



# MINUTES

## Delaware Valley Hockey League

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Date | time February 11, 2026, 7:00 PM | Zoom Meeting was called to order by President Jay Finnigan

Respectfully Submitted by Michael DeRose, DVHL Secretary















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### Attendance:




#### Executive Committee Members Present:

-  President – Jay Finnigan
-  Executive Vice-President – Joe D’Angelo
-  1<sup>st</sup> Vice President & Co-Commissioner (18U, 16U, 14U) – Dave Jackson
-  2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President & Co-Commissioner (12U, 10U, 8U) – Joe Spagnolo (Absent)
-  Vice President Marketing – Larry Sechuk
-  Vice President Legal – Vacant
-  Treasurer – Beth Ritter (Absent)
-  Secretary & SafeSport Coordinator – Mike DeRose (Absent)

#### Represented Member Clubs:

 Campus Wild,  Central Penn Panthers,  Chester County Cougars,  Delaware Jr. Blue Hens,  Delco Phantoms,  Delmarva Raptors,  Exton Kings Ice Hockey Club,  Hatfield Ice Hawks,  Hershey Jr. Bears,  Huntsmen,  Philadelphia Little Flyers,  Quakers,  Snider Hockey,  Susquehanna Valley Stampede,  Wilmington Nighthawks, and  Wilkes-Barre Jr. Penguins

#### Associate Members:

-  Referee & Chief – Mike Campbell
-  Player Safety Coordinator – Lisa Silvotti
-  DVHL Master Scheduler – Mike Wiercinski

#### Members Absent:

-  Genesis (Upon membership request)
-  Reading Jr. Royals

#### Guests:

None

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### Approval of the DVHL Meeting Agenda:






- The DVHL meeting agenda for **February 11, 2026** was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL Executive Vice-President, Joe D'Angelo
  - Motion to adopt the meeting agenda was made by:  **Central Penn Panthers**
  - Motion seconded to adopt the meeting agenda by:  **Quakers**
  - All in favor to adopt carried.

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### Approval of Minutes:






- The minutes of **January 21, 2026**, DVHL monthly meeting was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL Secretary,  Michael DeRose.
  - Motion to adopt the minutes was made by:  **PA Huntsmen**
  - Motion seconded to adopt the minutes by:  **Wilmington Nighthawks**
  - All in favor to adopt carried.

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### Approval of the Treasurer's Report:



- The Treasurer's report for **January 2026**, were put to the floor for adoption by DVHL Treasurer,  Beth Ritter.
  - Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by:  **Hershey Jr. Bears**
  - Motion seconded to adopt the Treasurer's report by:  **PA Huntsmen**
  - All in favor to adopt carried.

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### Executive Vice-President's Report:



- V.P. Joe D'Angelo
  - Joe informed the membership that he is extending the deadline for the Delaware Valley Hockey League Scholarship for another month.
  - Joe then informed the membership that he and Jay Finnigan have a meeting scheduled for Saturday, February 14, 2026, with Eastern Junior Elite Prospects League (E.J.), commissioner, Henry Lazar, to finalize. Joe went on to state that Henry will then contact each organization for their wish list and to discuss their individual organization's needs. This is being done in an effort to limit "loose" games. Joe hopes to have information available over the coming weekend for the organizations.
    - Jay asked if any of the organizations had any concerns that they would like to be discussed with Henry.



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- Zach Overholtzer from the PA Huntsmen asked for some idea of structure and clarification regarding pricing as the organizations are finalizing their budgets.
  - Jay Finnigan stated that in the past it was two (2) showcases and eight (8) “loose” games for 14U and below. The 16U and 18U do three (3) showcases and eight (8) “loose” games. Jay went on to state that what has been discussed is doing three (3) showcases and four (4) “loose” games for 14U and below. For the 16U and 18U, it would be just three (3) showcases and eliminating “loose” games at 16U and 18U.
  - Zach Overholtzer asked if there is any idea on a price point regarding cost.
    - Joe D’Angelo stated that he heard that it will be approximately one-hundred, twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per player, but that has not been confirmed.
    - Zach added that in his past dealings with EJ, in addition to the registration fee, there were a number of additional fees that were added costing teams upwards of eight to ten-thousand dollars (\$8,000.00 - \$10,000.00) per team, divided by the number of players on the team.
    - Jay Finnigan asked Zach to send him an email notating all of the fee that were paid regarding the EJ so that the issue can be addressed when he and Joe D’Angelo meet with Henry on Saturday. Jay then encouraged the membership to email him and Joe D’Angelo with any suggestions regarding the DVHL’s participation in EJ.

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#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President’s Report:



- V.P. Dave Jackson
  - Dave had nothing to report.

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#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President’s Report:



- V.P. Joe Spagnolo
  - Joe was absent due to being scheduled to work.
  - Jay Finnigan informed the membership that the placement dates are May 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 for 10U and 12U.



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### Vice President Marketing Report:



- V.P. Larry Sechuk
  - Larry the DVHL championship banners are ready for pickup. He will be picking them up Tuesday, February 10, 2026 to ensure they are at IceWorks for the start of DVHL Playoffs on Friday, February 13, 2026.
    - Larry added that Dick’s Sporting Goods is sponsoring the DVHL playoffs.

### Vice President Legal Report:



- Vacant




### DVHL Referee & Chief Report:



- DVHL Referee & Chief Mike Campbell
  - Mike stated we have approximately ninety (90) to ninety-two (92) playoff games scheduled. He has sixty (60) officials scheduled to officiate the games. Mike added that he has some supervisors coming in over the weekend to watch some of the games and monitor the officials and advise them.

### President’s Report:






- President Jay Finnigan
  - Jay stated that one (1) of the DVHL organizations sent him and Dave Jackson a video over the past weekend. He and Dave are looking at the video in reference to a kick after a faceoff. He and Dave will be in contact with that organization shortly.
  - Jay then placed the DVHL social media policy, the updated DVHL Code of Conduct, and the DVHL Player Agreement to the floor for adoption by the DVHL membership.
    - The DVHL social media policy was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL President, Jay Finnigan.
      - Motion to adopt the DVHL Social Media policy was made by:  **Central Penn Panthers**
      - Motion seconded to adopt the DVHL Social Media policy by:  **Wilkes-Barre Jr. Penguins**
      - All in favor to adopt carried.
    - The updated DVHL Code of Conduct was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL President, Jay Finnigan.
      - Motion to adopt the updated DVHL Code of Conduct was made by:  **Quakers**



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- Motion seconded to adopt the updated DVHL Code of Conduct by:   
**PA Huntsmen**
- All in favor to adopt carried.
- The updated DVHL Player Agreement was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL President, Jay Finnigan.
  - Motion to adopt the updated DVHL Player Agreement was made by:   
**Central Penn Panthers**
  - Motion seconded to adopt the updated DVHL Player Agreement by:   
**Wilkes-Barre Jr. Penguins**
  - All in favor to adopt carried.
- Jay stated that just prior to the meeting starting, he sent out corrections to the brackets regarding playoffs. There were two (2) divisions where the games were numbered wrong. Jay added that there are sixteen (16) games that are being broadcast on the Sports Network which have been highlighted on the information that he sent out. Jay further stated that the games will be broadcasted primarily Sunday, 02/15/2026 and Monday, 02/16/2026 in IceWorks' rinks #3 and #4. Jay added that the DVHL website is being updated to reflect the corrections.
- Jay called on Wil Younger from the Central Penn Panthers to discuss the proposal regarding the DVHL Selects.
  - Wil stated that he has had conversations with several other organization presidents within the DVHL. After discussions with Stéphane Charbonneau (Philadelphia Little Flyers), Griffin Helm (Wilmington Nighthawks), Jeff Grable and Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen), and Dan Rudd and Zack Damico (Snider Youth), they collectively believe that it a good idea to help promote DVHL players and the DVHL. As a result of the conversations, he presented the idea to DVHL president, Jay Finnigan.
    - Jay stated that he will put that on the DVHL March meeting agenda for approval. Jay further stated that when he prepares the league budgets, he will include the pertinent information both in the DVHL budget and not in the DVHL budget and the membership will decide which direction the league will proceed at the DVHL March meeting.
      - Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) stated that he believes that the DVHL March meeting is the latest we can go due to the registration deadlines for the Chowder Cup regarding.
        - Zach then volunteered to take part in a committee along with the members that Wil Younger mentioned to help streamline the proposal as well as further develop it in more detail terms of logistics and cost for the membership's approval.



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- Jay then placed the DVHL 2026 – 2027 meeting schedule to the floor for adoption by the DVHL membership.
  - Motion to adopt the DVHL 2026 – 2027 meeting schedule was made by:   
**Central Penn Panthers**
  - Motion seconded to adopt the DVHL 2026 – 2027 meeting schedule by:   
**Delaware Jr. Blue Hens**
  - All in favor to adopt carried.
- Jay then advised the membership that anyone interested in running for a District Zone Director to let him know by February 14, 2026.
  - A member asked what being an Atlantic District Zone Director entailed.
    - Jay advised the membership that it requires the elected person to attend two (2) meetings, that are usually in January and June, however this coming year the meetings will be held in February and June. The responsibilities include voting on the amendments to the bylaws, rules and regulations of the district as well as offer any suggestions in addition to participating in any and all Zoom calls pertaining to the aforementioned.
      - Jay stated that if the person is interested in running, they should make sure that they are committed to attending the January/February meeting as well as the June meeting to ensure that the DVHL is properly represented. Jay went on to state that if you are not an elected representative, we do have alternates who would be able to attend in the event that the elected representative is unable to attend.
      - Brian Peca from the Hatfield Ice Hawks and Atlantic District Secretary added that if elected as a Zone Director, that person will be hearing from him regarding meetings etc., Brian added that if anyone has any further questions, they can feel free to contact him for clarification.
- Jay informed the membership that the DVHL All-Star challenge coins are packaged up and ready for distribution. They will be available for pickup at the DVHL playoffs. Jay further stated that upon receiving the challenge coins, he will also be providing the information identifying the player by name and the level the player is playing at regarding which coin they are to receive.
- Jay then opened the floor to the membership.
  - Dan Schindler from the Delaware Jr. Blue Hens raised concerns with regard to the possible financial impact to the organizations as a result of losing Genesis and Campus Wild.



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- Dan Schindler then asked who the coaches would be Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) and Wil Younger (Central Penn) volunteered to coach, Dan Schindler (Delaware Jr. Blue Hens) expressed interest in helping in some capacity as well.
  - Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) suggested that anyone who may be interested in participating, contact Wil Younger (Central Penn), and from there a meeting will be setup via Zoom or In-person and then the group can put together a plan on how to proceed.
- Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) asked if everything was set regarding the front desk coverage for the DVHL playoffs.
  - Jay Finnigan informed Zach and the membership that he had sent an email to the membership that shows the dates and times when each organization is scheduled to provide coverage.
  - Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) added that he believes that the DVHL Executive Board should also be present in order to be able to answer questions that may arise.
    - Jay Finnigan then informed Zach that as always, in the past, there will always be a minimum of three (3) DVHL Executive Board members present at all times at the front desk to perform their duties as well as answer any and all questions that may arise. Jay further stated that the reason for the need of additional personnel at the front desk is due to the occasions where the DVHL Executive Board may be predisposed with issues that arise, there is someone present to fill in with helping to check teams in, direct teams regarding locker room assignments and things of that nature in those rare occurrences. Jay added that in the event that the DVHL Executive Board need to gather a “protest committee”, there is extra personnel available.
- Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) asked for an update from Campus Wild regarding their current situation so that the DVHL membership will know which direction the league will function in the future.
  - Bob Essl (Campus Wild) stated that at the conclusion of the current season, the Campus Wild will no longer be in existence. Bob went on to state that the Campus Wild ownership decided that they did not want to be part of owning a club hockey team.
  - Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) then asked Jay Finnigan how the DVHL views Campus Wild’s situation with regard to their dormancy and ceasing to operate.



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- Jay stated that he, nor any other DVHL board member, has received any notification from Campus Wild with regard to them taking a leave of absence. Jay added that he was just recently been made aware of something that he is not free to discuss at this time, but will update the membership as soon as the information he received is able to be worked out. Jay went on to state that he is not aware if Campus Wild, president Bob Essl is cognizant of the information that he received.
- Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) then requested that an additional meeting be setup as soon as that information is available so that the DVHL membership can be made aware which would help the DVHL membership regarding decisions that will need to be made in the future.
- Jay agreed and stated that a meeting will be forthcoming. Jay then asked Bob Essl (Campus Wild) if he could set some time aside to meet with him during DVHL playoffs to discuss the matter further.
- Zach Overholtzer (PA Huntsmen) then asked is there was anything in the DVHL bylaws regarding notification in regard to the Campus Wild situation.
- Jay stated that he has been working with an attorney relative to putting something together to be put into the DVHL bylaws regarding once the DVHL receives notification that an organization is leaving what steps will have to be followed. Jay went on to state that information will also be forthcoming.
- A member asked when the DVHL player agreements are able to be sent out to be signed with regard to 12U and under.
  - Jay informed the membership that according to the Atlantic District and USA Hockey rules, the player agreements can not be signed until the very first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of tryouts / evaluations.
- Brian Peca from the Hatfield Ice Hawks announced that the “Try Hockey for Free” is March 7, 2026. Brian added that the portal regarding that is still open and anyone who is interested in participating as a host is welcome to apply. The information is on the USA Hockey website or you can contact Brian Peca directly.

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#### Adjournment:



- The February meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.



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## **Delaware Valley Hockey League**

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### **Next Meeting:**

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The next meeting will be in-person at 7:30pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2025 at IceWorks located at 3100 Dutton Mill Road, Aston, PA 19014.