



# SAGINAW BAY ICE ARENA

*Home of the Greater Saginaw Amateur Hockey Association*

---

6129 Bay Rd Saginaw, MI 48604 (989) 799-8950 [www.saginawbayicearena.com](http://www.saginawbayicearena.com)

## **GSAHA Board of Directors ANNUAL Meeting      Date: 5-12-25**

Members Present: Furbush, Lockwood, Kuhn, Smith, LaPouttre, Bailey    Online: Neuwirth, Causley

Members Absent: Richter

Others Present: Benson, Diana & Patrick Achatz, Chris Mason, Josh Baeza, Zac Schisler, Sara Garchow, Jamie Garcia

Meeting called to order at 7:36 pm

President's Report (Furbush): Excited about Mem Cup Experience, Increase in Marketing presence, LTS growth, Survey

Secretary's Report (Bailey): No Report

Treasurer's Report (Smith): GSAHA in strong financial position, work with managers next year for transparency

Arena Manager's Report (Benson): Year in Review (Below)

Program Report (Benson): Year in Review (Below)

House Director (Smith): Storm Masters Tournament team, Mem Cup Ball Hockey

Travel Director (Bamberger): No Report

Coaching Director (Furbush): No Report

Marketing Director (LaPouttre): Submitted report

Safe Sport Director (Causley): Did not have to submit any issues to SafeSport this season

Fundraising Report (Kuhn): Ice Cream Social, Famous Daves/Harveys, Dime Wars

Discipline Report (Lockwood): No reported incidents to follow up on

Referee Liaison (Smith): Discussed mentor program, discounts, and youth arm band coming next season

New Business:

**ELECTIONS:**

Furbush, Bailey & Richter terms have expired and are up for reelection. Thank you for your time!

Furbush, Schisler, Baeza, Mason running for positions.

**POSITION ASSIGNMENT** in following monthly meeting: President: ACE Director: Vice-President: Treasurer:

Discipline: Secretary: Marketing: House Director: Fundraising: Safe Sport: Referees:

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm

# YEAR IN REVIEW

*GSAHA Annual Meeting – Sunday, May 19, 2024*

## 1) AUGUST –

- Summer ice rentals ended
- Registration began

## 2) SEPTEMBER –

- House League Drafts [12.5 tms], Atom -3, Mite -4, Squirt -2, Pee Wee -2, Bantam -1, Midget -1 & 1 [split] and 6 full season plus 2 split season travel teams.
- Renters 2016 & 17 Gears, Evans, Shaw and Red Caps groups
- Golf Outing had 36 teams
- Adult League had 5 Pro, 9 Mite teams

## 2.) OCTOBER –

- House games & ‘B’ League season starts.
- Learn to Skate Program (L2S/L2P) 91 Participants (65 Mon/ 56 Sat) THANK YOU Coaches... Scott Hash, Robert Neetz, Tim Langschwager, Larry Causley, Kenny Benson and guest coaches.
- A big thank you to all our dasher board and banner advertisers (Horizons Center, Timbers, Caravan FM, Saginaw Spirit, MI Truck Springs, Bourdow Contracting, Covenant Health Care, Storm Masters, Kreager Towing, Bierlein, Garber Auto, JR’s All Star Hair Cuts, B&B Threads, AT Frank, Air Force, Old Town Junction, 14 Gears, Dashiell Masonry, Michelson DDS).

## 3.) NOVEMBER –

- Start of high school hockey w/ Heritage, FNV Griffins & Mid-MI Alliance.
- Try Hockey Free Event had 34 registered

## 4.) DECEMBER – Ice Tyme (Ty Newberry) hosted a year end donation campaign

## 5.) JANUARY –

- New Year’s Day 5k registered 35 participants
- Friendship Tournament 5 Bantam, 8 PW, 12 Squirt for two full weekends.
- Skills Development Program (L2S/L2P) 141 Participants (65 Mon/ 103 Sat) THANK YOU Coaches Scott Hash, Ethan Houck Robert Neetz, Larry Causley, Kenny Benson and guest coaches.

## 6.) FEBRUARY –

- District 5 Champs were –2015 Spirit – Eric Boyle, 2013 Spirit – Jeff Turner, 2012 Spirit – Dan Hopp (State Runner Up), 2011 Spirit – John Kisil, 2010 Spirit – Mike Leibinger, Pee Wee B – Kyle Smith
- Try Hockey Free Event – 18 registered

## 7.) MARCH –

- Youth season went through the second weekend in March.
- Spring League: 2 – Atom, 4 Mite, 3 Squirt, 2 PW, 1 Bantam, 1 Midget,
- 10 Spring Travel Renters (Mite A through Midget AA)

### **2024-25 House Playoff winners:**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Coach</u>
Squirt	Steven Fisher
Pee Wee	Kyle Smith
Bantam	N/A (only one team)

Adult 'Pro': Bee Well Blades

Adult 'Mite' Lower: Rocket Bowling Bar & Grill

Adult 'Mite' Upper: No Pucks Given

## 8.) APRIL –

- Salty's Stampede: A Nite at the Races had 30 tables
- Ken Schueler Coach of Year Award (selected by SVHOA) – Jeff Turner, 2013 Jr Spirit
- Fred Bowden Award - GSAHA Person of the Year – Elizabeth LaPoutre

## 9.) MAY –

- Last Day of the season is 5/22/25

## 10) MAJOR FUNDRAISER:

- Pat Bourdow Memorial Golf Outing. A huge Thank You to Megan Kuhn, Elizabeth LaPoutre, Danny Bourdow and our volunteers for their commitment during this event. 2025 Outing is scheduled for 9/12 at Swan Valley
- Ice Tyme Events (Year End Giving, 5k Skate-a-thon)
- Saginaw Spirit Tickets
- Restaurant kickbacks
- Salty's Stampede: A Nite at the Races

## 11) MAJOR PROJECTS: Thanks to all of our Donors!

- No major projects due to staying open last summer
- Referee mentor program with Rich Vervinck went well

## 12) MAJOR CHALLENGES:

- Travel hockey in the area, especially Bay County who makes third tier teams out of house players, continues to be an issue. Not only do we lose players to those teams, but valuable coaches and goalies. Midland's girl's program is taking players as well.
- Misinformation at 6u/8u... Midland didn't play us, People think BC skates 3x per week, Our 6u move up to 8u so we are basically a 5u playing BC 6u and getting beat badly, Our 8u had no travel kids where BC had the Freeze and Gears kids in theirs so we got beat badly, People assume that BC is developing kids better even though it wasn't apples to apples.
- House hockey struggles to find coaches and goalies.
- Adult Hockey – low number of teams per division makes us vulnerable. SVSU skated late nights limiting options

## 13) BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION : Big 'Thank You' to Jamie Furbush, Jim Bailey and Kim Richter for their years of service and tenure.

2025 – Jamie Furbush, Zac Schisler, Josh Baeza

2024 – Matt Lockwood, Megan Kuhn, Layne Neuwirth

2023 – Kyle Smith, Dana Causley, Elizabeth LaPoutre (appointed)

2022 – Jamie Furbush, Kim Richter, Jim Bailey