



FACE OFF

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE BOOSTER CLUBS

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Chicago Boosters Host Meet the Pack Event

On Tuesday, November 15th, members of the Chicago Wolves Booster Club (plus a couple of non-members) of the WolfPack met at the RAM in Rosemont, IL to meet members of the Wolves - players Bryce Gervais, Gus Young, Ivan Barbashev, Mackenzie MacEachern, Vince Dunn, Tommy Vannelli & Samuel Blais joined us for the evening.

They kicked off the night by introducing the players with a rapid fire/hot seat Q&A session where the players were asked where they played hockey last year, the best place hockey took them, preferences of Playstation vs Xbox, beach vs snow, weights vs cardio, game day habits - carbs vs protein, left side or right side first.

Once the rapid fire intros were done, the players moved to join guests at the tables and spend some one on one time with those in attendance. Later in the evening, our special guests helped us pick our raffle winners! Aside from a 50/50 we had several gracious donations from our sponsors (check the back of your membership cards for more information), including several items donated by the Chicago Wolves, a night stay at the new Hyatt Place in Rosemont, gift certificates from Culvers, Little Angelos, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory/Coldstone, Barnaby's, Buona, and Target of Rosemont, and gift baskets donated by Cibo Racconto, Granite City and the RAM.



Message from Kevin Doyle (Lowell)

At the 2016 AAHLBC Convention hosted by Springfield, a proposal was brought in front of the board to develop a grant to attend convention. This person would be a first time attendee, or an attendee that has not been to convention in some time, with the goal of growing convention attendance long into the future. The concept was sent to committee where it would be developed into completed proposal and returned to the group in Bridgeport in September, 2017.

While the committee has started the process, there is still time for more folks to engage! The effort is being done via

email and a google document, so the only thing you need is access to the internet and the willingness to pitch in!

If you would like to assist in the effort, or offered to at convention and for some reason have not received any emails to date, please contact Kevin Doyle from Lowell at kevindoyle3@comcast.net. Thank you to all who have already shared their thoughts, and to all of you who may join our committee.

Yours in Hockey,

Kevin

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Mission Statement

The purpose of this organization will be:

- a. To promote better understanding between Booster Clubs and the American Hockey League Organization.
- b. To Compare and attempt to alleviate problems confronting each individual Booster Club.
- c. To act as a social organization for Booster Club members.

Submitting an Article

To submit an article to this newsletter, please email it to lighthouseman2@yahoo.com with "AAHLBC Newsletter" in the subject line.

Please note: Your club must be a member of the AAHLBC in order to submit an article to this newsletter.

Editor: Bill Walch

Rochester Boosters Gets Special Invite, Helps Family

By Tom, Rochester Americans Booster Club...

The Amerks invited the booster club to Blue Cross Arena Party Deck on a Monday morning to watch the Amerks practice. Members spent a few hours watching the players practice plays, do battle and run sprints. The Amerks provided coffee and pastries. After the practice, members were invited into the back hallway to meet Coach Lambert and Cal O'Reilly and chatted with both guys for a while. It is possible there may be a few more this season.



In other Rochester news:

Every year, the Rochester Americans Booster Club adopts a Christmas family. This year, they selected a family consisting of a Mom, a Dad and five children (2 month old twins boys, a 2 year old girl, a 4 year old boy and a 5 year old boy) who recently moved to Rochester. How does it work? Members were asked to stop by the booster club table and pick a tag off the tree for the family. Don't like to shop? Members could make a monetary donation to shop for them. The RABC held its Christmas Party in Early December at the Perinton Recreation and Parks Dept. Each attendee was asked to bring some can goods or a \$5 dollar donation to the party, which would be donated to the Christmas family. Gifts collected would be given to the Christmas family before the holiday.

Also, in early December, the Amerks BC held its Meet the Players Dinner at the Rivers Edge Party House.

Bridgeport Auctions Ornaments

The Bridgeport Sound Tigers Booster Club recently auctioned off one of a kind player ornaments during two recent games. The Sound Tiger players graciously shared their artistic talent when they each created an ornament for the auction. From jersey wearing snowmen to decorated trees, there was something for everyone. To bid, fans were asked to stop by the BSTBC table during the auction games. Proceeds from the auctions were divided between two charities: St. Vincent's Special Needs Center and the War Amps Champs Program.



Wilkes-Barre Gets Busy

Members of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins Booster Club have been busy this holiday season. They did their annual Cookie Tin for Penguins players. This is where members bake and fill cookie tins that are then given to the players and staff of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton team.

The requirement is to bake a minimum of 5 dozen cookies. Members can bake more, but no less than 5 dozen is required. If a member can't bake, they can still contribute by donating wrapped treats (like popcorn balls, wrapped candy, candy canes, hot chocolate packs, etc) or make a monetary donation to be used to buy additional items needed.

The club also took their first bus trip of the 2016-2017 season when they traveled to Bridgeport and Providence on

November 5th & 6th with 27 members. They travelled to Bridgeport for a game. After the game, they got on the road and headed to Providence. Their trip schedule will also take them to Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, Springfield, and Lehigh Valley. Their last trip of the season will have them heading to Portland, Maine. Even though there is not a team currently playing there, it is their favorite place to travel.

The WBSBC also participated in the Parade of Trees. This is where a group sponsors a tree, selects a charity, and decorates it. The public votes for their favorite tree by donating money to their choice tree. Each charity is a winner. The event is held each year at Grotto's Harvey's Lake. This year, the WBSBC chose to benefit the Make a Wish of Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia.



Coming to an arena near you!



The following is a list of cities booster clubs are planning potential bus trips to and the dates they are planning to be in town. This is just a guide. Please contact the traveling booster club to verify any trip listed will be taking place.

Coming to Albany:

February 17th - Wilkes-Barre (overnighting in Windsor Locks, CT)
February 18th - Bridgeport

Coming to Binghamton:

February 3rd - Hershey
March 11th - Hershey

Coming to Bridgeport:

January 22nd - Rochester
February 20th - Hershey

Coming to Hartford:

January 21st - Rochester

Coming to Hershey:

January 15th - Binghamton

Coming to Lehigh Valley:

January 13th - Hershey
March 10th - Hershey (overnighting in Binghamton)

Coming to Providence:

January 27th - Hershey
February 18th - Hershey
February 19th - Hershey

Coming to Rochester:

January 13th - Wilkes-Barre
February 19th - Binghamton (overnighting in Niagara Falls, CA)
April 7th - Hershey (overnighting elsewhere)

Coming to Springfield:

January 28th - Hershey
February 18th - Wilkes-Barre (overnighting in Windsor Locks, CT)

Coming to Syracuse:

January 14th - Wilkes-Barre
February 11th - Rochester
February 17th - Rochester
March 4th - Binghamton

Coming to Toronto:

February 20th - Binghamton
April 8th - Hershey

Coming to Wilkes-Barre:

January 21st - Hershey
February 10th - Hershey
February 11 - Binghamton
April 14th - Hershey

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Booster Club Happenings

The **Albany Devils Booster Club** held its Holiday Party on December 12th...The ADBC volunteered to gift wrap at Van Rensselaer Manor Nursing Home on December 18th...In January, they will hold their annual Bowl-a-thon (15th).

The **Binghamton Senators Booster Club** held its Christmas party with the players on December 12th...The BSBC did Christmas cookie boxes for the players.



The **Bridgeport Sound Tigers Booster Club** recently held their Player Welcome Dinner (November).

The **Cleveland Hockey Booster Club** will be traveling to Columbus on January 7th to see the Jackets take on the New York Rangers...The CHBC will be participating in this year's Cupid Undie Run on February 4th...The booster club had the opportunity to have the Calder Cup at their November meeting!

The **Hershey Bears Booster Club** has many events remaining in the 2016-2017 season. They still have their Children's Christmas Party, Ladies Luncheon, Food Bank Drive, Autism Fundraiser, and End of Season Banquet on their schedule.

The **Lehigh Valley Phantoms Phan Club** will hold another Phantoms Away Party at Chickie and Pete's. Their last Away Party had over 70 fans in attendance...The LVPPC made "Christmas Goodie Bags" for the players again this year...The Phan Club has a club pin this year.

The **Manchester Monarchs Booster Club** held a Thanksgiving Holiday Pot Luck Dinner with their ECHL players.

The **Norfolk Admirals Booster Club** recently held their Potluck Holiday Party.

The **Peoria Rivermen Booster Club** will hold its Bowlathon on February 26th and their End of Season Banquet on March 29th...The PRBC held an ornament auction, where fans could place bids during a recent Rivermen game.



The **Pittsburgh Penguins Booster Club** sold commemorative Mystery Pucks for \$50 each for the Hockey Fights Cancer Night. Proceeds benefited the Mario Lemieux Foundation. They sold out in record time and raised close to \$4,000 raised for cancer research...The PPBC also participated in the Score One for Hunger Food Drive at the Pens game recently and raised over \$1,523 and many boxes of food for the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank.

The **Rockford IceHogs Booster Club** have donated \$3,600.00 to local charities since the beginning of the 2016-17 season. They donated school supplies, Halloween candy, wish list items for Veteran's Drop In Center, and snacks to support their local children. In December, their membership shopped for Christmas presents for the residents of a local nursing home, and donate gift cards to Adopt An Angel to ensure children in the foster care system will have a Christmas present. They also provided Christmas stockings for the players of the Rockford IceHogs hockey team...The booster club recently donated funds to Salvation Army during their bell ringing campaign at the IceHogs game.



The **Syracuse Crunch Booster Club** recently held its Holiday party. It was a member only event...The SCBC is helping out the Salvation Army by bell ringing this season...The Crunch Corp will be holding a Meet & Greet with Crunch players on February 7th.