

FLAGSTAFF YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



FYHA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: May 21, 2025 6:00 PM Location: 214 E. Birch Ave

Teams Link: <https://tinyurl.com/FYHA-BOD-Meeting>

ROLL CALL

Board Members in attendance:

- Travis Joralmon, President
- Chris Whitney, Vice President & Coaching Coordinator
- Gina Nabours, Treasurer
- Tiffany Abbott, Secretary & Webmaster
- Brad Mihalik, Ice Scheduler
- Mike Darby, Fundraising Coordinator
- Jilleen Alessi, Equipment Manager

Coaches in attendance:

- 6/8U Club
- 10/12/14U Club
- 8U Humphreys
- 10U Humphreys, Andrew Graham
- 12U Humphreys, Chris Whitney
- 14U Humphreys, Kris Walsh

Managers in attendance:

- 8U Humphreys - N/A
- 10U Humphreys - N/A
- 12U Humphreys - N/A
- 14U Humphreys - N/A

Directors in attendance:

- Leigh Mathias, Club Director
- Mark Del Giorgio, Goalie Coordinator

Other/Members in attendance:

- Charlie Knotts, Admin/Registrar
- Maria Saurer
- Molly Joralmon

CALL TO ORDER + APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Travis Joralmon. Motion to approve April meeting minutes by Brad Mihalik, seconded by Gina Nabours. Motion to approve May agenda by Chris Whitney, seconded by Gina Nabours.

REPORTS

President's Report (Travis Joralmon)

- Thank you to everyone that tried out for a travel team. We are excited for the rink to reopen and look forward to Summer Pond Hockey kicking off next week.

Vice President's Report (Chris Whitney)

- No report

Treasurer's Report (Gina Nabours)

- Charlie has closed the books on the 24-25 fiscal year. We will review the P&L during the meeting.
- Our 3-month and 6-month CDs have been renewed.
- I'm working with Kevin Callaway to start making purchases for Dark Sky.
- We will approve the budget for the 25-26 fiscal year during the meeting. I am updating it with numbers for the 25-26 rosters.

Secretary's Report (Tiffany Abbott)

- Charlie and I will review Volunteer/Coaching lists over the summer months to make sure everyone is current on SafeSport training, background checks, USA hockey registration, etc. so we're ready to go when the season starts.
- Communication regarding equipment rentals for the 2025-26 season so parents can prepare.

AAHA Hockey Director's Report (Travis Joralmon)

- No meetings in April.

Club Hockey Director's Report (Leigh Mathias)

- Shott's Tots is being coordinated now, and will be scheduled in the fall. We will be looking to identify coaches and volunteers for the lesson events.
- There is a lot of interest in Schott's Tots/Club in the community, looking for ways to advertise and network within the Flagstaff sports community.

Coaching Coordinator's Report (Chris Whitney)

- Teams will have been sent.

Equipment Manager's Report (Jilleen Alessi)

- All feedback on the new jersey design has been sent to the vendor. Waiting on the changes so we can do a final look before approval.
- The order has been sent over for a name plate for Marcus. I have found a number 19 jersey at the rink and I have washed it and is ready for the name plate.
- Dark sky jerseys - I have pricing from the vendor and just waiting on a final decision on logos/ sponsorship so we can move forward with the order.
- Equipment order form should be sent with the commitment letter email. Working with Charlie on this.
- Working on items for the team store. Team store will open after June 8th and be open for two weeks. The store will reopen for 8U and club at a later date.

Fundraising's Report (Mike Darby)

- No report

Ice Scheduler's Report (Brad Mihalik)

- Rink closure for maintenance continues through 5/24

- Sunday Summer Stick Time (all ages) resumes Sunday, May 25th. Each Sunday through August 3rd 11a-12p with some exceptions (pay attention to the SportsEngine/website calendar).
- Summer Pond Hockey begins on May 27th through July 31st:
 - Tuesdays 6, 8, 10U (5:30pm)
 - Thursdays 12, 14, 16U (5:30pm)
- Rocky Mountain Hockey School - June 16th - 20th
- Northwestern Hockey Camp - July 21st - 25th
- Dark Sky 3v3 Tournament - July 25th - 27th
- Travel hockey season tentatively set to begin Aug. 11th (practice schedule in progress)
- Club hockey season tentatively set to begin Sept. 15th
- Goalie clinics & body contact clinics are in the process of being scheduled.

Webmaster's Report (Tiffany Abbott)

- Created a Travel Offer Hub landing page on the website that includes next steps for players to sign commitment letters, order equipment, register for travel, and apply for scholarships. Will plan to do a similar setup for Club.
- Recommendations on sitemap for new redesigned site.
- Going through pages, cleaning up layout, organizing copy, and adding fresh graphics and images. Please help review content and provide feedback as shared.
 - Homepage refreshed - added stories on Drew Smith, Marcus Conn Minister
 - Added buttons for quick links to registration forms
 - Dark Sky landing page is done: fyha.org/darksky
 - BOD Meeting Minutes & Agendas: fyha.org/page/show/1288127-fyha-board-meeting-agendas-minutes
- Collecting headshots of coaches and board members to include on website and social media.
- Please send story ideas and other news to webmaster@fyha.org. Thank you to Travis Johanson for sharing the WHL draft story!
- Discussion on cross sport marketing to encourage more kids to play hockey.
- Discussion on creating more content for social media with players, teams, etc.

Registrar's Report (Charlie Knotts)

- No report.

Tournament Director's Report (Kevin Callaway)

- Canyon Coolers will provide a small cooler for raffle prize.

Manager Coordinator's Report (Molly Joralmon)

- All iPads have been returned. FYHA will store them over summer and then pass them out next year.
- Coaches need to identify their team managers and inform me when possible. Sooner than later is preferred so that their team manager can assist with player registrations, coaching certifications, access to their FYHA email, etc.
- I will hold a training including Charlie and Gina in late July to go over roles, responsibilities, budgets, etc.

Goalie Coordinator's Report (Mark Del Giorgio)

- Nick Kasten will be available for goalie instruction and drills during Thursday Pond Hockey sessions from 5:30 to 6:30. All age goalies are welcome.
- I will be narrowing down dates for a pre-seeding tournament goalie clinic (August) as well as a Try Goalie forFree (September or October).

Action Items



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Rink Closure until 5/24
- Summer Stick Time, 5/25-8/3
 - Added Sunday, 5/25 to FYHA calendar, website, and registration form
- Pond Hockey 5/27-7/31
 - Added Sunday, 5/25 to FYHA calendar, website, and registration form
 - Currently 43 registrations
- RMHS Camp 6/16-6/20 - waitlist open
- Northwestern Hockey Camp 7/21-7/25 - registration open
- Dark Sky 3v3 Tournament 7/25-7/27 - registration open

Action Items:

- Tiffany and Leigh to check rosters for Pond Hockey, give out helmet stickers

OLD BUSINESS

Club policy for club practices including travel players

- The board discussed establishing a consistent policy for travel players participating in club practices.
 - Participation by travel players on the 10-14U Club teams will be coach-dependent.
 - 8U Travel players may participate in club practices for a fee of \$100 for the season (practice ice only); full registration of \$400 is required to participate in games or receive jerseys and EOY party benefits.
 - For 10U Travel and older, full registration is required to participate in both Club practices and games.
 - Games may be combined across age groups if necessary due to low numbers, but practices will remain age-specific when possible.
 - If additional players are needed for games, they should be pulled from within the club player pool first.
 - Emphasis on fairness and clarity: either all travel players are invited or none, to maintain equity.
- Possibility of adding extra ice slots towards the end of the season for prospective 10U players, with 8U coaches overseeing those sessions.
- Coaching Coordinator Chris Whitney will communicate the finalized policy to club coaches.
- A skills assessment process was proposed: all Club players attend two joint practices before splitting into balanced groups.
 - Discussed changing names of older Club teams to “Club - White” and “Club - Navy”

Summer goalie clinics

- Tiffany to ask Mark Del Giorgio to reach out to Nick Kasten to see if he is able to do goalie coaching during Sunday Stick Time or on Tuesdays at Pond Hockey over the summer, preference for Sunday Stick Time

Dark Sky tournament update

- Currently 68 registrations as of 5/22
- Running FB ad, currently \$30.77 spent over 16 days - max \$50
- City approved hosting beer garden at tournament
- Discussed silent auction for larger items and purchase tickets for bucket for smaller items
- Warner's Nursery will donate \$100 basket to tournament, per Chris Whitney
- Discussed purchasing additional jersey for title sponsor - Pioneer Title (signed by kids)

Final budget approval for 2025-2026

- Reviewed budget, anticipating total revenue to be approximately \$230k, expenses approximately \$225k = ~ \$5k surplus
- Discussed keeping budget as-is (operating in surplus) due to higher equipment costs
- Motion to approve the budget by Gina Nabours.
 - Second: Brad Mihalik
 - Motion passed with all in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Ongoing scholarship endowment - Maria Saurer (Jackson Haughey)

- Maria Saurer, mother-in-law of Jackson Haughey, a goalie who passed away in 2020, proposed creating a memorial scholarship in Jackson's name to support youth hockey players. The scholarship will be named the Jackson Haughey Memorial Scholarship.
- The family would like the scholarship to support players in financial need, with preference given to goalies, but ultimately wants to help any child who wants to play.
- Proposed scholarship amount: Up to \$2,200 per year, with the option to split as FYHA sees fit.
- Maria has committed to funding the scholarship for five years.
- The scholarship will be independent of FYHA's general scholarship funds, with use of funds flexible for registration fees or equipment costs.
 - Discussed the need to establish criteria for scholarship awards and how award recipients will be selected.
- Ideas to promote the scholarship include creating a landing page to increase awareness, possibly a short video, and a memorial shadow box at the rink with a QR code to apply for the scholarship, if family is comfortable.
- Tiffany will follow up with Maria to discuss and finalize details.

8U Travel tryouts dates

- Discussed 8/11 and 8/12 (Monday/Tuesday) or 8/12 and 8/19 (Tuesday/Tuesday)
- Discussed opening 8U Head Coach application 6/23 and close 7/13 ahead of July board meeting for selection
- Discussed opening Club Head Coach application 6/23 and close 8/17 ahead of August board meeting for selection

Date to close 8U travel and club scholarship application

- Decided August 17, 2025 for scholarship application close date to review ahead of August board meeting.

EOY 2024-2025 Survey Results

- Discussion on how to address areas of improvement based on survey feedback.
 - Working to implement more structured goalie development across the program.
 - Emphasis on better communication between coaches and families.
 - Parents expressed concerns about lack of structure and communication in 6U/8U Club. Discussed setting expectations of coaches to send out practice plans ahead of practice so everyone is prepared. Discussed adding coach names to the back of warmups for better visibility.
 - Plan to host a Club orientation meeting for parents and families at the start of the season.
 - Chris Whitney will review registration lists to identify coaches who can assist with Club practices.
 - Policy discussed regarding player behavior on the ice: coaches will give two warnings, if negative behavior continues, a parent or guardian will be asked to remove their player from the ice due to behavior or safety issues.
- Proposed a mid-season survey for Club families to get a pulse on how the season is going.
- Discussed end-of-season feedback to be split into separate Club and Travel surveys and will add specific questions about coaches and team managers to both surveys.
- Discussed concerns raised about the burden of flying to tournaments, especially for families with multiple travel players.
 - Plan to improve communication across travel teams and managers regarding tournament locations.
 - Managers are instructed to conduct preseason surveys to get parent input on tournament preferences—generally majority rules, with coach oversight.
 - Consider limiting selections to one major travel tournament and others within driving distance.
 - Add travel-related FAQs to the FYHA website to help with communication.
- Discussed coaching qualifications and certifications
 - Emphasis on clarifying the difference between Club and Travel coaching requirements. All Club head coaches must have Level 1 certification.
 - Plan to run a report on current coaching status before portal closure in July to ensure all requirements are met for August.

Equipment orders/equipment gear swap

- Northstars gloves will be added to the team store; remaining inventory to be sold via registrar. Northstars Bags will also move to the team store.
- Old jerseys and dryland gear will be partially retained for emergencies or sold as a fundraiser.
- Discussed Equipment Swap event being planned for early August during Shott's Tots. Bring-your-own and self-managed. Will include a donation section.
- Discussed Rink Rat Rentals as new equipment rental vendor for upcoming season. Communication about program change to members needed.
- Discussed retaining some gear stock for Try Hockey Free for a Day event.
- Discussed apparel stock challenges due to tariffs; Warrior and New Balance currently have

best availability. Adidas backordered until August.

- Change warmup colors to grey shirts and blue shorts. Keep Northstars warmup design the same as last year (with OSI logo) due to time constraints.
- Discussed reordering the same coach polos and Bauer warmups as last year.
- Discussed requirement that all travel players must have a navy helmet and navy or navy-yellow gloves. Must be communicated to families registering ahead of the season. Helmet stickers will be provided to travel players.

FYHA Venmo account

- Discussed the need for an electronic payment option for events, tournaments, and fundraising. Agreed to set up a dedicated email address and start the process of establishing a nonprofit PayPal and Venmo account. Tiffany and Gina will work together to set up.

Summer Pond Hockey board oversight

- Discussed needing a point person to ensure Pond Hockey is running smoothly.
- Chris Whitney will contact coaches signed up in DIBS and communicate expectations. If Coaches signed up in DIBS are not registered as a volunteer/coach with FYHA and have not completed the necessary steps (USA Hockey Membership, background check, SafeSport certification), they will be removed/unclaimed and given further instruction on how to register.
- Discussed only one registered volunteer/coach is required to run each session; up to two can be paid (must claim in DIBS and fill out form attached to QR code at the rink)
 - Discussed Monday as day of week to verify each session has enough registered volunteers for the three sessions that week (Tues, Thurs, Sun). If there are not enough, sessions will be cancelled and notified on social media and email.

End of Year P&L

- Brought in \$30k more than what was budgeted.
- Discussed doing P&L report quarterly starting April 1, July meeting will show P&L for Q1

Post-fiscal year expenditures

- Discussed expectation for team managers to hold EOY parties no later than the first week of April due to too many expenses accruing past fiscal year. All agreed.

Fall practice schedule

- Molly will coordinate with Dixie to set up dryland schedule.
 - Pre-season assessments will be held the week before travel practices start, with time slots by age group to collect baseline data.
 - Dryland training begins the first week of practice (excluding Labor Day due to seeding tournament and Halloween).
- A dedicated goalie development slot will be included for the first month of the travel season.
- Motion to approve practice schedule by Chris Whitney.
 - Second: Gina Nabours.
 - All in favor. Motion passed.

25-26 President's Banquet

- Discussed Thursday, April 2, 2026 as date for next President's Banquet. Travis will book with Orpheum.

Shott's Tots scheduling

- Discussed August 9, 16, 23, 24 Sept 13, 14 as six ice slots for Shott's Tots program.

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:06 PM by Chris Whitney. Second by Gina Nabours.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 @ 6 PM