

**Watertown Hockey
Association 6/18/2025 - 6 PM
1812 Brew Pub on the River
Meeting Minutes**

Board Of Directors Vega Nutting Dave Cushman Jordan Hess Jeremy Kreigbaum Shane Caswell Ginger Sherrill Michelle Rist Tom Eiss	Executive Committee Vega Nutting - <i>Board President</i> Michael Ledoux - <i>Board Vice President</i> Sean Ryan - <i>Treasurer</i> Amanda Caswell- <i>Secretary</i> Michelle Rist - <i>Registrar</i> Jonathan Rose - <i>Ace Coordinator</i>
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- Review of previous meeting minutes- 6-6:10pm
- Establish Quorum Present- Majority of Directors (4 or more required)
Vega, Jordan, Jeremy, Shane, Ginger, Dave, Tom, Michelle
- Call Meeting to Order and Consent Agenda
Vega 1st motion
Ginger 2nd
Ayes- 7
Nays- 0
Abstention- 0
- Approve Meeting Minutes from May 2025 (*Vega*)
Vega: 1st motion to accept May 2025 minutes
Ginger: 2nd motion to accept May 2025 minutes
Ayes- 7
Nays- 0
Abstention- 0
- Executive Committee Reports
 - President (*Vega*)
 - State of the Association including successes and challenges
 - An overview of the association was provided including challenges in the organization, a lack of volunteerism, changes and inconsistencies in the NYSAYA, rising disciplinary issues, and increased parental demands. Inconsistencies were highlighted in communication from NYSAHA regarding recent player eligibility and tournament participation. The need for clear, official communication and adherence to rules by NYSAHA was emphasized, while also acknowledging that some confusion arose due to miscommunication and lack of timely information. Matt Cullen, NYSAHA was present and engaged in the discussion.

-The board discussed a recent investigation involving a student-athlete's eligibility and name substitution at a state championship game, with an explanation of the efforts to allow the student to play and concerns expressed about the ethical implications of the situation. The meeting then shifted to highlight various organizational achievements, including the establishment of a learn-to-play hockey program, implementation of bully training, and the formation of a new select team, while also noting successful partnerships with other hockey organizations and the resolution of a logo copyright dispute with the Watertown Wolves.

- Registrar (**Michelle**)
No report
 - Secretary (**Amanda**)
-It was requested to move to Sports Engine for all communication in chat and email as soon as everyone is signed up as a volunteer through USA Hockey. Michelle will update.
 - Treasurer (**Sean**)
-Reported he is continued to wait to get access to accounts. Signatures would be submitted to Watertown Savings Bank once the officers were finalized for 2025-26 year.
- Directors and Coordinator Reports
- Ace Coordinator (**Jon**)
-Additional ice time is scheduled for Cicero Ice for 16/18U.
 - Tournament Coordinator (**Ginger Sherrill**)
-Ginger will get fliers to Michelle so she can set up registration. Ginger will reach out to Jon Rose about October tournament information so we can advertise. Other tournaments are scheduled for every level
- Committee Reports
- Coaching Committee (**Jon**)
-No report. Question raised about who is on coaching committee: Jordan Reber, Josh Vanbrocklin, Brian Nutting. New members will be selected in the fall. Suggestion to change bylaws to include representation from each age group, look at representation of not just director of age level. If we open coaching registration early and get more representation.
 - Finance/Budget Committee (**Sean**)
-No report
- Old Business
- Quick Books and Financial Report Overview (**Sean**)
-The Treasurer has access to quick books and will bring up to date as soon as he get account access. They stressed the importance of itemized receipts moving forward.
 - 14U Girls Full Season Team

-The board discussed opening registration for a 14U girls hockey program, which currently has only 6 confirmed players. It was proposed to split ice time between boys and girls teams at the 14U level, with full ice time for girls on certain days. The board agreed to move forward with opening registration for the girls' program, despite uncertainty about ice time availability and numbers. It was suggested to find additional ice time if needed, emphasizing the importance of keeping girls in the sport.

-It was reported that there are currently not enough girls to have a 14U team. Many girls were interested but found other associations to enroll due to lack of certainty of the program. Thousand Islands Youth Hockey Association was willing to host a team if there were enough girls guaranteed. Currently, the following interest: 6 yes to the team, 1 no response, or 3 no. Amanda said she will be contacting TIYHA about the lack of numbers. It was also reported that TIYHA is interested in hosting the entire girls program. Discussion about opening registration at WHA for a 14U team ensued.

-Ginger: Motion to open a 14U girls program with 1 sheet of ice each week devoted to the program.

-Jordan: 2nd Motion open a 14U girls program with 1 sheet of ice each week devoted to the program.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

- Meat Raffle (*Vega*)
No Report.

- Fundraising Director (*Ginger*)
No report.

- End of Season Survey for WHA Families (*Amanda*)
The board discussed conducting an end-of-season survey for families to gather feedback on program satisfaction and reasons for leaving or staying. Survey will be conducted starting in the 2025-26 season. It was suggested to have a mid and end of the season survey; a plan will be developed going into the season to conduct surveys.

- City Contract (*Vega*)
No Report.

- Open Registration & Fees (*Michelle*)
-The board also addressed registration fees for the upcoming season, but decided to postpone finalizing these until they receive the new ice contract from the city, which is expected to increase by 5%. Concerns were raised about the lack of a treasurer's report and the need for financial information to make informed decisions about registration fees.
-Registration fees and jersey pricing for the upcoming season. A new pricing structure with automatic discounts based on registration date, was presented which the board approved. They also discussed jersey pricing, noting they are taking a small hit on profits.
-Michelle will set prorated fees based on the 17% that we decided on at previous board meeting. She will get monetary prorated cost set for registration as close to 17%.

-2024-25

-\$315- 8U

-\$510- 10/12U

- iPads, Game Sheets and Procedures for 25/26 season (*Amanda & Vega*)
Table
-Tabled to July.
- Jersey Orders (*Michelle*)
-We have been charging \$138 for jersey sets but they cost \$148. Should we continue at current price? Suggested to wait until we understand Ice costs and association finances.
-Vega was going to ask Jon if his team would be purchasing a new jerseys or utilizing the old design.
- New Business
 - Managers and Position Procedures (*Amanda & Ginger*)
-Tabled
 - Finalized Copyright (*Vega*)
-Logo is no longer trademarked, we are copyrighted.
 - Cicero Summer Ice Budget-14U, 16U, 18U (*Vega*)
- The board discussed the 14U select and 16/18U teams' ice time needs at Cicero. Concerns about the lack of detailed budget information for the ice time and other expenses were expressed, which needs to be addressed before approval. Clarification about association responsibility for paying or if the fee is in registration. It is in the cost of registration for these 3 levels. Cicero is \$285/hour of ice time.
-Sean and Vega will meet once he is on the accounts to parse out registration costs.
 - Vega noted she is paying for her own food.
 - Bylaws Update Committee (*Ginger*)
Tabled.
 - Learn to Play Liaison (*Amanda*)
Table.
 - Appointment of Board Officers (*Vega*)
President
 - Ginger Expressed Interest: 5 votes cast for candidate
 - Michelle Rist was nominated: 1 vote cast for candidate
 - Vega and Ginger abstained from voting
 - New President is Ginger Sherrill

Vice President

- Dave Cushman expressed: 1 vote cast for candidate
- Shane Caswell nominated by Ginger: 5 votes cast for candidate
- Vega and Dave abstained from voting
- New Vice President is Shane Caswell

Treasurer

- Sean Ryan was elected at the May 2025 meeting.

Secretary

- Amanda Caswell nominated

Registrar

- Michelle Rist nominated

-A slate of Amanda Caswell for secretary and Michelle Rist for registrar were presented to the board.

Ayes: 8

Nays:0

Abstentions: 0

- Michelle and Amanda will fill the positions.

Snowbelt Representative-

- Tabled July.

• Other Business:

○ Public Participation

- Karen Dalin (GM from PPS) from Power Play Sports presented about partnership opportunities for 2025-26 season. If we are going to utilize them for the 6/8U level their ask, is we decide this summer so they can plan. The board discussed the evaluation and continuation of a partnership program with Power Play Sports (PPS), which cost approximately \$8,000 last year and provided coaching and ice time for 33 kids. They agreed to develop metrics to measure the program's success, including tracking player retention, satisfaction rates, and progress through different levels. The board also considered opening registration earlier in the season to improve outcomes and discussed the need for better communication between coaches and the association. PPS They decided to meet again next month to further discuss metrics and deliverables for the program. A paper proposal was distributed to the board. Discussion will continue amongst the board with a final decision being made in July meeting.

-Matt Cullen introduced himself as NYSAHA Regional representative as well as girls regional representative. Encourage contact with him as needed for the association.

• Action Items from last meeting

- Vega will ask Jon about new jerseys.
- Sean will begin working on registration costs based on financials
- Ginger will reach out to Jon Rose to get information about their fall tournament
- Michelle will set up Sports Engine Board site as soon as everyone has registered as a volunteer.

- Meeting Adjournment
-9:02pm

Respectfully submitted by: Amanda Caswell, WHA Secretary