Wagner**
- i **Two \$500 Scholarships were awarded this year and to be paid by the Alumni Committee after 1st semester:**
 1. Reagan Wenisch
 2. Ryker Larsen
- l. **Marketing Committee – Shelby Nilsen**
- i **No Report**
- m. **Discipline Committee – Ryan Rusher – VP**



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- i Update provided. Also, noted that Brian will receive a SDAHA Discipline report at the Spring meeting.

n. **Facility Committee**

i. **Equipment—Sara Shoemaker / Karen**

1. Budget is pending, equipment manager to inspect returned gear.
2. A jersey for display was requested by Boss's pizza. Fundraising to follow up as potential lead. Recommend providing old Miracle jersey and possibly a FS outfit.
3. LTS and Hockey Development budgets will not be presented for 1-2 months as transitioning to new directors.

ii. **Building – Brian Wenisch**

1. Zamboni-
 - a. handful of maintenance items left to do
 - b. Motion to approve Brian's request to renew the subscription for the Zamboni notification system(Zamboni Connect) which expired in February 2025 for an annual fee of \$480 was made by Ryan Rusher, seconded by Eric Shoemaker, motion carried.
2. Compressor
 - a. Small pressure issue on compressor –
 - Will start to get estimates on what it would cost to repair or replace more areas as we believe we will continue to have issues with the old pipes.
 - **End of Season**
3. Heaters above bleachers
 - a. This is being reviewed as the heaters are not heating at the end of the tube over the student section
4. Team Banners in Rink-
 - a. Need to update some logos -contact Dave Kokesh at SignTec
 - b. Add Northern Hills and Brandon Valley?
 - c. Update our banner to include Bucks & Gazelle logo and Sioux Center?
5. LiveBarn vs Private Stream
 - a. There have been links sent out on SportsNgin chat for private streams of certain games.
 - b. Discussion on if we continue with LiveBarn or consider going back to YouTube streaming.
 - We will continue to utilize LiveBarn beings it is always active for security and review reasons.
6. Game Music language-
 - a. There has been some language in music played that is not appropriate that includes the curse words.
 - If you hear inappropriate language send the song information to the President or Vice President.
7. Other:

o. **State Delegate – Brian Wenisch**

i. **See Spring Meeting proposals-attached to email**

1. Sioux Falls Development Team Request- Jim Olander-Stampede President/Ryan Cruthers-Head Coach
 - a. NO
2. Spring Meeting Proposals
 - a. Non-League Teams - NO
 - b. League Game Counts -YES
 - c. Assessment Fees -YES



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- d. Age Classifications - NO
- e. Playing Rule 3B - YES
- f. Freeze 10 Rule - YES
- g. Freeze 10 Exception - ? – Yes, if amended to remove goalie
- h. 3 Penalty Rule - NO
- i. Handshake Line - NO
- j. Competition Committee Plan – YES
- 3. Discussion Items
 - a. SDAHA Gate Fees
- 4. Election of SDAHA President & Secretary
 - a. Presidential Candidates:
 - Dan Laughlin-Rapid City - YES
 - Duke Witte-Aberdeen
 - b. Secretary Candidates:
 - Jon Kotilnek-Oahe – YES
- i. After discussion a motion was made to approve voting at the SDAHA 2025 Spring meeting by Brian as referenced above by Jennifer Livingston, seconded by Abby Sprecher, motion carried.
- p. **Events Management Committee –**
 - i. **WE NEED A REPLACEMENT ASAP FOR THIS POSITION – EMAIL TO BE SENT AGAIN TO YAIA. Lisa will help train.**
 - i. **This position will also need to create the game locker room assignments.**
- q. **Fundraising – Amy Ondell**
 - i. Request to apply for Yankton Foundation Grant, due April 1. Referred to Fundraising Committee by Karen Schleiger. – The fundraising committee will work with Karen, Jen and Abby to complete these grants.- request for the Sparx machine completed by Jennifer Livingston, Karen Schleiger, Abby Sprecher and Eric Shoemaker.
 - i. Jennifer Livingston also submitted a request to the Optimist Club for additional warming area mats to cover the rest of the warming area.
 - i. Donation Coordinator position – approved in March 2025 meeting
 - 1. Send in email to YAIA
- r. **Key Master – Sarah Thoms**
 - i. Majority of fobs will deactivate on 4/1/2025. Only necessary fobs are active during off season.
- s. **Handbook – Lisa Nielson / Secretary**
 - i. **Locker room policy/handbook update? -Ryan Rusher**
 - a. Further review is needed on the Locker room policy, use USA Hockey, SafeSport, ISI and US Figure Skating as resources to update our policy.
- 5. **New Business**
 - a. **New Board Members-**
 - i. **Voting ended 3/22/2025 and the following individuals were voted by the association to serve a three-year term.**
 - Ryan Rusher
 - Shawn Weber
 - b. **Election of New Officers:**
 - i. **President- motion was made to elect Ryan Rusher by Eric Shoemaker, seconded by Jennifer Livingston, motion carried.**
 - i. **Vice President- motion was made to elect Eric Shoemaker by Brian Wenisch,**



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seconded by Jennifer Livingston, motion carried.

ii. Secretary- motion was made to elect Barrie Larsen by Abby Sprecher, seconded by Jennifer Livingston, motion carried.

iv. Treasurer- motion was made to elect Jennifer Livingston by Brian Wenisch, seconded by Eric Shoemaker, motion carried.

c. Other

i. Add duties to Organization chart

ii. 20th Season Anniversary Committee to be created

- Add to email to YAIA asking for members to join
- Some discussions have already been started about what, when, and how to acknowledge this anniversary in the 2025-2026 season.

d. Next Meeting

i. May 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM

6. Executive Session(if needed)

7. Motion to Adjourn – motion to adjourn was made by Brian Wenisch, seconded by Jennifer Livingston, motion carried.



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2025 FIGURE SKATE ORDER PROPOSAL: **MOTION REFERENCED ABOVE UNDER FIGURE SKATE**

All figure skates have been returned from the 2024/2025 season and after assessing current inventory here is my order proposal for the 2025/2026 season:

- Youth/little size 8 (qty 1)
- Youth/little size 9 (qty 1)
- Youth size 12 (qty 1)
- Size 1 (qty 1)
- Size 3 (qty 2)
- Size 5 (qty 2)

*With helpful advice given to me last season, I was able to order skates without using the entire budget allotted to me for the 2024/2025 season.

**Proposal for 2025/2026: \$800 to purchase 8 pairs of figure skates.

Thank you,
Sarah Smith
FS equipment manager