



# White Bear Lake Volleyball Club

Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2026

**Board Members Present:** Julie Steffensmeier, Kim Anderson, Patrick Knipping, Julia Eder, Jeff Dumroese, Jessica Christiansen, Theresa Neudecker, Lisa Meyer, Liz Cinqueonce, Nicole Phillips, Trace Kinley

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Guests:** Laura Peterson (Treasurer candidate), Jodie Eastburn (Tournament Director candidate)

J. Steffensmeier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## Club Director's Update

Winter clinics have launched successfully and are mostly full. Coaching staff coordination has been strong, and the season is off to a positive start. The club is fully staffed. A future blocking clinic may be considered based on board feedback. Clinic registration is now closed.

All players and coaches have completed officiating training requirements. The board supported continuing the in-person training format next season, noting improved engagement despite sound challenges caused by a last-minute location change.

Picture Day scheduling is complete. Teams will arrive 15 minutes prior to their assigned 15-minute session. Team managers will assist with forms, and the Coaching Director will be present throughout the event.

Early team updates are positive with no staffing changes. Tournament results to date include 14 Gold, 15 Bronze, and 16 Gold finishes. Sleeve sizing remains limited for younger teams.

J. Steffensmeier thanked departing board members Lisa Meyer and Trace Kinley for their service to the club.

Bear Blast planning is underway and will closely mirror last year's event. Volunteer assignments have been shared. The board approved bag tag prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams; P. Knipping will research options. An event logo is in development, and a trial run of TIY hair ties is being explored as a potential merchandise offering. Dibs scheduling is expected to open late February or early March.

## Coaching Director Update

All teams are fully staffed and the season has begun smoothly. Early feedback from teams and families has been positive.

### **Facilities Coordinator Update**

All facilities are confirmed and operating smoothly. Auto billing and payment functionality has been implemented within the new White Bear Lake system, and authorized users may now request permits directly. Facility billing will now occur by facility rather than by coach, simplifying administration.

### **Tournament Director Update**

All teams have participated in at least one tournament or play date. Feedback from the Hammerhead tournament was positive. The board discussed exploring future holiday-break practice options due to limited preparation time before early-season tournaments. Rostering improvements were noted, and coach onboarding documentation may be required through the registration system next season.

### **Apparel Coordinator Update**

Uniforms have been delivered and distributed. The online apparel store reopened January 14 and will remain open through January 21 as a final purchasing opportunity. Additional Bear Blast prize items are being explored.

### **Treasurer's Update**

Financials are tracking as expected. Increased use of installment payment plans remains manageable due to club reserves. Uniform costs exceeded the original budget as previously approved by the board. The club credit card expires in March, and recurring payments will be updated accordingly.

Laura Peterson attended as a Treasurer candidate. Follow-up discussions regarding Treasurer recruitment and potential blended Secretary/Treasurer roles will continue.

### **Website Coordinator Update**

SportsEngine's new SE Play platform was introduced, offering automated team pages, live game viewing, recording, and stat tracking. The board approved piloting the platform with three teams. There is no cost to the club; optional fees apply only to families who choose to save video clips.

### **Equipment Coordinator Update**

Three volleyballs were replaced. A malfunctioning net crank at Otter is being troubleshot. Equipment issues should be reported for repair coordination.

### **Fundraising/Marketing Update**

Grocery bagging fundraising opportunities are being explored with Cub Foods and Kowalski's, including potential availability the day before Easter.

### **Secretary's Update**

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Steffensmeier and seconded by L. Meyer to approve the previous meeting minutes. Upon vote, the motion carried.

### **Closing Items**

Next meetings confirmed:

- February 9, 6:30 p.m. – Location TBD
- March 2, 6:30 p.m. – Location TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by L. Cinqueonce.*