



FACE OFF

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE BOOSTER CLUBS

Volume 1 Issue 1

May 2010

Welcome American Hockey League Boosters

Since you are reading this, you have received your very first issue of the Association of American Hockey League Booster Club newsletter.

At the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Convention held in 2008, Tom Schamerhorn of the Albany River Rats Booster Club proposed having a special session for those interested in sharing thoughts and ideas that could be beneficial to all booster clubs.

During the season, many AHL booster clubs do not see each other due to team schedules. The only way to keep up with people you know around the league is to attend the AAHLBC Convention held each year in September.

Tom had a great idea. We are all in this together and we have the same

goals...so...why not help each other. We have all had successful moments and most likely had times when things just didn't work out.

Back in February, I traveled to Albany for a game. I was able to speak to Tom about the possibility of starting an association newsletter. He said it was something he had thought about, as well. The next step was to contact the association executive board with the proposal. As you can see, the idea was approved. There are some interesting ideas in regards to this newsletter, but that will happen over time.

We would like this newsletter to be as informative as possible. What can your booster club do to help? Once a month, around the 15th, your club will receive an email

with a request for an article about something your group would like to share...a fundraiser, a donation made, member of the year, election results, trip plans, etc. You are not required to submit anything, but your club has the ability to, if it chooses.

This newsletter is also looking for a few people willing to write a column on a monthly basis. If you have an idea, please contact the editor at lighthouseman2@yahoo.com.

The newsletter will be emailed to each club on the 1st of each month. All we ask is that it gets forwarded to your entire club membership. It is important we are all aware of the happenings of the AAHLBC organization. We are many small groups in one large family. Enjoy!!!

Hershey is the place to be

If there is a place you must go, a tasty place called Hershey isn't a bad thing. Over the next 17 months, Hershey will be the host of three AHL/AAHLBC events.

First on the docket, on July 11, 2010, Hershey will host the Association of AHL Booster Club Broomball Tournament. How many teams will be playing in this year is

still unknown, but last year teams from Hershey, Manchester, Philadelphia, Syracuse, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton & Worcester participated and are expected to play in Hershey.

Secondly, Hershey will host the American Hockey League's 2011 Skills Competition on January 30, 2011 and the All-Star Game on

January 31, 2011.

Finally, the third event happening in Hershey will be the 2011 Association of AHL Booster Club Convention.

On top of all that, Hershey will have home ice advantage in the Calder Cup Finals, provided they can get by either Manchester or Worcester.

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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

Convention 2010: Binghamton Update

The Binghamton Senators Booster Club is hosting the 2010 convention at the Holiday Inn Arena in Binghamton on September 11-13. Several committees working hard to make sure that all attendees will have a great time.

Those of you who have signed up to attend, will soon be receiving information on our fun and interesting choice of side trips.

There are currently 215 boosters representing 24 Booster Clubs registered for this year's convention.

There will be an Executive board meeting early Friday evening with an maximum two boosters from each club expected to attend. The Friday night costume party theme is "Comic Strips" and the guest speaker is former player and referee, Paul Stewart. Saturday morning, clubs will set up tables to sell raffles tickets, wares, etc. The general meeting for all attendees will be held right after sales are closed and Saturday night is the formal dinner, where everyone is expected to dress appropriately (no jerseys, jeans, shorts, flip flops, etc). Appropriate dress for the ladies are dresses, pants suits, blouses and skirts. For the men dress shirts, ties, slacks, jackets.

Hospitality rooms will be available on each night and hosted by different booster clubs. More updates in the next issue.

Then the fun part:

Rookies, Rookies, Rookies!!!

That's right, ROOKIE INITIATION.

See you in September!!!

Just a few reminders to all clubs:

The deadline for balances due is June 30, 2010 and should be mailed to:

Chris O'Shea
AAHLBC Treasurer
80 Farrar Ave
Worcester, MA 01604

Annual Dues can be sent at the same time. Invoices will be mailed in mid-May. The invoice will indicate what your club owes, if it owes or when your club is paid though. They will be sent to the club addresses on file. Please direct this invoice to the appropriate person for payment. Chris O'Shea can be reached at Hockeynanny20@aol.com .

Jan Havich from Binghamton and Chris O'Shea from Worcester contributed to this article.

Election Results

The Manchester Monarchs Booster Club held elections for the 2010-2011 season. The results are in and the winners are listed below:

President: John Heywood

Vice President: Noelle Clark

Treasurer: Laura Messer

Rec Secretary: Michelle Gagnon

In a side note, Kathy & John Heywood were selected as the 2010 Co-Members of the Year.

The Peoria Rivermen Booster Club also held elections for the 2010-2011 season. The results are as follows:

President: Joyce Basehoar

Vice President: Lisa Murphy

Treasurer: Joyce Mutton

Secretary: Nancy Hanks

Sergeant at Arms: Tracy Lane

Congrats to all!!!

Cleveland Hockey Booster Club Names Scholarship Winners

The Cleveland Hockey Booster Club announced the winners of its annual Scholarship award at the 2010 CHBC Awards Banquet March 16th, 2010.

Thanks to Tim Stovering's efforts, we had nearly a 300% increase in the number of letters received. Applicants were required to submit an essay entitled "What High School Hockey Has Meant to Me". High School Seniors with at least a 3.0 GPA, playing Varsity or Club hockey in the Greater Cleveland area, and

having earned two or more Varsity letters or having participated in Club hockey for at least two seasons, who plan to attend college in the Fall of 2010 were eligible.

Applicants were from a wide range of the Greater Cleveland/Northern Ohio area, with the winners representing three different counties. Matt Schlonsky from Brush High School was the unanimous winner, receiving a \$900 book store credit to a college of his choice.

Justin Saunders from Elyria Catholic and Ryan Henry from West Geauga tied for the runner-up position, each receiving a \$450 college book store credit.

This annual high school scholarship started out as a small program, but has gained momentum in the past couple seasons, with this year seeing the largest response yet.

Melissa Hess from Cleveland submitted this article.

Worcester Sharks Booster Club News

The Worcester Sharks Booster Club has several activities in the works for this spring and summer.

We will have a team in the Worcester Relay for Life to be held on June 18-19 at Burncoat High School. We will be having fundraisers to raise money to help the American Cancer Society fight this dreaded disease. We currently have a raffle for Red Sox tickets, selling of luminaries (bags that can be decorated in memory or in honor of a loved one that will have a tea light lit at dusk on the 18th) or just taking donations.

As a club we have three group nights at the Boston Red Sox-one in June and two in August. We have over fifty seats for two of the games and 30 for the other one.

We will also be attending games of our local baseball team the Worcester Tornadoes who play in the Can-Am League and play from May to September. They play at Hanover Park @ Fitton Field at the College of the Holy Cross.

The Broomball team will compete in the annual Association of AHLBC Broomball Tournament on July 10 down in Harrisburg, PA and hosted by the Hershey Bears BC along with teams from Philadelphia, Hershey, WBS, Syracuse and Manchester.

One thing our club does with some of our 50/50 money that we take in every night is the Booster Seats Program. This allows local non-profit organizations and charities to invite people who may not ever have the opportunity to attend Sharks games to do so. We work with the Sharks in obtaining names and groups who may be in need. The groups get tickets and ice cream. We try and have at least 5 Booster seat nights during the season, if not more. Some groups who we have hosted are the Mass Veterans, Why Me?, Sherry's House, NE Dream Center and the Rainbow Child Development Center.

We were able to have over 300 attend the 2009 AHL All-Star Classic in Worcester. Thanks to all those who purchase 50/50 tickets.

You can see more about this on our club's web site www.sharksboosters.com

Some other things we have done with 50/50 money is buy Christmas toys for the children of Friendly House, which is a local long time community center which we have worked with for many, many years. We also were able to help with a monetary donation(to help in restoration) to a local Worcester elementary school that was trashed and destroyed by vandals. We have

given money to a local youth hockey league house team, helped out with the Worcester Fire Department's 6K Road Race monetarily, as well as with volunteers.

Another way to raise money for the club is to work concessions at the DCU Center on non-Shark nights, of course. This money helps towards trying to keep prices down at our Holiday Party, Awards Banquet, Holiday gifts for Sharks/family, Goodies for the players on the bus for road trips and playoff bus to away games.

Special note to visiting booster clubs who may be planning a trip to Worcester in the future. Please give us advanced notice of your travel plans, so that we may have the opportunity to host your club.

Contact the WSBC via one of the following email addresses:

sharksboosters@hotmail.com

Club President Rich Lundin at WorcesterShark@aol.com

Chris OShea at Hockeynanny20@aol.com.

Chris O'Shea from Worcester submitted this article.

Remembering Baltimore: Convention 2009



Photos by Dennis Gottesman, Teddy Kaltreider & Bill Walch