

WHA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 11th, 2023

Location: Fieldhouse Conference Room

Time: 7:00pm Board Meeting



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Randall, Amber Dahl, Nate Shuller, Travis Young, Jeremy Johnson, Kris Dorneman, Eric Skott, Matt Engen, Adam Sullivan, Adam Lalim

ABSENT: Debbie Melville

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Tonya Holien, Lucas Deutsch, Chris & Brittoney Serie, Casey Shuller, Jenni Wirkus, Jessi Eidson

Call to Order: 7:05pm

AGENDA for August 2023: Todd added New Agenda items: Business Manager, Dakotaland Credit Union and Dakota Gold Golf Sponsorship. Amber Dahl moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES for July 2023: Nate Shuller moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Travis Young. Motion carried.

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT** – Tonya provided an update that we paid the Golf Tournament expenses and the Play-by-Play expenses to the radio station.
2. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. **Golf Tournament Recap** – Jenni Wirkus provided update. We had a larger goal to make this year due to last year's expenses. Raffle tickets were added. Jenni believes we made roughly \$24,000 on this event. Thanks to our sponsors and volunteers of this event!
 - b. **Registration Update** – we have 81 registered so far. Approximately 100 more to register. Late registrants will be assessed \$100 late fee. Details in process for the Mites program. Roadside Gas and Elite Drainage & Sewer are sponsoring the Mite registration fees, paying for registration and jerseys. The Wee Wobblers program and Learn to Skate are working together on a "Little Anchors" program with the Figure Skater group. More details to come. Learn to Skate is a 8-week program tiered with a secondary program (8-week program) for those that want to continue skating. The registration fees for Initiation Hockey and Wee Wobblers programs, the WHA will own all the hockey gear. The city will own the rental skates. Initiation Hockey's name will change to "Try Hockey for Free" and there will be no costs. Wee Wobblers registration fees would be split between WHA and Watertown Figure Skating Club (WFSC) and managed by the WFSC.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Treasurer Appointment** – Debbie Melville has resigned from her position as WHA Treasurer. Eric Skott, seconded by Kris Dorneman to accept resignation. A motion made by Amber Dahl to nominate Allison Mathews as the new Treasurer, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried.
 - b. **Business Manager** – A motion made by Jeremy Johnson, seconded by Matt Engen to allow Interviewing Committee (consisting of Todd Randall, Adam Sullivan, Amber Dahl and Tonya Holien) to propose an offer for the Business Manager position. Motion carried.
 - c. **Dakotaland Credit Union Event:** Looking for 6-8 volunteers from 6-8pm on Wednesday, August 16th at DakotaLand.
 - d. **Dakota Gold Golf Tournament** – Todd Randall has approved to sponsor \$150 to this event.
 - e. **Bank Account Approvals** – A motion made by Eric Skott to assign the following to our bank accounts giving signing privileges to the following positions: Business Manager, Treasurer, President, Vice President, and Secretary, seconded by Travis Young. Motion carried.
 - f. **Job Descriptions for Positions** – in motion and will be presented at September's board meeting.

- g. **Team Coordinator Meeting & Parent Meetings** – Todd would like to have a Team Coordinator meeting with President, Business Manager & Nominating Committee Chair leading the meeting.
- h. **Skate Sharpener** – Steve Sheehan is retiring from skate sharpening. Is willing to sell his travel sharpener to WHA for \$3,500 with additional equipment or will be listing for sale at \$4,500. The other two sharpeners we have are being used frequently. The new rink will allow for enough room, and we have enough sharpeners to sharpen skates. Travis Young made a motion to approve purchasing Steve Sheehan’s equipment, seconded by Kris Dorneman. Motion carried.
- i. **SDAHA Player Development Funding** – Amber Dahl will be filling out the application for the funding. If granted, the funds will go to Mite Registration fees.
- j. **Proposal of Digital Equipment** – the cameras that were proposed by the Gromis family will not function in the way we expected. We cannot use a stationary camera that is unmanned with the LiveBarn contract. We have volunteers to man whatever system we decide to proceed on. Switcher Studio is an option still being considered. We’d like to sell advertising for home game advertising on a YouTube channel.
- k. **Cell Phone Equipment Need** – In order to have a Venmo account, we need a prepaid cellular number to use for a WHA Venmo account. This number would be used for all financial transactions for verification. Another option is having an “app” like What’sApp. Amber Dahl made a motion to purchase a phone not exceeding \$100/month for business use for WHA, seconded by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried.
- l. **Open House @ Jefferson Elementary (Aug. 21st 11am – 7pm)** – we have a few volunteers who will be available at open house to share about WHA, hockey and Try Hockey For Free.
- m. **Coach Updates** – the following recommendations were presented. There is a new application and interviewing process in placing coaches in different spots. There was a decision made to ensure there are no head parent coaches for U14 levels and above. There are still a few coaches in the wings which will be announced in short order. Mites coach showing TBD but have parents coaches available. Motion made by Nate Shuller to approve the list as presented, seconded by Eric Skott. Motion carried.
 - **GV** Curt Kranz
 - **GU14** Brandon Henman
 - **Assistants** Kaitlyn Kunkel and Tiffany Arends.

 - **Boys V** Devon McMullen
 - **Boys JV** Ryan Falk
 - **Assistants** Joe Foley and Zane Scott

 - **Bantam A** Jesse VanHeel
 - **Bantam B** Parker Sheehan
 - **Assistant** Jay Good and _____
 - Zach Hunke, Jared Suttan, Austin McNamara slotted as backup coaches

 - **Peewee A** Jared Suttan
 - **Peewee B/C** Dalton Krueger
 - **Assistant B/C** Jaron Kranz
 - **Assistants** Nathan Albertson, Mitch Hopper

 - **Squirt** Jason Murray
 - **Assistants** Max Borkhuis, Jeff Holgate, Lucas Deutsch
 - Brad Wiitanen as part time practice assistant coach

 - **Mites** _____

 - **Goaltending Coach** Owen McBride

 - **Dryland Player Development Coach** Ryan Linke

- n. **State Tournaments** – schedules are due November 1st to the state for regular season. Team Coordinators have been informed to book blocks of rooms. Bantam B's in Rapid City have not been booked due to there being 10 teams in the level.

○ Boys Varsity	March 8-10, 2024	Brookings
○ Girls Varsity	March 1-3, 2024	Watertown
○ Boys JV	March 1-3, 2024	Aberdeen
○ Bantam A	February 23-25, 2024	Pierre
○ Bantam B	February 23-25, 2024	Rapid City
○ Girls 14U	February 16-18, 2024	Huron
○ Peewee A	February 16-18, 2024	Sioux Center
○ Peewee B	February 16-18, 2024	Mitchell
○ Peewee C	February 16-18, 2024	Sioux Falls

- o. **Squirt Jamborees** – the teams will go to one of two locations,

○ Squirt A	December 16-17, 2023	Huron
○ Squirt A	December 16-17, 2023	Rapid City
○ Squirt B	December 16-17, 2023	Sioux Center
○ Squirt B	December 16-17, 2023	Mitchell
○ Squirt A	January 27-28, 2024	Watertown
○ Squirt A	January 27-28, 2024	Yankton
○ Squirt B	January 27-28, 2024	Rapid City
○ Squirt B	January 27-28, 2024	Aberdeen

- p. **Additional Tournaments** – There will be tournaments November 3-5, 2023 (Cedar Rapids, IA) & January 26-28, 2024 (Kansas City, MO) for Bantams, JV, Varsity teams. Girls U14, JV and Varsity are also working to schedule tournaments.

4. **OFFICIAL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS**- reports if any information

Coaching Committee, Adam Sullivan, Vice President, Lucas Deutsch, Staff

Preseason Camp – Brookings ice time will look a little different this fall. We will be hosting a camp. For those attending 9/9, we will have one-off check outs. There will be camps for cost – different options (angling, power skating, shooting & passing, goalie, checking, etc.) Cost will be \$85 for the entire camp. Days and times will be published. 9/9, 9/16, 9/30, 10/7 – Tonya will be sending out. This is for Squirts level and up.

Equipment Checkout - Equipment check outs will be September 14th.

Dibs/Volunteer Committee, Tonya Holien, Staff & Sabrina Welder, Chair

Dibs - module through Sportsengine will be \$500. Eric Skott made a motion to spend \$500 for Sportsengine, seconded by Amber Dahl. Motion carried.

Registrar Update, Jessi Eidson, Chair – Safesport has increased the window for renewal from 30 days to 60 days prior to the expiration date. Rosters are due by 11/10/23.

5. **GENERAL COMMITTEES**

Marketing & Fundraising Committee, Molly Randall, Chair

Fundraising efforts are on HOLD, waiting for input from the City on what can be sold in the new rink.

Nominations Committee, Kristina Suttan, Chair

Varsity parents would like Tyler Austad to continue announcing at Varsity games for sponsorship or payment. All other positions filled outside of the Business Manager

Grow the Game Committee, Aaron Roberts, Chair

Food Drive – collection will be Saturday, August 26th at County Fair and Hyvee. Volunteers have committed (players and coaches) to

Equipment Committee, Lindsey Stricherz, Chair – no updates

6. **STAFF UPDATES**

Operations Manager, Lucas Deutsch

Golf Carts – Lucas is asking to be reimbursed for fuel taking carts to and from Sioux Falls. Fuel will be reimbursed.

Equipment needs and purchases: Ordered 25 new bags for the association. Will need to order goalie gear for the JV level.

Business Manager, Tonya Holien (Interim)

United Way Update: We were given \$8,000 for United Way funding. This is a bit less than other years due to the overall goal not being met within the community. United Way has asked the WHA to assist in more marketing to assist donations to the United Way. There will be a kick-off August 30th at 5:15pm at Montgomery's for a Kick-Off meeting.

7. **FACILITIES** – no updates

8. **ASSOCIATION WIDE INFORMATION**

a. We need to determine a date for an All-Association Meeting. We can't hand out raffle tickets until November 1st. Date will be published at September meeting.

9. **ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION** held following association meeting.

ADJOURN – motion made to adjourn by Travis Young, seconded by Amber Dahl. Adjourned at 9:27pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, September 11th, 2023, 7:00 pm, location TBD