

Buffalo Speedskating Club

Board Meeting Minutes: Sunday, August 30, 2026

Northtown Rink and via WhatsApp

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Board members and coaches present:

Doug Lipka
Casey Smith
Christina Pielechowski
Nathalie Rodrigue-Hassleback
Necole Zayatz
Roy Clay
Krishna Sundaram
Henry Withers

Board quorum present? Yes

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President - Doug Lipka

Meeting Purpose:

To hold Board meeting and conduct club business.

Business:

BSC 2026-27 Season (Christina, Necole)

Christina reported the registration for the new season is open with the updated fees and schedule. All registrations and payments starting this season will be completed online through our club's website. Christina will send out a reminder to register via What's App to all skaters.

Skating season to start on Tuesday 9/15/26 from 6-7pm. Practice dates have been updated via BSC website.

Casey will head up moving new acquired Potomac pads to the Tacoma rink ahead of the club's first practice.

Treasurer's report (Christina Pielechowski)

Christina noted that the club's finances are in great shape. Christina stated the regular season membership does not cover the ice rental cost but is typically offset by the club's meet. Our finances were included in this meeting. All payments for registration, membership, drop-in sessions and rentals will be paid via online only.

2026 Short Track Championship (Henry Withers)

Henry reported registration went well with the event now at full capacity. Henry noted the need for volunteers and suggested all BSC members not racing to be involved and to encourage family members and friends to volunteer. Henry suggested minor touch-up to the track layout marking at the Olympic Rink ahead of the meet and will plan that event mid-October.

Coaching (Nathalie, Necole, Henry)

All coaches will be returning this year. Henry to connect with Julie to setup a coaches meeting before the start of the first club practice.

Additional Ice Time Sessions (Necole, Nathalie, Krishna)

Necole reported the opportunity for additional Northtown Rink ice time 6-7:30pm on 9/26/26 and 10/3/26. Necole to speak with Alan about updating the website practice schedule. Krishna inquired about using BCS Club pads during non-sanctioned club skating sessions. Board agreed to pad usage but a liability release waiver will be created and signed before pads can be used. Nathalie reported there is additional ice time available at the Tacoma rink on 10/8/26 and 10/15/26 from 5-6pm if skaters would like to participate.

Learn to Skate and Intro to Skating (Nathalie)

Nathalie reported Learn to Skate program will be held on 10/18/26, 11/15/26 and 12/13/26 and she will touch base with Alan to update the club's website. Intro to Skating program will be on 9/20/26 and 9/22/26 with Instagram and Facebook postings to follow. Henry suggested facebook ads may be a cost effective option for boosting club events. Nathalie will be handling all new skater inquiries and follow ups.

Board Member positions/elections (Casey, Henry)

Casey remarked on the need have board position elections at the next board meeting. Board positions will be listed on upcoming meetings agenda. Next board meeting scheduled on October 8th at 6:45pm at Buffalo Curling Club.

Other Business (Casey)

Annual Club Membership meeting to be scheduled in the near future, date to be decided at next Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Minutes submitted by Secretary, Casey Smith