

May 2025 CAHA Meeting

Board Members Present: Rick Daniel, Matt Hurley, Graham Bundy, Tyler LaShomb and Robert Engler

Brendan Logan joined at 8:39 during Executive Director Report
Eric Kenney joined at 9:04 during Hockey Fund Discussion

Board Members Absent: Kevin Universal, Greg Byrne

Staff Present: Brad Hoffman

Staff Absent: Terri Mills

Call to Order at 8:06

Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from March and April.

March Minutes were approved after discussion. Motion to approve by Tyler LaShomb with a second by Robert Engler.

April Minutes were approved after discussion. Motion to approve by Graham Bundy with a second by Robert Engler.

Minutes as approved were sent to Brad Hoffman for uploading onto the webpage.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Robert Engler updated financial reports and sent to all members. Budget for FY 25/26 is being planned. Up to Date yearly budget report will be sent to members tomorrow. Taxes for 2024 are complete and sent to the IRS. Discussion with accountant regarding W-9 and 10-99 for upcoming year. Opportunity fund discussion with the accountant as far as management of the fund and modification of quick books so that there are specific explanations of itemized funds in and funds out. Specific donations must be used in a sub account for restricted funds. Guidelines will be provided by the accountant and set up will be complete within a week. Unexpected \$4000 profit on player development. Bill still outstanding are from Raleigh Refs association and check not cashed to one of the evaluators of Player Development. ACHA Showcase account refunded \$2000 to families of kids that were not selected but who paid early through sportsengine.

Safe Sport: Matt Hurley updated regarding a review of one (1) case pending. Hopefully complete this week. Case is being done by Tim Britt, an outside investigator.

Discipline: Graham Bundy updated concerning one (1) last hearing to be completed. More discussion in new business on changes.

Grants: Graham Bundy updates on the grant process and changes for this year. Currently the grant window is open and feedback has been positive on new grant ceilings. Email blast was sent out to membership associations and there has been feedback and followup by some associations. Website is accepting applications until the grant window closes on the 15th of June with grant recommendations to follow shortly thereafter by the Grant Committee following review..

Girls/Women and Growth Committee: TylerLaShomb updated on the upcoming coach mentorship program for female coaches. An event in early August is in the planning stages and is being facilitated to promote the growth and retention of female coaches. USA Hockey Growth committee has a zoom meeting next Tuesday regarding growth in ball hockey etc.

Executive Director Report: Brad Hoffman reports the following:

- Support House Hockey with planned jamborees for 10U through 14U in various locations
August/September in Cape Fear, Greensboro, Columbia or Charlotte. Location TBD
October Greenville SC (confirmed)
November Winston Salem (pending)
January 2026 Charlotte (pending)
February 2026 Columbia (confirmed)
- Pure Hockey partnership with different packages for 1st Goal. Negotiated a full set of equipment for \$285.00. Working with individual associations to support 1st Goal and Learn to Play through youth committee, grants etc.. Separate announcement to associations
- Grant Money to support the above plus ball hockey, goaltending, jerseys and coaching development.
- UBI Rewards partnership. Cheaper than [hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com) and can be used for substantial savings for hockey families. No cost to CAHA.
- Empowerplay - Support Ball Hockey events and company that builds outdoor rinks. New ball hockey rink coming in Columbia SC. No cost to CAHA.

Elections Update:

SC District 1 Seat: No applicants received from the district. Election now open statewide

NC District 5 Seat: One (1) applicant. Michele Krisa elected by default.

NC District 1 Seat: Four (4) applicants.

Upcoming Events:

ACHA Showcase is set for June 14-15

Boys 120 Full. 4 Total Teams. Over 20 players had to be declined

Girls. Have 20 spots filled, need 10 more to make two teams. 20 more players for optimal success.

3rd Annual HPOC (Hockey Players of Color) July 25 - 27th - 22 players signed up thus far which is on pace for last year's number. Ice is set. Special camp has 10 registrations thus far.

Tier 1 Showcases:

Reduced CAHA Tier 1 showcase from two to one. This year the event takes place in Raleigh with Charlotte to follow in the following year. Event will take place on Labor Day Weekend 2025. All Tier 1 teams in the affiliate are required to participate as a condition to the granting of Tier 1 Status for that individual team. Conflict with ice availability in winter 2026 necessitated the need to reduce the showcase to one event.

New Business

Hockey Opportunity Fund

"The Carolina Hockey Opportunity Fund (CHOF) provides discreet financial assistance to house and recreational (youth and adult) hockey players, veterans, their dependents, referees, and coaches within the Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) affiliate."

Financial burden trying to keep good refs, coaches and players in the sport. Graham Bundy met with Shane Willis of the Carolina Hurricanes and Amy Daniels of the Carolina Hurricanes Foundation. After discussion on development of best practices, it was determined to keep The Fund within CAHA as part of our 501c3 for tax and admin purposes. \$5000 seed money donation from CAHA was suggested to start the foundation with oversight provided by a separate fund board with 5 different members, of which three must be sitting CAHA board members and two people outside the CAHA board and hockey in general. Fund Admin will be an employee of both CAHA and The Fund. The Fund will have stand alone bylaws and procedures approved by the CAHA Board. A motion to use \$5000 to start The Fund was made

by Graham Bundy and seconded by Eric Kenney. Following discussion motion passed unanimously.

CAHA Survey

Parent and Coach replies to the on-going CAHA Survey include over 350 replies to date with one more month left in the window. Early results indicate that over 240 Parents, 1000 Coaches and 20 Officials have replied. The Officials Survey is a first time survey so there will not be any historical data for comparison.

Guests for Annual Meeting

Setting up a goggle doc to brainstorm possible guests and topics for the Summer Annual meeting. Deadline is June 1st so that guests can be invited and if necessary arrange transportation, per diem and lodging.

Player Development

Ed Morris has conducted the Player Development Program for years as a volunteer without financial compensation. This event is a labor intensive effort which has grown significantly in recent years. Motion by Rick Daniel and Seconded by Matt Hurley to provide Ed Morris with a gift certificate of \$250.00 for his efforts to make player development the success it has become. Motion passed unanimously.

Discipline Problems: What are we doing to mitigate issues with players/coaches/spectators? Significant growth in numbers of hearings, repeat offenders for on-ice behavior etc. Discussion motivated by recent assaults on officials and parent complaints; etc... Specific numbers will be pulled by the Disciplinary Committee with input by Safe Sport regarding trends, problem areas to address and means to hold USA Hockey members accountable for their actions. Discussions included accountability for the coaches, increased supplemental discipline for on ice fighting and making sure our zero tolerance is really zero tolerance. Specific areas of focus moving forward will be locker room monitors, players with multiple match penalties, tracking adult problem players, fighting and increased correspondence with Association Discipline Committees.

Adjourn

Following a request for any new business and having received none a motion to adjourn was made by Robert Engler and seconded by Graham Bundy. Meeting adjourned at 9:46pm EDT.

Next meeting on Monday June 16th following the USA Hockey Annual Congress June 5-7th in Colorado.