NAHA Board Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026

Meeting called to order at: 6:03 PM

Board Members in Attendance:
Amy McWilliams, Forrest Merrill, Jared Ross, Ryan Simons, Mike Brown, Nick Lavenant, Stephanie Jeffrey, Tony Guzzo, Tory Tollefson, Matt Parker, Paul Snelll

Board Members Absent:
Eddy Conlon

Guests:
Dita Dotson-Bowser, Chantay Gonzales, Martin Kubaliak, Bill B., Paul Leigh, Tommy Blackwell, Matthew Longley

Approval of Minutes:
Motion to approve February meeting minutes by Stephanie Jeffrey, seconded by Jared Ross. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:
- January and February reports have been uploaded to the shared drive.
- No significant variances reported.
- Upcoming expense: 18U Chargers are renting a coach bus for Nationals.
- Team will use refunded tournament funds, with remaining costs covered by families.

Facility Update:
- Dita reported that operations continue to run smoothly despite recent weather impacts.
- A meeting is scheduled following the next OAC session to discuss facility usage during construction.
- The facility is expected to remain open throughout the entire construction timeline.

League Reports:

- House League
    - YHL season is finishing and has run smoothly.
    - End-of-season team parties will take place in March.
    - Travel and House League schedules have been published.

- Chargers
    - 10U end-of-season tournament was successful.
    - Coach applications are open.
    - Applications will be reviewed by committee, with recommendations presented for board vote at the next meeting.

- All teams have completed their seasons except 18U, who will attend Nationals.

- Thunder
  - 16U team traveling to Buffalo for a tournament this weekend, including an additional player.
  - Last committee meeting held mid-February.
  - March focus includes planning logistics for May tryouts.
  - Public announcements regarding coaches, tryouts, and registration are forthcoming.
  - Weekend skates are concluding; remaining sessions continue through March 19.
  - Budget is nearing finalization.
  - All teams improved 2–4 points in MHR rankings.

- Adult Hockey
  - ADP has returned to Monday nights.
  - SOL playoffs are scheduled.
  - Increased interest in ADP and ADL following Olympic exposure.
  - ADL 2.0 will begin earlier in April.
  - Plan to run two consecutive 12-week summer sessions, with a shift toward higher skill levels.
  - Women's program pilot: 8-week session with up to 60 participants.
  - SOL committee meeting scheduled for Monday, April 6.

Bylaws
- Ryan Simons is working on updates with support from Forrest Merrill.
- Discussion raised regarding removal of Adult Hockey references in proposed bylaws. Clarification: NAHA's purpose is to support hockey for all, not limited to youth.
- Voting rights discussion confirmed all NAHA members should be eligible to vote. Ryan acknowledged revisions needed and will incorporate feedback.

Coaches Committee

No update

SafeSport
- Reinforcement needed regarding prohibition of cell phones in locker rooms
- Coaches may face suspension for non-compliance.
- A formal disciplinary policy will be developed.

Disciplinary
- A player was moved from Chargers to Thunder at family request and completed the season there.
- A House League middle school player was suspended for one game due to unsportsmanlike conduct after the whistle.

Elections Results

The names listed below were elected to the NAHA Board of Directors and accepted their positions. They will serve from April 2026 - March 2028.

Amy McWilliams
Craig Bushey
Eddy Conlon
Jared Ross
Matt Longley
Ryan Simons

New Business

SAHA Play-Up Policy: SAHA requested feedback on play-up guidelines. Currently, no formal guidelines exist outside of 8U and 10U. Tory Tollefson is participating in the working committee.

Proposed policy includes:

- Player alliances at 8U and 10U levels (travel teams only)
- Limit of 2 players per team initially
- Increase to 3 players the following season
- Policy to be reviewed again for the 2028–2029 season

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:02 PM by Stephanie Jeffrey, seconded by Forrest Merrill.

Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:12 PM by Stephanie Jeffrey, seconded by Mike Brown.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Matt Parker, seconded by Stephanie Jeffrey at 8:13 PM.