

Preds Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 9, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: 6:35 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 8:34 PM

Present: GreggW, ChuckH, LauraK, AnneH, CandiceW, JoeC and JohnK

Not Present: N/A

1. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve previous meeting minutes was made. Motion passed.
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2. Secretary

- **Newsletter:** Submissions are due to Gregg W. by June 20. The newsletter will be sent out the following weekend.
 - **Volunteer Program:** To be finalized at the next meeting. John is also developing materials. Anne provided an overview:
 - Each family will be required to complete a set number of volunteer hours (exact amount TBD).
 - Hours can be fulfilled through events, games, fundraisers, etc.
 - Scheduling and tracking will be managed via TeamSnap.
 - Families who complete their hours will receive a refund (amount TBD).
 - Overall, the Board supports the program concept.
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3. Fundraising

- **Clothing Drive:** Raised approx. \$800. Household items outperformed clothing. Suggested strategy: pick up items from garage sales. This could count toward volunteer hours for upcoming season.
- **Dine-Out Nights:** Currently being scheduled; kickoff event expected around August 13.
- **Countryside Event:** Candice to forward Countryside communication to Laura who will coordinate:
 - Discussion about possibly moving the event earlier to align with evaluations.
 - Consider hosting it twice—depending on historical sales data and costs.
 - Countryside also offers wreaths and poinsettias; however, anecdotal feedback indicates they earn less than mums.
- **Company Matches:** No new responses from the newsletter. Laura is following up on pending donations.
- **Grants & Scholarships:** We are limited in obtaining local sponsorship due to lack of advertising opportunity in the Ice House. Gregg will take the next steps and try to meet

with David at the Ice House to improve our partnership. Outlook is uncertain so consensus is to work within the parameters that we have now.

- **Silent Auction Items:** Needed for the Season Kickoff Party or other events. Candice to share contact information with Laura
 - **3v3 Tournament vs. Kickoff Party:**
 - Laura leans toward the tournament but Gregg recommends sticking with the kickoff party for fall. There might not be enough time to plan and coordinate this first-time tournament
 - Candice requested finalized dates by first week of August to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts
 - Kyle will forward Scott Herbster's 3v3 schedule template to Laura and will reach out to other directors once the event is scheduled to solicit participation.
 - Gregg suggested checking local high school homecoming dates to avoid conflicts for Fall events
 - If moved to holidays, consider an "all-star skills" format and possibly tie-in with D155 school contest
 - Idea: host a charitable fundraiser (e.g., partial proceeds to charity). October was discussed as a possible date, but scheduling is tight.
 - **Season Kickoff Party**
 - Targeting August or early September.
 - Laura will begin planning.
 - Discussion around striking a balance between using consignment auction items and donated baskets. Laura wants to mitigate families paying for the baskets that they donated.
 - Mrs. Reimer has volunteered to help with basket organization in the past and will be approved this year.
 - Goal is to maximize family participation, so kids will be included
 - Venue received positive feedback—plan to use it again.
 - Candice will send info to Laura on silent auction vendors.
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4. Social Media

- No updates
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5. Registrar

- Summer skates are light
- Sizing dates will be July 8, 15 and 22. Candice is aiming to order uniforms by end of July so that we have jerseys for any pre-season tournament.
- **Player Recognition in Schools:**
 - A senior parent inquired about hockey player recognition in schools.

- A meeting is being set up with athletic directors from all four schools.
 - Chuck noted this may be due to not having a school liaison.
 - CLC recognizes multi-sport athletes, and hockey qualifies—potential starting point.
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6. Treasurer

- Financial Review
 - 2025-2026 budget follows assumptions from 2024-2025
 - 2 teams for a total of 36 players
 - Similar practice schedules
 - Overall budget does not point to a change in player fees this year
 - Discussion on track pants and whether to do/not do
 - Most players opt for jackets and not warm up pants, so might be time to discontinue.
 - Discussion around last season's practice of requiring players to dress up for game days. There was little enforcement of this before and after games, and Kyle was uncertain if this will be the practice in 2025-2026
 - Discussion around players preferring sweatpants over wind pants so Candice to reach out to get prices
 - **Reduced Goalie Fee:** Approved as a strategy this year
 - **Practice Squad:** Approved as a strategy this year.
 - Candice emphasized clear communication and a separate agreement for these players. In the past, the club did not effectively manage expectations for the practice squad families, so there is room for opportunity here.
 - John noted this is becoming more common; Kings and Lakers are considering it too.
 - Budget Feedback: Due by end of the week.
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7. Hockey Director

- **Berge Skates:** If participation is too low to cover costs, Preds will subsidize (as in previous years).
 - Break-even requires 17 skaters.
 - Gregg suggested that we monitor participation volume over the next few weeks and coordinate next steps via text.
- **Tournaments:**

- Hinsdale Central Tournament (Varsity: Sept 5 / JV: Sept 12) could replace Kings Kup and present opportunity to play different teams.

Coaching:

- The current coaching staff will continue into Fall. No adjustments or additions planned.
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8. Vice President

- Tournaments
 - Kyle requested a planning session with coaches to discuss options
 - Meeting scheduled for June 24 at the Ice House.
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9. President

- Will be out of town for most of July
- Requested flexibility for July's Board meeting, which will be held via Zoom or Teams on July 7, 2025.