

LYHO Meeting Minutes

December 2025

Those in attendance: Cammi, Felecia, Shawn, Luke, Julie and Vanessa.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Minutes Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT – Report approved .There is a \$100 check from Moen Family Dental

Coaches Notes

Coaching Staff

- Coaches are wrapping up clinics and finalizing background checks/SafeSport
- Seems like everything will be good to go by the December 31st deadline
- I will go through student coach training when things settle down for a minute at practices
- Board Members – Needed before any roster can be submitted
 - Shawn – Background check incomplete - **Shawn will look into this.**
 - Kendra – SafeSport incomplete

Referee Training

- 9 Players attended a referee training session with two experienced officials from Great Falls coming over (free of charge) to instruct
- 2.5 hours of locker room and on ice training
- Josi, Mason, CC, Sadie, Layne, Kalli all certified or working on certifications
- Kids were interactive and focused during the training
 - “We were totally impressed with the quality of your young folks. They were all attentive, serious, professional, patient, and demonstrated maturity and a willingness to learn.”
- We should send a thank you to both instructors after we get pictures done, we can get some personal notes from the players that attended.
- Josi, Layne, Kalli all attended a Great Falls 10u tournament over the weekend and the referee chief in Great Falls sent an email praising the job that all three of them did

Practices/Groups

- **8u** - Lots of kids in learn-to-skate, getting help from Mike Lucas, Emily Aznoe, and Josi so that Scott can focus on the weaker ones. Not that many players in 8u yet.
 - Probably looking at one or two more weeks before most of them get thrown into a 6u group or join the 8u or 12u, might need a couple more weeks with Scott for a few others
- **12u** – Size of players feels more appropriate with removing the 13-year-olds, large skill gaps but they feel manageable
- **18u** – Huge skill gaps are making things a little bit difficult. Focusing on trying to challenge the top 3-5 players in the group and improve the middle of the pack without totally losing the bottom.
 - Would be very uncomfortable having any inexperienced goalies take shots from the Havre kids, probably Cade and Calbria only at this group, or making sure another goalie isn't at the same station as them.

Goalies

- Eric Nystrum's kid who played goalie will be around during Christmas Break, so will Justin Maier, both are willing to help with some goalie practices during that time

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- Girls goalie coordinator contact as well? **Julie will look into this**

Travel

- Not getting a great response for our 10 and 12u games December 13th and 14th
 - Looking at Big Sky/Bozeman/Philipsburg combining to bring one team of mixed 10/12-year-olds, and Billings 10uB. Haven't had confirmation from any other teams. Great Falls totally MIA, can't get anyone to reply to me. Billings struggling to get players wanting to travel.
 - Should get a better response to the January event
- 12u
 - **Helena-** Sitting at 19 players. Can only roster 20. Similar to 18u I will pick on the kids not signed up yet. Would like this to turn into two teams for more ice time. **Board voted and approved to roster 2 teams if we get enough players signed up to do so. May involve moving 13yr olds around as needed. Sadie Sandau to goalie?**
 - **Philipsburg-** 13 signed up. This is looking like just one team, we have 8 as not going, 8 haven't answered and of those I bet only a couple go.
- 18u
 - **Home Jamboree** - Already heard from Big Sky that they are attending a tournament in Idaho the same weekend of our 18u jamboree. At best we have gotten Big Sky and Helena, last couple years those have combined to make 1 team. Big Sky likely drawing players from Helena to play in tournament. Trying to figure out if anyone will come.
 - **Philipsburg** – 21 players signed up as of today. Going to bring two teams to increase ice time with the limited number of opportunities this group gets for games.
 - **Helena** – Going to be tougher to get up to the numbers needed for two teams, deadline Jan 1, basically need everyone to go to make 2 teams as the Havre boys aren't allowed to participate. At 18 players as of today. Rob will pick on the kids that haven't answered yet. Can only roster 20, hopefully that will motivate them. Other option would be to drop a couple 13/14 year olds down. **Board voted and approved to roster 2 teams if we get enough players signed up to do so.**
 - **Big Sky** – Slacking as usual. Waiting on dates for high school tournaments they may want more players for. Some talk of 18u games in Big Sky – no dates
- Do we have the money to take 4 teams to Helena, 3 to Philipsburg? **Cost as follows: 12u Helena- \$1122.00 per team, 18u Helena- Philipsburg-\$ 382.50/team. Total needed would be around \$5,839.50 with \$3009.00 already paid. There was**

MAHA Association Grant Application

- Submitted, no word back. Sports Inc. donation would be good match based on reading the letter for what Sports Inc. wants money used for. It is the exact amount needed for the match also assuming we get the full \$2000 from MAHA. Documenting everything and providing a thank you would be a good way to prove we are using the money wisely and as they want it to be.

Roster and Registration

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- Everything going well so far on USA hockey side of things. Waiting for coaches to finish up. Will finalize everything as coaches wrap things up. Players looking good. Older players completing SafeSport.

Bathrooms

- Need to coordinate with LISA to make sure we get porta-potties by the youth sheds and the new locker rooms. **** We didnt make this an action item but it needs to be. There is come sort of confusion between LISA and the City on this matter.**

Upcoming weekend

- I have a message out to Billings 10uB to see if even they are still coming. This was originally started because they wanted friendly scrimmages and we had this weekend open, but now I haven't heard anything from them.
- If nothing comes of it I propose we use the ice time anyway and do some scrimmages.
- I'm thinking Saturday from 11-5.
- 18u scrimmage 11-12
- 12u scrimmage 12:15-1:15
- 8u family and friend skate 1:30-2:30
- 18u scrimmage 2:45-3:45
- 12u scrimmage 4-5

This was approved and the board is moving forward to plan food to serve as well.

Fundraising

Board voted and approved to create raffle using donated items with the following details:

*Drawing date: January 18th (tickets sold by youth hockey during the Adult Open air tourney weekends)

*Packages: #1- Gun donated by Durbins, #2-10 GF Voyagers Tickets + soft-sided cooler (or gift cert for winner to choose their own?), #3- 6 Bighorns Tickets + \$50 MacKenzie River Pizza gift cert.

* Luke will get tickets made up and printed through Ballyhoo or possibly reach out to Dan Rhyner. We will sell 200 tickets and \$20 each.

*Ticket sale location will be somewhere at the rink- exact location TBD at a later date.

50/50- The board voted to do the 50/50 raffle again but maybe modify the hours sold and possibly have a drawing each day?

Pictures/Locker decor/Seniors

Picture Day will be December 16th, following the same structure as last year.

5:30- 6u/8u

6- All ages group photo

To follow- 12u

To follow- 18u

Practice afterwards as time allows.

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Locker- Shawn proposed looking into something metal/magnetic for lockers that kids can re-use and he will talk with HCR about this.

Seniors- Jacques will be doing the senior pictures to get them done and ready to go.

Team Managers

6u/8u- Sarah Hodge, Deanna Stevenson (also involved with another sport-may have some scheduling conflicts)

12u- Moriah Simpson, ?- Amy is not able to commit this year but we did have John Sanford offer to help as well that we can talk with.

18u- Dan Rhyner

We need to have a manager's meeting sometime soon. Vanessa will try to gather old volunteer sign up sheets to share with managers to show tasks needing done, format, etc.

Adjourn

The next meeting will be January 5th at 6pm at the brewery. We discussed ordering food this time as we are just taking up table space and not making it worthwhile.