

March 2025 Rushmore Hockey Association General Membership Meeting

Date: 3/10/2025

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Thunderdome

Motion	First:	Second:	Time:
Call General Meeting to Order:	Brad Eggers	Dan Laughlin	6:00pm
Previous Meeting Minutes Approval:	Becky Mann	David Bender	
Meeting Agenda Approval:	Becky Mann	Cody Minnerath	
Meeting Adjourned:	David Bender	Cody Minnerath	7:21pm

Board Member	Present	Absent
Brad Eggers	X	
Dan Krohn		X
Brad Lee		X
Cody Minnerath	X	
Corey Norris		X
Dan Laughlin	X	
Dave Bender	X	
Domnick Janitell	X	
Joelle Neutzling	X	
House Representative		X
Loren Jensen	X	
Megan Archer	X	
Rachelle Williams		X
Rebecca Mann	X	
Ronda Simmons	X	
Sandra Weaver	X	
Shannon Wirth	X	

Important Upcoming Event:	Date:
April Board Meeting	4/10/25 at 6:00pm

Report	Discussion	Follow Up
Thank you from the Varsity Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cam Ritter, Jaxson Prussner, Mason McGregor, Wyatt Reeder, Colton Merchen and Tommy Rogers came to the board meeting to thank the board of all of their support over the years. 	
Presidents Report: Brad Eggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Kelly has been elected to the SD Hall of Fame as RHA's nominee. Michael was the leading scorer for RHA until his record was broken this year. Michael currently resides in California but intends to travel to Sioux Falls for the Hall of Fame dinner. Brad Eggers and Dan Laughlin also plan to attend. There are currently two proposals for the SDAHA meeting on 4/11/25. Possible proposal: add Zam time for the JV girls between periods. SD president Tony Leif will not be seeking reelection this year. Dan Laughlin is interested in running for this position. RHA will be nominating him. The election will take place at the 4/11/25 board meeting. Each organization has one vote. Proposal - The Sioux Falls Flyers have lost 27 skaters in the squirt and peewee level because they are seeking better competition. The Flyers are proposing to put 3 teams in every division, 2 teams would play SD league hockey and the other would travel outside of the area for tournaments. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sioux Falls Stampede are interested in making a junior team, skaters would need to be in driving distance for all practices. • Brad Eggers will email out the state proposals for the board member's opinion once he receives them. • Dan Laughlin has been asked to be part of the competition committee for the state. Dan and others from this committee have been working on a formula to compare data from the last few years team stats to develop a ranking system for SD league teams. This ranking would help determine what teams will play each other the following year. Rather than playing at every location each year you may play your level several times throughout the year. This would allow the top teams to play more games against top teams and lower teams to play against lower ranking teams bring more competition to the state. The top-ranking team would not be playing a lower-level team throughout the season. This committee is proposing a 2-year pilot program, starting at the peewee level. If the program shows success they would move to Bantam and eventually JV/Varsity. When it comes to JV and Varsity there is a lot to consider, this is also years out. This program will not apply to the girls' teams within SD. 	
House Report: No Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Representative present at today's meeting, no report given. 	
Fundraising Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronda Simmons reports Ladies and Laces is being held tomorrow night at RHA. The Rush has not yet sent their roster but will soon. Currently there are 20 moms signed up from RHA, this equals over \$4,000 just in registration fees. Beer license has been applied for and is a go. The Chute Bros food truck will be serving food out of our concession stands. • Alissa Orban reports that Hart Ranch has reached out to offer up to 2 nights of volunteering at their rodeo events over the summer. Each event requires up between 10-12 kids and adults to commit. Jobs include parking attendants, passing out programs, taking out trash, concessions help and 50/50. Hart Ranch guarantees \$1000.00 towards RHA/team per night worked. Alissa must have a commitment by March 31st. • Alex Lasky from The Rush is working on a youth in sports night during the 4/11/25 Rush game. He would like to honor the Bantam A and JV teams for winning the state title. Ronda Simmons is working on getting this set up. • Shannon Wirth has lined up an individual to start writing grants for RHA. She is asking the board to decide what type of grants we want to apply for. Some ideas include funding for underprivileged kids. Ronda Simmons states that in the past there was a grant writer who worked with the NPHL for grants toward rental gear. Ronda will work with this previous grant writer to pass along what she did in the past. Brad Eggers would like to see RHA apply for another Pete Lein grant; the parking lot is in desperate need of more gravel. 	
Financial Report: Sandra Weaver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue: We are now ahead or close to the prior year in most revenue categories. Team reimbursable income has been reconciled, the balance shows a \$1,523 balance due from Boys Varsity for their new jerseys. All other team purchases have been paid off. • Coaches and Referee expenses: Coaches pay is less than last year even with the lodging reimbursement. Referee expenses are down compared to last year by \$7,000. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tournaments: Tournaments are high by \$866 as the Pee wee B team went over their allotted \$1,800. Will follow up with coordinator regarding payment. • Building Repairs: Will be on track to hopefully transfer \$15,000 to the building reserve CD at year end unless additional repairs are planned for March – June. • The overall net is \$58,915 currently, comparable to last year. • Upcoming significant expenses: March – April mortgage payments of \$44,377 plus refinancing costs (unknown). Insurance premiums of approximately \$21K – 25K. • Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet): Our unrestricted cash in the bank covers 14 months of expenses based on a rolling 3-year average of \$24,623 per month. This means currently, without any additional revenue coming in, we can support a little over 1 year of operating expenses. • Team Funds: The team funds have been reconciled and are accurate for where they stand at 2/28. Of the teams that fundraised (Bantam B, House, Mites, Squirts A, Squirts B, Girls) most built up their accounts. We should discuss the Mites fund being almost \$4,790 without having many expenses during the year. • The mortgage is set to be renewed by April 14th. Sandra will be working on setting appointments to get this done. • The insurance needs to be renewed, we need to submit a fire suppression report. Cody Minnerath has this report. • Future Registration Fees: Due to fundraising efforts, the future registration fees that were raised for individual players increased by \$9K from the prior year. This will go directly to those players’ registration fees, based on what they were able to fundraise. The raffle served as a great way to help offset registration fees for the future. 	
<p>Varsity Jerseys/Continuation of Financial Report – Ronda Simmons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up from the last board meeting, during the discussion regarding the Boys Varsity team going to nationals Ronda Simmons asked Sandra Weaver if the jersey money owed had been taken out of the varsity fund. There was a misunderstanding, and the money has not yet been taken out of the varsity fund. Varsity owes RHA \$1,500.00 for the extra jerseys that were purchased prior to team cuts. Unfortunately, the jerseys had to be ordered prior to tryouts. • Ronda requests use of the Shorty Fund to pay for the extra jersey costs from this year. The Shorty Fund was established during the 2022-2023 season to offset costs for any families going through hard times. This money has never been used and is still sitting in an account. • Ronda suggests that the funds in this account be allocated for the purchase of jerseys. These jerseys were ordered before the tryouts and are intended for the players who did not make the team. • It was suggested we change this fund to the Boys National fund going forward. Another suggestion would be to have separate funds for general needs and one for tournaments. • Dan Laughlin would like to see RHA pay the remainder for the extra jerseys and not take the funds from the shorty or varsity funds. This would be a one-time payment but next year there needs to be a new plan for ordering jerseys ahead of try outs. Becky Mann makes a motion to approve this suggestion. Dan Laughlin seconds this motion. Motion is voted on, board approves motion. 	<p>Discuss replacing jerseys for other levels at the next meeting.</p> <p>Discuss varsity jersey plan at future meeting.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becky Mann continues to comment that a fundraiser for jerseys could be considered for next year’s jerseys. • The jerseys for the varsity boys were about \$350 per player this year. The intention was for these jerseys to be used for a few years, however if a player needs a larger size or there is damage the individual player must purchase a replacement. Ordering takes about 3 months. • Brad Eggers would like to see a plan created prior to next year’s order going in. • Dan Laughlin proposed that RHA takes over the charge for the jerseys of the kids that are cut however new jerseys should not be ordered every year. • Loren Jensen states that year after year the jersey process is very chaotic. He proposes kids stick with the same number starting in squirts. Kids would then have the same jersey for the remainder of the program. If a player wanted a new jersey, it could then be purchased at their own expense. • Domnick Janitell notes that ordering new jerseys to match the current ones are a challenge, often the colors do not match. Most of the current jerseys are over 12 years old. 	
<p>Facilities Report: Cody Minnerath</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ice will be removed starting March 29th. • Cody has not ordered the necessary parts to repair the zam door but will be soon. • The compressors continue to be an issue. • Cody plans to purchase gravel annually for the parking lot and explore extending it, as parking in no-parking areas and along the road during busy games poses a hazard. He will get an estimate for gravel, potentially spanning 2-3 years to complete the project. Dan Laughlin suggests adding paved paths along the front of the building. • Jason Mann and Cody are looking into ways to replace the water heater as well. • Cody would like to investigate sending out zam back to Summerset, WI for maintenance. This should be done every few years. • Ben Nelson has been helping Cody from time to time as he is still a great resource. Cody has been working with Ben on the compressor issue. They are currently working on a seal. • Michelle Valco mentions that non-profit organizations are eligible for free signs for the parking lot from DOT. 	
<p>Recruitment: Rachelle Williams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachelle Williams is absent today, no report given. 	
<p>Tournament Report:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Valco reports that the Mite Jamboree has 24 teams registered. There are currently 92 dib hours that need to be filled for the weekend. Ronda Simmons will make a Facebook post about this. Merchandise bags have been donated. It sounds like many teams will be going to the Rush game on Saturday night. • The JV State Tournament was a major success with minimal issues. Though there were some fan and referee concerns, most aspects ran smoothly. One rink door did not close properly and became a hazard, but it was inspected. Refs need to ensure all doors are secure. Rapid City students provided excellent support. Dan Laughlin thanks David and Alissa Bender for their efforts over the weekend. He also commends the facilities crew for the exceptional ice quality. 	

Strategic Planning – Sandra Weaver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first meeting is on May 2nd. Sandra is preparing a section for the newsletter and is seeking more members. A brief questionnaire will be required to join. Further details will be discussed in the next meeting. 	
Referee Program – Brad Eggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dan French will be working with Ryan Cathcart to get this program going. If anyone has any questions regarding anything related to refing please direct them to Ryan Cathcart. 	
Fargo Registration – Joelle Neutzling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joelle reports that squirt teams can start registering for Squirt International on May 1st. Joelle suggests we register for the “C” bracket again. Registrations need to get submitted right away. 	