



SHARK BYTES



Volume 3, Issue 1



Proud affiliate of the



Sept 15, 2008

HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY!

BY RICH LUNDIN

It's amazing to think that our booster club is fifteen years old this year! I remember the excitement surrounding the formation and foundation of hockey in Worcester, and the role we as fans could play. Back in the summer of 1994, Worcester was excited practically overnight with word of an AHL team coming to our city. There was an article in the Worcester Telegram announcing a meeting for fans at Jillian's - to form a booster club. If I recall, there were around 50 fans there - none of us knowing what to expect. This was something brand new to us - a pro sports team looking to build an active fan base before the first game was ever played! Head Coach Jimmy Roberts and his daughter Vicki talked in length about what it means to be a booster, and what it takes to build a club. The discussions from those meetings hold true today - support the players, team, and the community - and make sure you have fun!

We've been through a lot of ups and downs over the years. We've made and lost some great friends. We've seen our friends get married, have kids, and watch those kids grow up. We've lost and got back our hockey team. We've raised tens of thousands of dollars for local charities, and supported their endeavors. And hopefully we learned a lot along the way. Our club is constantly changing, evolving, to bring a better experience to all of us, the players, team, and community.

Personally, I cannot imagine what it took to build a booster club from scratch. The work that our past board members and long time members have put in are reflected in awesome club we have today. There isn't enough room to thank everyone, but I would like to thank our past presidents for all the time, effort, blood, sweat and tears they put in to make this club one of the best in the league. So thank you Ralph, Tom, Briean, Ernie, Dennis, and Chet - without you there would be no "us". To all those that have served on the board and helped shape this club - thank you. For those that have helped out at the doors, concessions, and events - thank you for keeping this club active. And to Chris O'Shea, Linda Lachance, and Judi Dionne - thank you for holding our club together during our year without a team.

Yours in Hockey,

Rich



TIME TO RENEW!

We are now taking membership renewal applications for the 08-09 season. There is no increase in fee. Signup now and receive our new logo pin and new All Star Classic Pin (see above). Please visit our website to download an application. You can either send it in or bring it to the membership meeting.

NEXT BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th at 7:00 PM
Special Guest Speakers
Worcester Sharks President Michael Lehr
DCU Center General Manager Sandy Dunn
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL DOWNTOWN
(MEETING ROOM ON LEFT AS YOU WALK IN)
FREE PARKING REFRESHMENTS DOOR PRIZES
MEET THE SHARKS/DCU CENTER STAFF, ASK QUESTIONS!

Visit the Web!!! WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME TRIPS?!

BY RICH LUNDIN

Fellow Boosters

We have a few ideas for trips planned - but we want YOUR feedback! While we can schedule the trips and make the arrangements, we would like to hear from you as to what trips will be the ones you want to go on. This year is especially hard, with fuel prices much higher than last year. We are also challenged with the dates of away games. Below are some ideas we have. We are also looking into the idea of customizing trips based on the individual. Remember the fun up in Portland and in Albany last year on the bus? Let's do it again! We need to let our guys know that home or on the road, we are their for them!

Here are some ideas we have for trips. Please **email** us at sharksboosters@hotmail.com with any and all of your feedback! Please email or **contact Rich Lundin @ 508-829-8285**.

Here's the preliminary trip ideas

Lowell Opening night

Norfolk and Hershey trip

Trips to Springfield, Manchester, Portland and Providence

Sat 4/5 @ Manchester - \$37 Adult, \$35 Kids

SAN JOSE on the road
In Boston
In Montreal

On some trips, we might go with a mini-coach or van if there is enough interest. We can also help you and smaller groups of boosters purchase tickets at discount rates (depending on the team). Just let us know!

Stay tuned to your emails!

EVENT NEWS - APPLEFEST, COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

BY JOSIE BROWN

Just a quick note that we will be at Applefest Saturday September 20th from 10-4 in Northborough. This is always a great time—can down and hang out with the great street fair and say hi to Finz! Also a reminder that we're always looking for people to march in the Columbus Day Parade. Save the date - Sunday October 12th! More info in the next newsletter.

RED SOX GAME

On September 3rd, a few of the Sharks Boosters made it to Fenway Park to watch the Sox come back and defeat the Baltimore Orioles 5-4 after being down 4-0. One of the best comebacks of the year. Here's hoping we can give the Sharks that kind of luck this season!

Below is a pic of a few of us outside Fenway (we just ran into each other on the way in!)



MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND EVENTS

BY LINDA LACHANCE

The Worcester Sharks Booster Club has 281 current members at the end of August. Please make plans to renew!

CONCESSION STANDS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BY RICH LUNDIN

Last year we had a great response to our need to work concessions. We had over 20 people volunteer for several shows. We raised over **\$4000** in very short year. I can't stress enough how important this is to our club. Without volunteers stepping up to work concessions, you could expect booster club events such as our holiday party and awards banquet to go up at least \$15 per person! Nobody wants that. It also helped in other areas such as the broomball tournament we hosted. We have been able to work the Grandstand which with sellout events has made **\$1000 for the club in one night!**

For anyone that wishes to volunteer their time, we are offering **free parking** at the garage across from Uno's, and **\$5 Booster Bucks** which can be used on any **trip** and also to our **banquets**. We might roll this out to merchandise as well., but haven't got that far yet.

Concessions have gone very smoothly - even for a rookie like me. The DCU Center folks were there for us when needed. Believe it or not (but you can ask the others that did it), we actually had fun doing it!

So it's time to get back on the bandwagon! Don't feel shy if you never have done it before - we have always made sure we had enough people to help each other out. You can run cash registers, fill food trays, flip burgers, you get the idea - it ain't that hard! We had several new people who worked the Keith Urban concert with no issues.

Please email the club at sharksboosters@hotmail.com or call me @**508-829-8285** to signup!

Thanks again!
Rich

Dates coming up:

Thursday Sept 25 5PM Sesame Street
Friday Sept 26 5PM Sesame Street
Sunday Sept 28 11AM (2 shows have to work both) Sesame Street

FROM THE EDITOR

BY RICH LUNDIN

Would you like to play an active role in the booster club? Let's make this year something special, for the Boosters, Team and the community! We are looking for ideas to make this season the most exciting yet.

If you have suggestions for this newsletter, or have any club business, please send correspondence to:

SharksBoosters@hotmail.com

or

Worcester Sharks Booster Club

P.O. Box 210

Grafton, MA 01519



COMMITTEES

AWARDS

Rich Lundin

BY-LAWS

Darryl Hunt

Josie Brown

Bob Gillies

Ernie Racine

COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Lachance

Rich Lundin

Josie Brown

GAME NIGHT

Chris O'Shea

Looking for more help

HOSPITALITY

Chris O'Shea

Looking for more help

MEMBERSHIP

Linda Lachance

Marc Lachance

SPECIAL EVENTS

Josie Brown

Looking for more help

TRAVEL

Rich Lundin

Josie Brown

Linda Lachance

Marc Lachance

Gerry Collette

Chris O'Shea

Darryl Hunt

Always looking for help/ideas

CONCESSIONS

Rich Lundin

Nick Kronopolus

The following committees are open. Contact any board member or email the club if interested:

AUDIT	ELECTION
HISTORIAN	SPORTS
SUNSHINE	YOUTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Lundin, **President**

(508) 829-8285

WorcesterShark@aol.com

Ernie Racine, **Vice President**

FinAddictAHL@verizon.net

Judi Dionne, **Secretary**

sharkbytesbc@gmail.com

Chris O'Shea, **Treasurer**

HockeyNanny20@aol.com

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Ashley Kiefer

ashleymashlyx5@aol.com

Wish to get involved or head up a committee?

Contact any Board member. We're always looking for help!

Enjoyment and making great friends are the fringe benefits!



2008 AHLBC BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT

BY CHRIS O'SHEA

The tournament was held at Tri Arena in Hooksett, New Hampshire and hosted by the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club on Saturday July 12, 2008. Teams from Hershey, Philadelphia, Manchester, Springfield, Syracuse, WBS, and Worcester took to the ice starting at 6:45 AM for the National Anthem which was sung by a local boy who dreamed of singing the song in front of a crowd. The games started at 7 AM and ended sometime around 6 PM. Two sheets of ice were in use so two games were going on at a time.

Each team played 6 round robin games and Worcester finished with a 5-1 record winning against WBS, Manchester, Springfield, Syracuse and Hershey while losing to Philadelphia. (all scores will be at the end of the report) Worcester and Philly both received byes to the semis as top seeds while teams 3-6 (Hershey, Manchester, WBS, Syracuse,) played. All playoff games were intensely played with Hershey and Manchester winning their games which meant Worcester played Manchester and Hershey played Philly. The winners of those games Worcester and Philly played in the Championship and for the third year in a row Philly beat Worcester.

The tournament day went along smoothly for the most part just a few injuries and a trip to the ER for Ed of Springfield for chest pains, but he made it back before the end of the tournament to watch and partake in the banquet. He is doing okay. Unfortunately I was unable to play due to a knee injury suffered two weeks prior to the tournament, but still went to support my team and cheer them on (well I did a lot of clapping). I was in every game although be it on the bench going through the ups and downs of the day just unhappy that I didn't get to play.

There were two Tournament co- MVP's, Chris Mitchell from Hershey and Nick Martin from Philly for their outstanding play throughout the tournament. Also Worcester's goalie Ray Rugg was voted Unsung Hero by the team captains for his work in goal.

Scoring goals for Worcester were Dave Anger, Mark Pruneau, Mike LaPrade, Corey LaFlash, Nick Kronopolus, Joe Ferraro, and Chris Roseberry.

The members of the broomball team are Ray Rugg, Mark Pruneau, John Ferguson, Lisa Anger, Dave Anger, Matt Medoff, Joe Ferraro, Carol Kronopolus, Chris Roseberry, Chris O'Shea*, Doug Cumming, Mike LaPrade, Elena Kintz, Norm LaFlash Jr**, Corey LaFlash, Kristen Poirier, Tanya LaFlash**, Cathy Pruneau and Nick Kronopolus. * unable to play due to injury, ** unable to make it up from Texas

Thanks to all of you for your hard work and energy to get ready for the tournament and all the help given to me on tournament day and night I really appreciated it. We look forward to doing it again this season to get ready for the 2009 AHLBC Broomball Tournament to be hosted by the Philadelphia Phantoms Phan Club and Broomball Team next July.

So in closing on behalf of my teammates we want to say congrats to Philly and to Hershey who came in third and to Manchester, WBS, Syracuse and Springfield for coming to play and doing their best. Also a big Thank you the Monarchs Booster Club for hosting a great tournament and all the hard work that goes into doing it.

You can check out the threads on www.ahlfans.net/sports go to AHLBC Broomball tournament thread and also on www.ahlboards.com/americanhockeyleague AHLBC broomball tournament thread, Steve Kelly of Monarchs BC took lots and lots of pictures and you can see the at www.albums.phanfare.com/otterconceptsltd

Round Robin Play:

Manchester 2, W-B/Scranton 0
Philadelphia 6, Springfield 0
Worcester 4, W-B/Scranton 2
Hershey 2, Syracuse 0
Manchester 1, Philadelphia 1
Syracuse 8, Springfield 0
Worcester 2, Hershey 0
W-B/Scranton 5, Springfield 0
Worcester 3, Manchester 1
Philadelphia 2, Syracuse 0
Hershey 4, Springfield 0
Philadelphia 0, W-B/Scranton 0
Manchester 0, Hershey 0
Worcester 4, Syracuse 1
Manchester 6, Springfield 0
Philadelphia 2, Worcester 1
W-B/Scranton 1, Syracuse 0
Worcester 3, Springfield 0
Philadelphia 1, Hershey 1
Syracuse 1, Manchester 0
Hershey 0, W-B/Scranton 0

Round Robin Standings:

1. 5-1-0-10 Pts Worcester
2. 3-0-3-09 Pts Philadelphia
3. 2-1-3-07 Pts Hershey
4. 2-2-2-06 Pts Manchester
5. 2-2-2-06 Pts W-B/Scranton
6. 2-4-0-04 Pts Syracuse
7. 0-6-0-0 Pts Springfield

Playoffs:

First Round:

Worcester Bye
Philadelphia Bye
Manchester 3, W-B/Scranton 0
Hershey 3, Syracuse 1

Round Two:

Worcester 1, Manchester 0
Philadelphia 1, Hershey 0 2 OTs

Third Place Game:

Hershey 1, Manchester 0 2 OTs

Championship Game:

Philadelphia 3, Worcester 1

Each team selected a Team MVP after the tournament was over. As voted on by their teammates, the following people received Team MVP certificates:

Philadelphia - Nick Martin
Syracuse - John Freund
Manchester - Bill Walch
Worcester - Chris O'Shea
Hershey - Chris Mitchell
Springfield - Entire Team
W-B/Scranton - Matt Kuscavage



GAME NIGHT NOTES

BY CHRIS O'SHEA



Well it's almost hockey time Yeah!!!! Are you ready?
The Sharks open up at home on Saturday October 18 against Providence at 7:05 PM, will you be there? Let's get the place filled to welcome the Sharks back for year three.

As in the past I will be looking for help with the door promotions and helping with 50/50 on game nights. We are a club that relies heavily on volunteerism so we would appreciate it if more people could step up to help. Also this year the Sharks and the city of Worcester will be the host of the 2009 AHL All-Star Classic on January 25-26 at the DCU Center so we will be helping the Sharks and the AHL in this endeavor and will be hosting the various boosters from around the league that come in for the festivities and that takes money to do. Please consider helping out with concessions this fall on non Sharks nights to help raise the funds needed to put forth such an endeavor.

Remember to do these activities (concessions, door help, or 50/50 you need to be a booster member so please renew your membership for this year.

I look forward to seeing you all on or before 2008/09 home opener, if you have any questions do not hesitate to reach me at hockeyannyy20@aol.com

OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT

The Manchester Monarchs Booster Club (Manchester, NH) is holding a letter writing campaign in support of troops in Iraq & Afghanistan. This campaign will take place from now through the end of September, 2008. Letters will then be packaged up and sent out.

Why are we doing this?:

There are many men and women in the US Military fighting for the freedom we all enjoy today in Iraq & Afghanistan. The physical conditions they endure are difficult and they are separated from their loved ones for long periods of time. Operation Troop Support seeks to lift troops' morale, and bring a smile to their faces by sending service members in Iraq and Afghanistan a piece of home through letters of encouragement.

Operation Troop Support is a way for members of the community to show their support for our troops in Iraq & Afghanistan. We hope you will choose to participate in this letter writing campaign. If you can put a smile on a soldier's face, why not take a few minutes to write a short letter to a soldier fighting for our freedom. Please take a look below to see how you can make a difference in a soldier's life.

Individual Letters:

You can support the letter writing campaign by having your family, friends or organization take a few minutes to write a letter in support of our troops. Letters will be accepted via US Mail (MMBC, PO Box 5488, Manchester, NH 03108) or our convenient online letter form located at <http://www.monarchsboosters.com/Military.html>

Where will the letters go?:

Your letter will be sent to a soldier from your state (e.g. Letters from NH will be sent to a NH soldier. Letters from ME to ME soldiers, MA to MA soldiers, PA to PA soldiers and so on). There are no boundaries for this campaign. If you email this to your friends and family and they are across the country, we will get their letter to a soldier from their state. Let's make this countrywide!!!

Special Requests:

If you have a family member or friend who is in Iraq or Afghanistan and you would like them to be the recipients of some of these letters, please contact us at troops@monarchsboosters.com with his/her name and complete military address. We will see that they receive some letters.

Letters do not have to fill a page. It is not about how many words you can fit on a page. It is about what you are saying. Don't know what to write? Send them a letter of thanks for the sacrifices they have made and wish them well.

Please Help Spread the Word:

Copy & paste this into an email to your friends and family and ask them to participate in this campaign and ask them to pass it on, as well.

Excited about the season? Talk about it on the message board! Visit <http://www.worcestersharks.org> -
A great fansite where you can talk about *your* Sharks!

SHARKS CALENDAR

Thursday September 18 - Monthly Booster Club Meeting - Crowne Plaza 7:00 PM

Wednesday October 1 - Preseason game Vs Hartford @ Trinity College 7:00 PM

Friday October 3 - Preseason game @ Springfield 7:30 PM

Saturday October 4 - Preseason game Vs Hartford @ Loring Arena 7:00 PM

Sunday October 5 - Preseason game Vs Manchester @ Wallace Civic Center 4:00 PM

Saturday October 11 - Game #1! @ Lowell 7:00 PM

Saturday October 18 - Opening Night! Vs. Providence 7:05 PM

January 25-26, 2009 - AHL All Star Classic!

IN NEXT ISSUE (COMING SOON!)

Broomball Torunament Pics

Booster Club Convention Recap

Updates on Columbus Day Parade and Booster Club road trips for 2008-2009



NEWSLETTER



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