

LYHO Meeting Minutes

August 2025

Those in attendance: Vanessa, Cammi, Julie, Rob, Kendra and Luke.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Minutes Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT – Report approved

BUSINESS

Volunteer Opportunities/Fundraising

Fair update: Check was sent to Kendra for \$1600 along with an invitation to Thank You dinner on August 18th. Most board members are busy at that time but Kendra may go if she is able. We are still waiting to hear back from the board re: volunteer requirements for next year.

Chokecherry Fest: Tentative list of raffle items: Rhyner family- smoker grill, Shawn is working on a flat iron grill through Ace Hardware, Luke is reaching out to Big Sky Fire about a cooler and Kendra is talking with Dan/HCR about the fire pit. Kendra and Darbe have donated youth hockey stickers and the board has decided to sell those at the booth for \$1 each. Vanessa will post a volunteer sheet and round up fundraising supplies, tables, tent, etc. Kendra has offered to take the lead the day of the festival with set up/tear down.

Fundraising committee: The fundraising meeting was canceled due to poor attendance. Felecia has offered to get a list together of businesses that donated to the calendar fundraiser last year and try to talk with past helpers. Discussion needs to be had re: how to get more volunteer/fundraising help. We have many people saying they will help with anything but then no one is stepping up. There will also be a future discussion re: how to handle families that are not logging any volunteer hours.

2025/2026 Hockey plans and Coach's Update: **Please see attachment for Coaches notes**

****MAHA update: All board members must register with USA hockey (volunteer if not coaching), get a background check and complete SafeSport certification before we can roster a team. Once completed, this information will be tracked through the registration spreadsheets.****

Coaches: Reminder to complete your registration, SafeSport, background checks, online modules and coaching clinics. There will be a coaches meeting in September.

Referee: Receipts for this training will be sent to Kendra. Discussion had re: payment for kids who ref the jamboree games. All board members present agreed kids should receive some kind of compensation. More discussion to follow. Discussion had re: compensation for Josi to obtain level 2 certification as long as she utilizes it to help out program. All board members present agreed to this.

Treasure State League: Still unsure if rink locker rooms will be completed in time. Other improvements (i.e. chain link, glass, etc.) will be on hold for now. There is a grant in the works for the Roof project that, if obtained, may require them to break ground sooner- LISA may know by the end of this week. Rob is still waiting to hear back from MAHA on if 12U will have festival style game play this year. If not, it may not be possible for us to join MAHA at this time for the 12U group. The option to take the 12U team to 1 or 2 12U B tournaments.

Gear/Helmets: Kendra is looking into a grant through Central Montana Foundation that will match funds up to \$5000. Discussion regarding outright helmet purchase vs. Giving each kid gear gift cards to spend as needed. Kendra will reach out to the foundation for more information.

LYHO Meeting Minutes

August 2025

New logo/Jersey: Jersey sets are quoted at \$165 per player. Cammi has been working with 406 Design on a jersey and could have a sample made up for us before Chokecherry Fest. After discussion, it is determined that 8U players and younger will not get jersey sets and will continue to use current jerseys. It is proposed that we allow oldest players to pick their numbers first and Cammi has offered to track numbers and manage the spreadsheet. Goalie jerseys will be a set number(s) and those can't be used by any other player. It was also proposed that we have 2 sets of "loaner jerseys" that can be used by players who forget theirs. Those numbers will also be taken out of selection for player numbers.

-Sponsorship: Kendra will reach out to Mid-Rivers on jersey sponsorship with the quoted price and number of jerseys needed. She will also talk with them regarding terms of sponsorship, longevity, set number of year commitment, etc.

2025-2026 Hockey Registration: The online registration system is going well. So far we only have 7 players registered. Discussion of posting again with a set close date and explanation of fees for late registrations.

Action Items:

Julie: Referee sponsors, Chokecherry Flash Sale items

Vanessa: Chokecherry item coordination, Volunteer list, Fair info

Kendra: MidRivers Jersey talks, Foundation grant, Registration tracking and updates, Calendar info

Shawn: Grill from Ace

Luke: Big Sky Fire cooler donation or discount

Cammi: Contact players about jersey numbers, starting at the oldest and working down.

Continue work with 406 Design.

Rob: MAHA communications

Adjourn: Next meeting 6:30pm Elks Meadow on August 9

Coaches Notes August 2025

LYHO Meeting Minutes
August 2025

Referees

\$55 application fee for level 1, \$110 for level 2

\$30 background check for officials 18 or older as of May 1, 2025

Safesport required for officials 18 or older (Free)

Will LYHO pay for any gear? No

Will LYHO pay for adult registration/background check? Yes

Will LYHO pay for youth registration? Yes

Will LYHO pay for any home games or scrimmages that are not USA hockey certified? TBD

Will LYHO pay for Josi Maier to complete a Level 2 clinic? Yes

When decisions are finalized, Rob will post all information to HEJA to determine interest.
Waiting a little while before posting again.

Helmets

Rob would like to get an equipment post up on HEJA shortly after Chokecherry, can we finalize a decision on how we are going to go about making sure all helmets are certified. Last discussion was to see if Play it Again Sports in Great Falls would provide discounted gift cards and try and find another sponsor to provide all players a gift card to use toward whatever gear they need. Going to look at different avenues, Central Montana Foundation and possibly USA hockey grant combined.

TSL

Rink improvements need to be completed for us to host TSL games. Weather or other setbacks could prevent locker rooms from being completed. LISA is open to running chain link the length of the rink, even if just for a short period of time during the 10u and 12u festival weekends if we do TSL. We should have enough players to field a team at 12u level, at the 10u level it could be more difficult, we only had 13 players in those year classes last year. Team declarations are due September 10th, so we are running out of time to decide.

If TSL doesn't work out, we will likely do a couple extra tournaments at 10u and 12u, so it will be beneficial to treat those as separate teams, although they can still practice together at the same time.

10u/12u girls jamborees

LYHO Meeting Minutes

August 2025

There will be 4 of these events throughout the year. Fees are \$275 per team or \$36 for an individual. These events are a great way to promote girls hockey, and may be especially important for our girls as we consider making the move to full checking in the TSL, showing them that there is an option if checking isn't something they want to do. We have 9 girls age 2013-2017 that played last year.

Will LYHO pay for a full team registration? Yes Will LYHO pay for individual registrations? NO

Jerseys

Up until 12u no official stats are taken, and last names on jerseys and jersey numbers are less important. At 12u and beyond, it can make it easier on everyone involved to have last names and numbers on jerseys.

We have the option at 6u/8u/10u to only pass out jerseys during games, keeping them with the team and keeping them nice for several years, and not requiring any jersey purchase for young players.

We will need to track jersey numbers and make sure we don't end up with two players with the same jersey number. I propose letting the oldest players choose their number first and working our way down from that. With the way our house hockey tournaments work, we will need to avoid anyone less than 6 years apart have the same jersey number.

Cammi will work on jersey numbers starting with oldest players. Kendra will talk options with Midrivers and we will decide on 6u/8u/10u jerseys when we know more.