



City of Lakes Youth Hockey Association

March Board Meeting

March 13, 2025

1. Call to Order:

Current board members:

President - Cory Larson

Vice President - Michele Bednar

Treasurer - Peter Grotans

Secretary - Joe Dieckhaus

Ice Director - Brandon Arneson,

At-Large Members -

Nancy Nordeen

Dan Hatzung

Teresa Eisenbise

Sarah Carsello

Cassidy Marks

Jyl Dieckhaus

Geoff Lindback

Matt Sheldon

Seth Spangler

Liz Hendren

Allison Rasmussen

Jay Rasmussen

Tracy Williamson

Tim Bednar

Justin Thatcher

2. In attendance (Board, Appointed Positions): Cory Larson, Michele Bednar, Peter Grotans, Tim Bednar, Aaron Flannigan, Jay Rasmussen, Dan Hatzung, Brandon Arneson, Seth Spangler, Sarah Carsello, Geoff Lindback, Allison Rasmussen, Nancy Nordeen,

Total attendance and determination of membership quorum: Quorum is 10

3. Previous meeting minutes: [February 2025 Minutes](#)

Previous Minutes Moved To Accept by: Michele Bednar

Seconded by: Jay Rasmussen

Accepted: 7:04

4. Old Business:

- Discussion on clinics this summer
- Windom Park Ice is closing after Monday

Review Action Items:

- Set date to collect team jerseys
- Set end of season meetings
 - Coaches
 - Managers
 - Any others?

5. Monthly Calendar Review

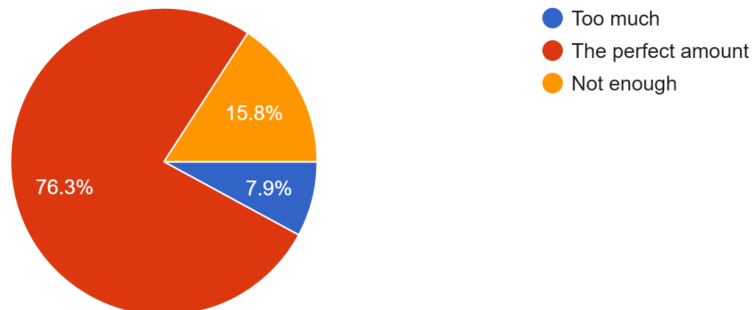
March			

6. President's Report:

- Survey Result Discussion

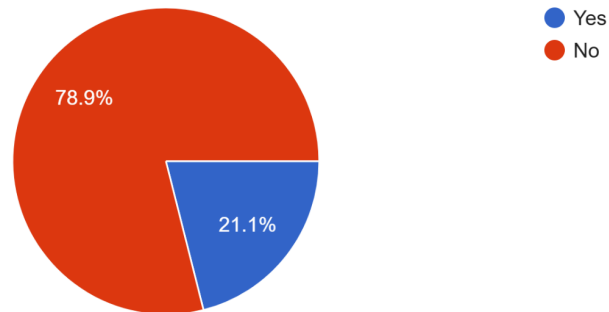
How much ice time did you receive?

38 responses



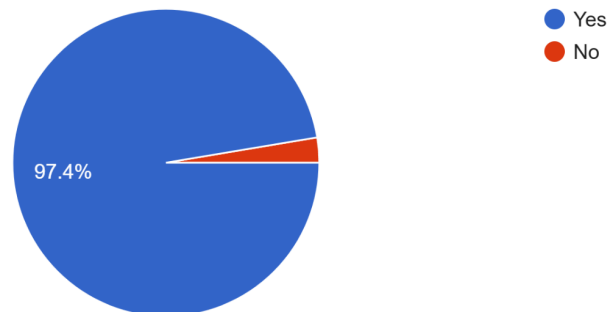
Were you new to the Titans/Starwhal program?

38 responses



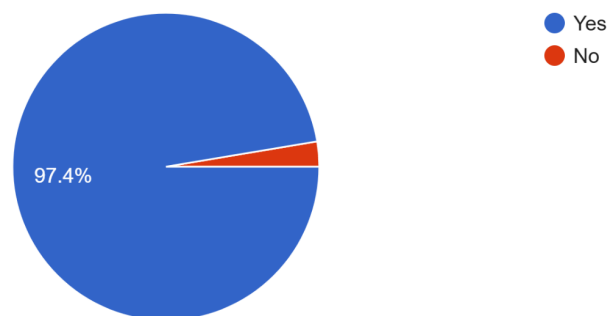
Did you feel you could find answers to all of your questions about the program?

38 responses



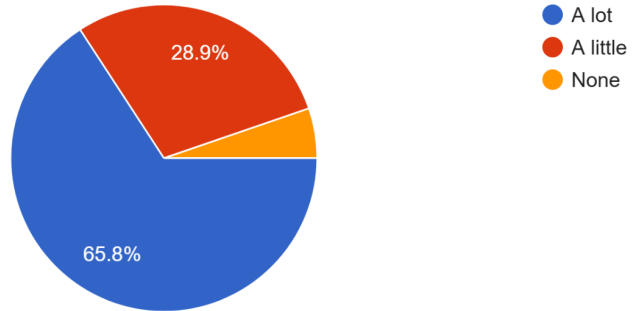
Were there enough resources to allow you to participate? (scholarships, car pools, etc)

38 responses



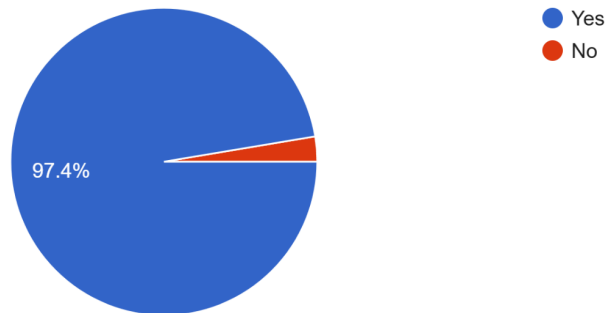
How much did your skater improve?

38 responses



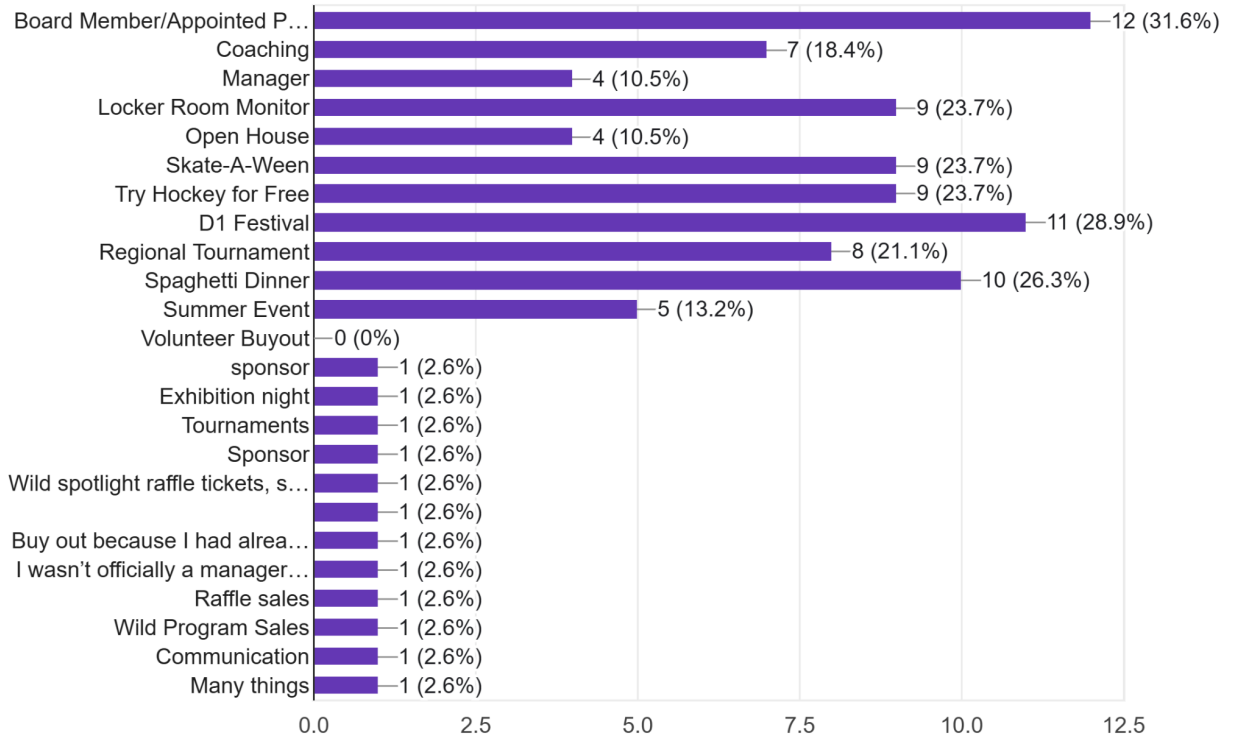
Were there enough volunteer opportunities?

38 responses



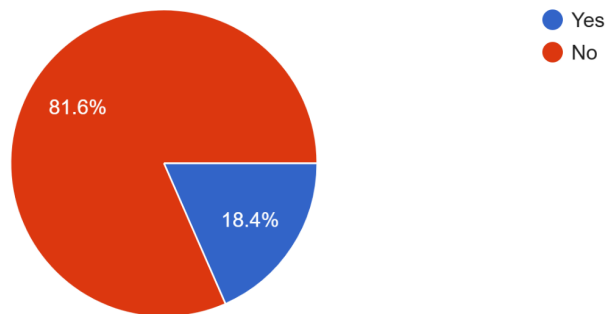
In which way did you volunteer?

38 responses



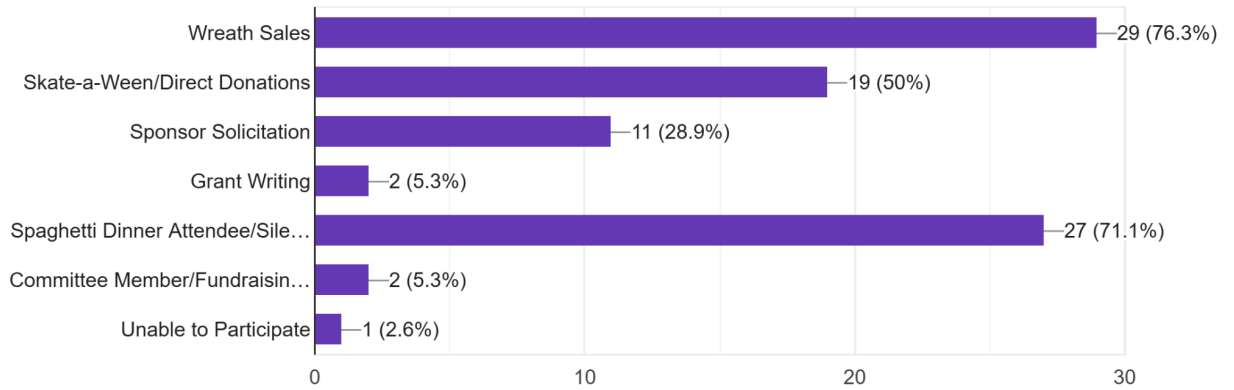
The Titans/Starwhals are in need of board members and appointed positions next season. Are you willing to fill one of these needs?

38 responses



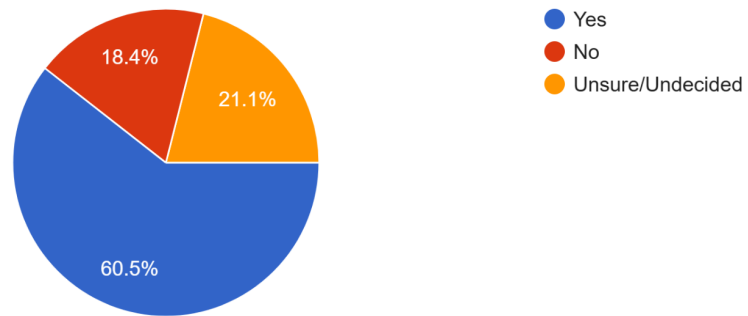
We pride ourselves on the delivery of our mission to make hockey affordable and accessible to all. This includes a significant subsidy for all players a...ell us how you participated in fundraising this year.

38 responses



Are you planning on coming back to the Titans/Starwhals next season?

38 responses



- Comment Themes

- Mostly Positive Feedback
- Some constructive criticism included:
- Fundraising
 - Wreaths are a Christian tradition
 - Should optimize our fundraising to be more profitable
 - Different fundraisers
 - One fundraiser at a time
 - No wreaths, maybe a plant sale
 - Fundraise more so we can provide more opportunities for our skaters
 - Fundraise at the team level
 - Track fundraising
- Schedule
 - Less fluctuating schedule
 - Too demanding of parents
- Communication
 - More clarification on what is expected and how to use the website tools
 - Clarify the roles, provide ample time to learn
 - Increase volunteer participation
 - Improve website and make information more accessible
 - Everything – communicate more
- Skill Development
 - Be clear to families on where their child stands
 - Keep like skills together
 - More dryland
 - Summer programming
 - More wins
 - Focus on competitiveness
 - Power skating

- More focus on skills
- More games at mites
- More teams to play

· Misc

- More merch – partner with Dave's?
- Improve numbers
- More support for a girls team or more girls only events
- Develop carpooling program
- High level restructuring
- Explain organizational chart and how things work
- Meet more families outside of the rink

· Grievances

- Better plan to deal with grievances
- Secrecy of anonymous reports of grievances
- Be more transparent
- Don't ask for blind votes without full context and background information
- Gossiping

Report Moved To Accept By: Michele Bednar
 Seconded by: Jay Rasmussen
 Accepted: 7:18 PM

7. Treasurer's Report:

CURRENT BUDGET SUMMARY	BUDGET	ACTUAL	UNDER/OVER	Forecast	
Total Income	\$ 136,900.00	124,591.54	\$ (12,308.46)	\$ 141,403.81	91%
Total Expenses	\$ 132,136.00	103,294.92	\$ (28,841.08)	\$ 130,182.77	78%
Difference	\$ 4,764.00	\$ 21,296.62			

- 2/1/2025 - 2/28/2025
 - Income = \$7,148.50
 - Expenses = \$9,563.25

- Huntington Bank balance as of 3/12/2025 = \$31,584.21
- Income Snapshot through 2/28/2025

INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL	UNDER/OVER	Forecast	
Registrations	\$ 85,400.00	\$ 77,063.89	\$ (8,336.11)	\$ 86,368.79	90%
Volunteer Buyout/Fee	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 800.00	\$ (700.00)	\$ 800.00	53%
Sponsorships	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,350.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$14,350.00	124%
Grants	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ (2,000.00)	\$3,500.00	64%
Donations	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,988.70	\$ (511.30)	\$ 3,553.70	89%
Fundraising Events	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 17,874.74	\$ (12,125.26)	\$ 23,817.11	60%
Earmarked	\$ - .00	\$ 9,014.21	\$ 9,014.21	\$ 9,014.21	
TOTAL	\$ 136,900.00	\$ 124,591.54	\$ (12,308.46)	\$ 141,403.81	91%

Report Moved To Accept By: Jay Rasmussen
 Seconded by: Michele Bednar
 Accepted: 7:23 PM

8. Vice President's Report:

- D1 Festival went really well! Created a process doc for future use
 - Wins: Reduced Menu at Concession Stand, CAP sales only at CAP table, Mini and Mite Jamboree's in the middle of the day, and Starwhal Alumni game
 - Opps: Too many programs, Double check rosters, First volunteers of the day should arrive 30 mins prior to the first game, Jamboree's need more ice time
- Regional Tournament: Thank you to all who volunteered! Next year there may be a decrease in how many volunteers are needed - more information to come down the road.
- Spaghetti Dinner Desserts: Will send out an email to ask families to contribute. Any restrictions?
- August Try Hockey for Free: any feelings one way or another?
- End of year school festivals: Please send me and Teresa information if your school will be having one that the Titans could table at
- Promotion of Learn to Skate for summer participation

Report Moved To Accept By: Peter Grotans
 Seconded by: Seth Spangler
 Accepted: 7:30 PM

9. Secretary's Report:

- Scheduled Board Meeting
- Updated board documents on website
- Collected Jersey's - still need from 2 players

Report Moved To Accept By: Michele Bednar
 Seconded by: Brandon Arneson
 Accepted: 7:31 PM

10. Ice Director's Report:

- Submitted Ramsey ice request for 2025-2026
- MPRB ice request opens next Monday, will submit then

Report Moved To Accept By: Peter Grotans
Seconded by: Michele Bednar
Accepted: 7:32 PM

11. Gambling Manager's Report:

- Beginning Balance: \$16,679.72
 - Income:
 - Pull Tabs: \$4,263.00 (Five Games)
 - Expenses:
 - Games: \$339.90
 - City & State Taxes: \$459.22
 - Payroll: \$317.60
 - Gross Pay: \$186.20
 - Payroll Taxes: \$13.40
 - Payroll Service Fee: \$61
 - Unemployment Ins: \$57
 - MN Gaming Services:
 - Tax Return: \$400
 - Consulting: \$71.66
 - Utepils - Rent: \$931.00
 - Central Gaming Services - Lease and service: \$401.60
- Ending Balance: \$ 18,021.74
- Currently going through an audit- pending review.
- Installed a new machine at Utepils, we now have three games instead of two.
- Full Board Report available for review - Reviewed by Board
- Motion to approve February projected charitable gambling expenses: Peter Grotans
 - Michele Bednar
 - 7:52

- Projected expense report Moved To Accept By: Michele Bednar
Seconded by: Tim Bednar
Accept: 7:53 PM

- Report Moved To Accept By: Michele Bednar
Seconded by: Brandon Arneson
Accept: 7:53 PM

12. Appointed Positions Reports

Equipment Manager (Justin Thatcher):

-

Coaching Coordinator (Brandon Arneson):

- End of season coaches meeting 3/11
 - Mite/Mini fluidity and/or skill division discussed
 - Desire for late-summer Try Hockey for Free event
 - Team building fundraising support
 - Coaches meetings centered on specific topics and combined with specific age groups in mind

District Representative (President or available board member):

- Discussion about the Starwhals

Fundraising Chair: (Allison and Jay Rasmussen)

Excited to get started on next year after Spaghetti Dinner

Spaghetti Dinner is Saturday, March 22nd 5-8

Final Spaghetti Huddle next Wednesday, March 19th, 6:30pm

Several committee members inspected the space this week.

- Volunteers – Michele is point person
 - Setup 4 people
 - Food Prep Cory checking
 - Serving food 4 1.5-hour shifts (8)
 - Wine Pull - 3 1-hour shifts (3)
 - Clean up 4 people (all disposable)
- Silent Auction
 - Couple bids today
 - Need to bring a table for the stuff
 - How nice to make presentations look
 - Go all silent auction, no raffle
 - Cory will keep baskets until event
 - Cory checking to see how payment is charged/collected/verified
 - Kim numbering spreadsheet to assist with tracking
 - § Contact information for prizes (Ex: Jay for Vikings tickets)
 - **Everyone verify silent auction items are on there 1 day before**
- Wine Pull
 - In some corner
 - Cory will collect the wine

§ Will help with the game

- Michele will bring ipad, Cory will bring Square for card payments

· Dinner

- Need to bring pots and pans
- Everything else will be disposable (can use dumpster in back)
- Eric will start preparing food night before

§ Cory will work with Eric and Phil to make that happen

- Tables/chairs on one side for 200 people

§ No tables/chairs on other side, so people can hang by the bar

- Serving

§ People to transfer food from kitchen to serving stations

§ People serving each dish

- All-you-can-eat buffet
- Potluck deserts
- Ivan confirming bartender with soft drinks (free) and cash bar

· Greeting

- Michele is front check-in person. Allison can help. Tag team.
- Access to online site emailed to them.
- QR code at check-in
- WIFI password signs, no cell service
- Will sell tickets at the door, haven't sold that many tickets yet
- Cory will bring another square for front gate

· Venue

- Owner will be onsite 12-8 event day?
- Jay and Allison will bring Speaker and microphone

§ Jay willing to Emcee if/as needed

- Need to buy plastic table cloths – Michele bought 36
- Liz bringing play list
- Nancy brining 4-5 high chairs
- Cory secured pots and pans from Gustavus

Registrar/Safesport Coordinator (Sarah Carsello):

- End of year communications - email blast to parents for outstanding requests for birth certificates/proof of citizenship.
- Job Description and general role/responsibilities documentation

Volunteer Coordinator (Jill Whitney):

- Four remaining open DIBS for the spaghetti dinner

Tournament Coordinator (Anne Monnens):

-

Webmaster (Aaron Flannigan):

-

Manager Coordinator (Matt Sheldon)

-

Communications Lead (Liz Hendren):

-

Promotions (Teresa Eisenbise):

- I'm currently not in attendance at this meeting because I'm tabling at the Waite Park Community Annual Meeting for the MN Toy Library. I'm betting I can double dip so I'll have some LTS/hockey flyers for any families.

Learn to Skate Coordinator (Cory Larson)

- 38 Active participants for March
 - Six more than last March
 - Two more than February
- Switched to Parade
- I would propose adding Brandon to the official payroll due to our surplus in budget

Grant Coordinator (Mike Ullmer)

-

13. Action Items:

-

14. New Business:

- Motion to add Brandon Arneson to the payroll for LTS coaching at \$25/hr
 - Motion: Michele Bednar
 - Seconded: Jay Rasmussen
 - Approved: 8:13 PM
- Discuss the possibility of creating an 8U Starwhals team
- D1 schedule only for next season
- Discussion of a paid position/coordinator
- First aid kit at the rink
- Create learning opportunities for roles
- Nominations for all roles will be next month and the vote will be taken in May
- Budget discussion to begin - all are welcome to provide input
- 8U intermission game opportunity for Women's National Hockey Game
 - 3/21

15. Adjournment:

Meeting Moved To Adjourn By: Michele Bednar
Seconded by: Jay Rasmussen
Accepted: 8:33 PM