
Upstate Badger Board Meeting

Date: February 16, 2026 | **Location:** Midstate Athletic Complex (The MACC)

Minutes Prepared By: Steve Beardsley, President and Nicole Hill, VP

1. Call to Order & Administrative Notes

- **Meeting Start:** 7:00 PM (Note: Public posting listed 7:00 PM; discrepancy noted between Spond App and Social Media).
- **Meeting Adjourn:** 7:59 PM
- **Attendance:** Board Members and Guests (as per Sign-In Sheet).

2. Hockey Operations & Tryout Logistics

- **16U/18U Schedule:** Moved to accommodate Spring Break. These levels will run simultaneously using multi-colored pinnies for age identification.
- **8U/Mite Program:** Nick Heldt confirmed as 8U Coordinator. Final formatting in progress with Midstate; details expected mid-summer/late spring.
- **Tryout Protocol:** * No deposits required.
 - **24-Hour Rule:** Decisions communicated within 24 hours of tryout; players have 24 hours to commit before the spot moves to the next candidate.
- **Coaching:** Monthly coach check-ins mandated for the 26-27 season. No student coaches permitted.
- **Rostering:** Dual rostering permitted *only* within the Badger organization; any outside exceptions require Board/Coach approval.

3. Facility & Branding (The MACC)

- **Ice Maintenance:** **No ice from April 6 – May 15** for maintenance. A year-round regular schedule follows.
- **Badger Presence:** New banner locations approved; Badger logo to be placed on the ice (E. Porter).
- **Lobby Redesign:** Working with Cole to redesign the area above the skate rental desk to feature all home organizations.
- **External Ice:** Contracts maintained with Tennity, The Nation, War Memorial, and Sunnycrest.

4. Financials & Development

- **Registration:** Fees to cover specific practice counts, games, and refs. Each team starts the year with a **\$1,000 fund**.
- **Grants/Sponsors:** Actively pursuing grants for development and gear.
- **Apparel:** Verbaro will manage the web store starting in 2027.
- **Goalie Development:** Jake Townsend (Salmon River/Paul Smiths/Jr. Amerks) confirmed as Goalie Coach.
- **Off-Ice:** Exploring summer "Skate + Off-Ice" bundles with Antwan Cordy and/or Midstate trainers (single invoice). Also option to rent space and opt out of trainers.

5. New Business & Spring Programs

- **Spring Hockey:** Corey (Cicero Hockey Club) to run spring club out of MACC; AAU tournament focus.
- **Clinics:** Identified need for a **Hitting Clinic**; Badgers to investigate hosting.
- **League Placement:** Discussion on Major/Minor vs. TB to ensure local success (Western NY League noted as an option).

Action Item Tracker

Task	Assigned To	Deadline
Sync Spond & Facebook meeting times	VP/Secretary	Next Meeting
Renew COIs (Insurance)	Nicole	Mid-August
Finalize 8U Format with Midstate	Steve / Nick Heldt	Mid-Spring
Post Open Board Seats (Ice, Sponsor, Mgr, Disc.)	Board	Post-Tryouts
Research Hitting Clinic logistics	Corey / Board	ASAP