

NCYHA Minutes February 5 , 2025, 6:30 PM, Middletown Police dept

Attendees: Stephanie, Adam, Erik K , Steph L, Eliza, Kris, Melissa, Jill, Dave, Steve

BOD Vote:

Vote to approve February Minutes–approved

#	Description	Person/Position Responsible	Status	Update/Notes
1	Checking clinic			Check with Balance–need to make sure there is a clinic this season and all seasons moving forward–Erik will check in
2	Recruit New positions			Xmas director
3	Discuss/plan evaluations			
4	Godbout Scholarship			Can we give a scholarship under our organization? Tax status? Raise money at a charity game? Coaches game? Change wording to include all athletes.

Board Updates:

- President:
 - Godbout Scholarship Update from Dan O'Connor
 - Schedule a meeting with Justin Long, Longplex, regarding future ice time.--unsure when/if rink will be ready
 - Schedule a meeting with Matthew Atherton, Northeast Generals, regarding RI base in EHF.--looking for ice?
 - Schedule a meeting with Brian Feely, Pure Hockey, regarding sponsorship and free uniforms.
 - RI Hockey Meeting - NSTR.
 - SCHL Meeting - pushed to 2/10.
 - Inquiry re: playing up–feedback from coaches needed
- VP:

Tryout Planning

- Mike Simon–intrested in joining board–level director
- I have reached out to Salve Regina University Men’s and Women’s teams to see if their players are available to serve as evaluators during tryouts. I am currently awaiting a response.
- I am beginning to work with level directors to plan on-ice logistics.
- Thank you to Stephanie Luther, coach player evaluations will be released later this week for head coaches to complete.
- As in past seasons, I plan to complete team selection as soon as possible following tryouts. This allows for a quick turnaround so families can register and secure team placement as soon as USA Hockey registration opens on April 1.

New Board / Advisory Member Interest

- As discussed at the last meeting, I reached out to Mike Simon about joining the board in some capacity to fill one of the open roles (likely Level Director). Mike is very interested to get involved in a role that is the best fit. I invited him to attend the

upcoming meeting so he can become acquainted with the board, and he plans to be there. In accordance with the bylaws, any formal appointment will need to go through the appropriate vote process.

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- Registrar:
 - o Evaluation sign up is ready- plan to open 2/6/26
 - o 3. Created Half Season and Full Season Travel Team Registrations
 - o 4. Coaches Evaluation done
 - o 5. Need times for each division so I can set up player pools in team genius
 - o 6. Confirm prices
 - o 7. Do we want to add the parent survey link into the evaluation registration to encourage more to do it?
 - o 8. For evaluations- got a QR code for the Travel Sign ups, do we also want to do a QR code for parents to evaluate coaches?
 - o Website:-updates
 - o Adding players to tournament teams--need to register with whalers
- Scheduler:
 - o -Proposed Tryout schedule to approve is below.--approved (needs edits on dates and create a sign up genius/canva ad)
 - o **Possible parking issues**
 - o - We have a 4 TBD games for Whalers still being worked on, 2 of which are Whalers vs Whalers U10B
 - o - Snow and Ferry CXL's have made a challenging February, but looks like we will get all games rescheduled except 1-2
 - o - In chats with St Georges about a September opening, to be known by our Annual meeting
- MDP:
 - o kids want to keep the jerseys at MDP
 - o Need to determine MDP/LTS coaches/volunteers--what training (if any) will be required.
 - o MDP every other week skills?
- LTS:
 - Adding in Brian Barrett who is stepping into run LTS. Welcome Brian!
- Girl's program:
 - o Coaches would like 1 or 2 (I'd say 1 if we are going to do another game with Lady Canes) more practices prior to final tournament in Worcester Feb 27-March 1.
 - o Girls clinic with St. Georges Saturday Feb 7th 12:30-1:45pm and 17 girls have signed up ages U8-U14.
 - o East Bay Riptide home game at the Abbey Feb 6th 6pm. Charity game to raise money for mental health awareness. Would be great to publicize ASAP since we have a large amount of Whalers alumni.
 - o Had a great game Lady Canes vs. Narwhals at St. George's on the 28th. They plan to host our team for a game in Feb/March at Warwick.
 - o Still need to get something going for the MDP and LTS girls with Salve.
- Level Directors:
 - o After two email reminders we only have 10 responses to the midget survey!!! The data isn't really helpful with that low of a response and there isn't really a majority of responders wanting the same thing. I'm going to try to just email the rostered players at least from this year and basically beg for a response. I'll share an update at the meeting after that goes out. --17 people completed survey
 - o Steve will move to U18 L director
- Treasurer:

Monthly Financial Summary: Our checking account balance as of 2/3/26 is \$147,679.57. Our savings account balance as of 2/3/26 is \$108,255.44. Combined total of \$255,935.01. The checking account balance on this date last year was \$92,840.17. The savings account balance on this date last year was \$97,973.34 (savings account was opened on 1/24/25). Combined total of \$190,813.51.

Activity since 1/6/26:

Significant revenues - Savings account interest (\$249.14), Northwest Designs commission (\$5,191.25), Sports Engine registrations (total of \$3,653.44). Breakdown:

- \$337.50 - Girls Tournament Registrations
- \$1,672.44 - Travel Registrations
- \$1,643.50 - House League / MDP / LTS Registrations

Significant expenditures - Ice rental (\$16,240.00), Storage (\$155.00), Coaching dues (\$245.00), Referees (\$11,557.00), Skills Clinics (\$12,425.00), Coaching Supplies (\$200.00), Misc. Supplies (32.49), Christmas Tournament Expenses (\$82.17), Tournament reimbursements (\$3,488.00), Christmas Tournament score keepers (\$1,130.00)

Other items:

- I will file the Annual Report for the RI Department of State - due May 1st
 - Christmas Tournament profits = \$16,307.08
 - Past due accounts (again)
 - Players with outstanding balances prior to upcoming eval/registration: I can email families and ask them to go into SE and settle any 25/26 season open balances. I'm not sure how aggressively we can enforce this because many families were initially given the option to make installments that go beyond the eval/registration period for the upcoming season. Just my thought. The last installment will be withdrawn on 7/8/26, however the majority of installments will be withdrawn by the end of February.
- House League:
 - Looking to add another player for the rest of the season. Player will sign up with Whalers and pay portion of season
 - Equipment Manager:
 - I have received the 2026 pricing from both Arrow and Verbero for comparison. I don't have the pricing for the MDP/LTS jerseys, but we should go with an inexpensive option since these jerseys are mostly worn for one season. Also, have we thought about the organization buying the jerseys and collecting at the end of the season since they aren't customized and worn for such a short time?

Uniform notes:

- Arrow doesn't have non-reversible jerseys whereas Verbero does and the players can choose either one for Verbero. I have heard from kids and parents saying that they don't care for the reversible because they are heavy, hold in the stink, and wear out from rubbing against the pads so having a non-reversible option would be great.
- Verbero doesn't offer a reversible game sock, but the socks wearing out due to the velcro on the shin pads is the biggest complaint I have heard from parents.
- I spoke with Verbero about the quality and shipping concerns:
 - Quality/Mistakes: I looked back through emails and found that one mistake was on our end and one mistake was due to a manufacturing error.
 - New ordering system for Verbero. In the past, my position would gather the orders and submit to Verbero in an excel spreadsheet. Now there is one less step and the players family orders directly with Verbero in the team store eliminating one step and one more opportunity for error.
 - Shipping Problems: He acknowledged that there was a mistake in shipping and said that he would make sure that the shipping address is double-checked in the future. Shipping problems can happen with any organization and during the holiday delivery, there were about 4 mistakes from Arrow with items arriving to me when the customer paid for shipping to their house. Arrow quickly remedied this by sending me a shipping label and refunding the customer for shipping and I delivered
- Survey results: Satisfaction with the uniforms was the lowest out of all survey categories with people calling out the lack of quality for the Arrow uniforms.
- **Vote: Whalers will go back to verbero (unless Pure hockey comes back with more information)**

Description	Arrow	Verbero
Reversible Sublimated Jersey	\$65.00	\$79.00
Non-Reversible Jerseys	N/A	\$118.00
Reversible Game Socks	\$30.00	N/A
Non-Reversible Socks	N/A	\$58.00
Knit Socks	\$10.00	
Reversible Practice Jersey	\$30.00	\$36.00
MDP Practice Jersey	\$12.00	
Pant Shell	\$55.00	\$45.00
Coach's Bag	\$90.00	\$65.00
Jr. Hockey Bag	\$120.00	\$89.00
Sr. Hockey Bag	\$130.00	\$109.00
Goalie Bag	\$140.00	\$119.00

Eric will contact the pure hockey offer RE: sponsor uniforms

- Player safety:

- Travel Coordinator:
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- Christmas Tournament: **we need a director**
- Webmaster:

Confirm Future Meeting Schedule: Monthly board meetings, first Wednesday of each month, 6:30 pm.

- March 5th (Thursday)