



Annual Meeting Minutes

4/3/24

ROLL CALL: Amys, Anderson, Berthiaume, Crimmins, Hanson, Kyrola, Papko, Penney, Peterson, Severin, Sislo, Steen

ABSENT: Raygor

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT: 6:01 by President Severin

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: motion by Amys second by Papko

OFFICER REPORTS:

President:

- Tonight, I will give my final Presidents Report, as I do not seek reelection. I have witnessed over the years the increase in members attending this meeting. It is great to see the interest grow on attending this meeting and also interest in members running for open board seats. As you all know we are a 100% volunteer working board.
- In 2023 We elected our new Vice President and 4 directors. All new members were a great fit to the program. Tonight, we will elect our new President and 4 new directors.
- In 2023 we were fortunate to have received large monetary grants from the City of Superior and Cenovus Energy. These grants help us keep costs down for members and run programs like Learn to Skate and our discounted Termite program.
- We are still working with UWS alongside SHS and the city and other partners on a new facility plan.
- We were fortunate this year in the ability to host a sendoff for our past player JJ Marthaler who attended and won gold in the youth Olympics.
- New locker room policies implemented by USA hockey added a workload for parent volunteers. This policy is designed for the safety of the players.
- A year end survey has been sent out and many replied. We received many positive things in the reply's, some replies had issues with policies and other practices. Please bring issues up to the board for correction or clarification.
- We have spent the year trying to build culture and pride in our association and plan to continue in the years to come.

Executive Director:

- It has been a challenging year from a repair standpoint. Both of our Olympia/Zamboni need repairs. We have 2009 down in the Twin Cities getting a rear end put in. 2003 is going down to get an electrical problem fixed. I am putting together information on upgrading one of the Olympia's.

- We had the fire door fail several times this year and had to put in a new barrel spring, and 2 new boards put in the motor. Hopefully that is all the repairs needed.
- The concession stand windows are in ruff shape. I have sent information for quotes.
- Looking forward to having some painting done inside the lobby and around the building. We will be looking for some volunteers to help with this. Please contact me to get more information.
- Other items to be repaired several outside doors to be replaced, plates on the Zamboni doors to be replaced, Exit lights. Deep cleaning the arena (under the bleachers).
- Our plow truck is showing its age, the frame is not in good shape, the brakes are out.

Treasurer:

- This season, the board focused on changes we could make and sticking to our planned budget. Because of the changes, and thankfully no unforeseen expenses, SAHA will close the fiscal year with a positive net income of approximately \$45,000. This is the first time in the last 10 years that we will end the fiscal year with a positive net income. The new board will be tasked with continuing to reverse our pattern of overspending and continue to increase revenue to allow for much needed maintenance on our facility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Development:

- We ran a learn to skate program in the fall with high numbers participating. The learn to skate helps raise numbers for termites. 37 registered, we ran a split season for termites. This we be reevaluated.
- We continued the dust the rust skates preseason and plan to continue. 53 participated
- We implemented a paid nonparent coach system this year to try and recruit and retain nonparent coaches. This went well and we plan to continue.
- We started the Superior Hockey summer development camp for the summer of 2024.
- We sent 7 of 10 available teams to state this year. All fared well with a 1st place finish by the 12U program
- We will continue to monitor our levels in D11 and make adjustments to put our teams where we fit the best.
- On average our teams received 3 less hours of home ice this year from last year. We were still able to maintain the hours of ice recommended by USA hockey by just tallying our home ice. When away ice is included, we are over the recommended minimum. This was difficult this year due to the lack of outside ice.
- Goalie Clinics went well at the start of the season, look to see a change next year midseason to move these sessions to midweek.
- An end of the year coaches meeting was conducted. Great information came out of this meeting, and we will be conducting up to 3 of these next year. We are looking to make this mandatory to build a relationship with level coordinators and coaches.
- We had to release our 14U girls program again this year. We offered a dual roster situation with the help of Hayward Hockey. We are optimistic that we will be able to retain this program next year.

Bylaws and Policies:

- Reviewed proposed bylaw changes that were approved by the board, all in favor of amended bylaws

Equipment:

- We were awarded \$1000 in new goalie gear from a WAHA grant
- Awarded \$9,000 CAD (\$6,000 USD) by Cenovus to be used towards Termite jerseys and EMT equipment.
- Initiated the sale of old Mite jerseys, all colors beside white and blue.
- Initiated the discussion on replacement jerseys for the entire association. Recommended players purchase their own uniforms.

Fundraising:

- SAHA would like to thank the members and community for supporting our many fundraising efforts.
- The ATV raffle raised \$17,550.00
- The Kettle River Pizza sale raised \$3,040.00
- The Upper Lakes foods sale raised \$7,184.50
- We applied for and received grants in excess of \$30,000 this year
- Missy Siers photography gave a kick back on the photo packages
- In 2023 we rewrote the fundraising policy. This new policy required any teams or groups doing additional fundraising to split profits with SAHA. We had limited kickback on this policy
- Thank you to all our sponsors and donors
- ATV raffle drawing- 1st place: Luke M 2nd place: Arnold L 3rd place: Garrett H

Finance and Insurance:

- This season, all committees submitted their own budget and were all successful in staying on budget. We made no changes to our investment portfolio. We did see our investment accounts start to rebound after suffering a loss last year. We made no changes to our insurance, but much like other individuals and businesses, we saw an increase in our insurance premiums. The incoming board will be tasked with continuing to monitor our investment portfolio. They should also seek bids from different insurance agencies to find ways to lower this cost.

Outdoor Rinks and Facilities:

- The 3-man doors were replaced and painted
- The 2 rinks had 65 yards of dirt added to level them back out.

Rules and Referees:

- Primary responsibilities – responsible for reviews and recommendations concerning rules and regulation changes, and grievances.
- No new playing rules, we are in the 2021-25 rule cycle. Rule changes will be voted on at the winter meetings next January, for 2025-29.
- Safety: The USA Hockey Congress approved legislation at its Winter Meeting on Jan. 28, 2024, that will require use of neck laceration protection (sometimes referred to as neck guards) for players in all age classifications, other than adults, in games and practices -- as well as for on-ice officials under the age of 18 -- beginning August 1, 2024.
- New this season, WAHA partnered with PCA and each association had to provide a Cultural Education Liaison/Leader

- WAHA sent out Code of Conduct forms derived from USAH Code of Conduct, and they will be incorporated into registration and meetings for the 24-25 season. The board reviewed and signed the board code of conduct forms last fall.
- Overall, very few formal on-ice and off-issues. Also, very few safesport reports.

Tournaments:

- 12 tournaments were held, all were full. The Tournament Committee is looking at some changes. We have had some suggestions on making the tournaments better. Thank you to all the teams that hosted tournaments. We received compliments from teams/spectators on multiple weekends.
- 7 Teams went to the State Tournament this year. Bantam B placed 7th-Peewee B placed 4th-Peewee C placed 4th-Squirt A placed 4th-Squirt B placed 3rd-10U Girls placed 2nd-12U Girls placed 1st Great Job by all teams.
- Superior Amateur Hockey Association is our association it is not the Board of Directors Association. I believe we all need to do our part to make Superior Amateur Hockey Association a better place for our children. If you have issues or suggestions, please come to me or a board member. It can then be addressed at the committee level and brought to the board. If we all work together, we can make SAHA a better place for our children.
- There is a survey that was emailed out. Please take the time to fill it out.

Concession:

- This year for concession sign ups we had it so 2 people were required to be on shifts when a SHS game was scheduled and that worked well. On SHS game nights we knew would be extra busy (double header, band coming), we asked for volunteers to help, but never got anyone to help besides the concession committee members.
- We are working on getting quotes for new concession windows.
- Summer workers needed for tournament weekends, if you know a kid 15 or older interested, reach out to Jamie Crimmins.

Registration and Communication:

- There was a total of 258 registered players this season. 14 families were approved for the Harrington scholarship which helped with 23 player registrations.

Player Recruitment and Retention/Publicity:

- Four main goals accomplished for the year:
 1. Increase overall SAHA membership/players by 5%.
 2. Market SAHA directly to all elementary schools in the region.
 - a. "Welcome back" School Event
 3. Complete a successful engagement campaign surrounding early registration, first time hockey players, scholarship, and payment plans.
 - a. Social Media Login and Info
 - b. SAHA Newsletter Weekly
 - c. End of year Survey
 4. Craft and execute a plan to keep SAHA members engaged during the off-season.
 - a. 10,000 Puck Challenge
 - i. Sponsored by Andy

Volunteer/Manager:

- SAHA was offered an opportunity to volunteer at the Hairball and Trampled by Turtles concerts in July, and the volunteers that worked earned \$1200 for SAHA.
- It was nice to have parents at the younger levels apply to be managers this year, all teams had managers by November.

Long Term Planning:

- Lots has happened in the last twelve months related to the future of the Superior Ice Arena! UWS has selected a Development and Construction Management Firm to begin working. The "Our Superior Plan" has been separated into two different phases, a north phase which includes the Indoor Turf and Softball facilities, and a South phase that includes the hockey rink expansion.
- Since selection of a Developer, we have worked really hard over the past 12 months to garner support and interest amongst the local region. The project now has the backing and support of Douglas County, City of Superior, Duluth FC, Superior YMCA, Essentia Health, SAHA and the entire UW System. The project has gained traction and support to the point that the UW Board of Regents has approved nearly 500k to begin schematic design of the new three rink facility which includes two new rinks and a renovation of Wessman Arena.
- Although 500K is a lot of money for an initial investment, it will take nearly an additional 2.5 million Dollars to fully design and get the project ready for construction that is why SAHA has since submitted two different applications to received additional state and federal funding. The first is with the DOA at the state for nearly 600K and 3.5 million with the federal governments Community Directed Spending program. Receiving all or a portion of this funding would go a long way in building a new facility. We have had several conversations with our local, state, and federal delegation. Of note, we recently have had conversations with Senator Baldwin's office about our project. She will be the champion of our project going forward. We hope to hear back in the coming months about the success of our applications.of this funding would allow SAHA to take the next steps in securing our organization for the next 40 years.
- We will continue to work over the coming months until we have a viable path forward.

Gilby:

- The Gilby was held March 15-17. We were able to host 12 teams. Final numbers are not in yet, but the estimated profit is \$7,800 which is the 2nd highest in the last 5 years, the highest being in 2022 after 2 years off from COVID.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Matt Sislo elected President

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS: Mark Papko, Katie Penney, EJ Howarth, and Cassie Grothe elected

MOTION TO ADJOURN: motion by Amys second by Kyrola

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 7:26

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY: Crimmins

NEXT MEETING: April 2, 2025

SAHA SPONSORS:

7 West Taphouse	Lakehead Constructors
Advantage Air and Heating	Lenroot/Downs Funeral Home
Adventure Zone	Mediqwest
All About Mud	Mertz-Rookey Insurance
AmeriGas	Midwest Coin Concepts
AmeriPride	Monarch Healthcare
Arrowhead Printing	National Bank of Commerce
Asphalt of Duluth	North Shore Title
Bachand Realty	Northern Door & Hardware
Barker's Island Inn	Northland Chevrolet
Belknap Plumbing	Northwest Outlet
Benna Ford	Orthopedic Associates
Billings Park Electric	Overhead Door
Bridgeview-Best Western	Perkins
Campbell's Do It Center	Play It Again Sports
Carlson Floor Center	ProPrint
Center for Muscle & Joint Therapy	Rapid Fire Hockey
Central Sheet Metal	RE/MAX 1-Raivala
Chippewa Valley Bank	RJ Sport and Cycle
City of Superior	SCR
Coca Cola	Screen Graphics
Como	Sherry Mattson Accounting
Culver's	Shorty's
Dan's Feed Bin	Social Indoor
Domino's	Solon Springs Concrete
Eddie's Supper Club	St. Luke's
Edward Jones	Subway
Essentia Health	Super One
Great Lakes Office Solutions	Superior Choice Credit Union
Greg Kunst & Sons Construction	Superior Lending
Grizzly's	Superior Savings Bank
Hammond Steakhouse	Superior Tavern League
Harbor Garage	SWLP
Harbor Pointe Credit Union	The Shack
Hardees	TriStar Electric
Hartel's DBJ Disposal Company	Twin Ports Liaison
Holden Insurance	Twin Ports Pro Development Camp
Interstate Battery	UW-Superior
Jimmy John's	VEIT
JR Jenson	WebMD
Keyport Restaurant & Lounge	Young Plumbing
Kwik Trip	Young Septic Service