

Verona Wildcats Youth Hockey Association

Board Meeting

Thursday, October 16th, 2025
7:00pm VIA Mezzanine



Board members in attendance: **Justin Temple, Kyle Dziubla, Lauren Koehler, Troy Rost, Adam Sodersten, Bryan Lind, Aubrey Freeman, Katie Baus, Earl Tollefson, Karin Shippar, Angela Hunt, Joe Beyler, Megan Seefeldt, Kate Louther, April Rabedeaux, Lesley Steffin, Kaiti Bohacek, Amanda Lindow, Mike O'Brien**

1. **Call to order** – Justin Temple called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. **Approve Minutes from the September 2025 Meeting** – Motion to approve minutes by Lesley, second by Katie. Motion passed.
3. **Ice Inc. Report** (Justin Temple/Mike O'Brien) – Bringing Pull Tabs to the rink! Next weekend is the Sled hockey tournament, Kaiti will add it to the weekly email and all ALDs should encourage the kids to come.
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Troy Rost) – No major concerns so far. Troy will start reconciling team ice per team, Joel should be able to run a report to make this much easier. ALDs should double check that tournament costs look correct. There will be no managers, parents, coaches, ALDs, etc. requesting ice without making pre-payment to Joel. Send anyone directly to Troy for reimbursements.
5. **President's Report/Region 4** (Justin Temple) – No report.
6. **Committee Reports and Updates**
 - a. **Registrar's Report** (Adam Sodersten) – All Bantam, PeeWee, and Mavericks rosters are submitted and approved by USA Hockey. Adam submitted cross rosters for Maverick and Bantam goalies, as well as PeeWee to Mavericks.
 - b. **Fundraising** (Cathy Woods) – Hockey Sweepstakes will kick off November 1 and end November 28. I need to pick up the rewards for the top 3 teams that fundraiser. It will be based on the average tickets per player on their team so the larger teams don't get an advantage over the smaller teams. I will call a meeting with all of the team managers so they can explain the fundraiser and how important the fundraiser is to the organization (last year fewer than half the families sold tickets). This year I will encourage/record and like to see a minimum of 2 tickets per players sold. This is to keep a good relationship with the company that organizes it. I will email Adam for current rosters so that the packets will be personalized like years past. VYH earns over \$12 per ticket sold. The way it works is that we collect the \$20 per hockey sweepstakes and then the company who organizes it sends us an invoice for the number that we sold so we keep the majority of the funds collected. We pay nothing until the fundraiser is over.
 - c. **Coaches Committee** (Joe Beyler) – Joe will get a coach meeting set-up to go over the room with Josh.
 - d. **Ice Scheduler** (Earl Tollefson) – Practices are in through November. If anyone has a new ref in the family, let Earl know. Team managers should double-check that all games are also on their opponents' websites, and also the DCHA officials website.

- e. **Website Update** (Karin Shippar) – Registration still open for LTP, U6, U18, and Junior Lynx teams. There are a lot of bugs right now with SportsEngine. Karin investigated using SportsEngine Tourney for the Mites tournament, she will get a trial.
- f. **Jersey Coordinator** (Julie Kuprianczyk) – The only teams left to get jerseys are LTP, U6 and Squirt C2.
- g. **Equipment** (Megan Seefeldt) – 88 kids signed-up to get gear. Given the Squirt goalie situation, is there money to purchase additional goalie gear. They would like to make 4 total bags to help account for the goalie situation, so they would need to purchase 2 helmets, 2 danglers, and 2 neck guards. We agreed to move forward with this.
- h. **Legal Counsel** (Brian Severson) – No report.
- i. **Concessions** (Brian Lindow/Lesley Steffin) – No report.
- j. **DIBS** (Desiree Bates) – Aubrey Freeman on behalf of the tournament committee has requested DIBS credit for their work with tournaments. Currently, tournament directors get full DIBS but others do not. They would like to request partial DIBS credit, which would need to be agreed upon by the board. Not planning to change. Desiree sent the initial DIBS hours for all family members to the ALDs. I am implementing their feedback currently and updating the coaches/team managers. This should be out sometime next week. The information will be kept in a google sheet so there is 24/7 access to ALDs
- k. **Recruitment** (Kate Louther) – Homecoming parade went well. Tentatively looking at March 14 for ‘Try Hockey Free’ event in the spring. Kate also connected with the Learn to Skate program at the rink. Reminder for next year, to include the High School teams to be included in the parade.
- l. **Girl’s Hockey Committee** (Angela Hunt) – Junior Lynx practice started a few weeks ago. Grant check got deposited.
- m. **Culture Liaison/CATS Subcommittee** (Eric Helsher) – Can we each commit to making one CATS nomination this season? If we shoot for having a weekly winner, then we’re looking at 20 awards before PW/Sq State. There are 30 of us on this email, and we all interface with a lot of players, parents, and coaches. This should be easily doable.
- n. **Communications** (Kaiti Bohacek) – No report.
- o. **Apparel** (Amada Lindow) – Sales close this fall, 72 total orders. Next round will open the first week of November and will include Christmas gifts. All jackets were ordered.
- p. **Photography Coordinator** (April Rabedeaux) – Leaning towards the first week of November, will finalize dates soon.
- q. **Tournament Director** (Kendra Noll) – Team Managers: Trainings are done & all new managers came. They should all be set to get started & schedules are handed over. Tournaments: We went over the tournament expectations for teams at manager meetings as well. They will staff BOTH penalty boxes & raffle tables. We would like to reach out to National Honor Society students & high school players to help as well. Some tournaments are definitely low on registrations as of now. We have shared in the scheduling groups and Andrea is working to fill those.
- r. **Update from ALD’s**
 - LTP (Bryan Lind) – There are 4 or 5 full-time coaches. Volunteer coaches can get reimbursed for fees. Currently have ~25 coaches. Should try and have 2 other teams of coaches there, so around 10 coaches each week.
 - U6 (Desiree) – 46 kids, 16 coaches so far. Going to have 2 all girls teams, 5 coed teams.
 - RWB (Aubrey Freeman) – 61 total skaters, announced teams tonight. There will be 7 teams. Working to get the final tournament approval from WAHA for the Mites tournament, planning on 8 red teams, 12 white teams, 12 blue teams, and 8 all-girls team. Red teams will plan on full ice and will need officials. Dane county meeting is next week.
 - Squirt (Wayne Pfahler) – No report.

- Peewee (Amanda Ferwerda) – We have updated our on ice schedule so that all teams are on the ice for a skills session every week and then the remaining couple sheets of ice are divided up for the teams. Most teams started some sort of off-ice training and are eagerly awaiting the use of the learning lab. We have had 1 injured player return and placed on a team and anticipate the other 2 returning within the next weeks to a month. No major issues thus far. Games start this weekend!
- Bantam (Eric Helsher) – Evals went well (despite a few hiccups) and we are off and running on the season.
- Mavericks (Katie Baus) – Seeding games will be done this weekend, all NIHL scheduling will need to be done by October 24. We are adding a goalie coach from Canada. Katie makes a motion to add 2 more PeeWee players to cross roster on the Mavericks, second by Adam. Motion passed. Justin is working on state eligibility.
- U18 (Renee Zook) – Adam makes a motion to approve Renee Zook as the U18 ALD, second by Earl. Motion passed. Welcome Renee! They currently have 13 registered skaters so far, 1 possible parent coach. Planning to have 1 team with a deeper bench due to work conflicts, injuries, etc. Renee would love to get some volunteer coaches for the preseason ice times to make sure kids can come if they would like. Earl will review the practices for U18 and circle back with Renee.

7. Old Business

- a) **Shooting Room/Learning Lab Discussion** – Each team (Squirts and up) will have 10 allotments that they need to use; it will be up to the Team Managers and Coaches to schedule the sessions with Josh directly for their teams. ALDs will be responsible for getting information out to the coaches and team managers.

8. New Business

- a) **December Meeting Date** – The 3rd Thursday of the month is December 18, but that conflicts with the youth hockey night at Toot and Kate's. We will plan on Wednesday, December 17 instead at 7pm.

- 9. **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Lesley, seconded by Adam, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.