



SHARK BYTES



Volume 6, Issue 5



Proud affiliate of the



February 10, 2012

JOIN US FOR OUR 6TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

It's amazing how fast this season has gone by, and we're already scheduling our **BOOSTER CLUB AWARDS BANQUET!** This year's event will be held at the **DCU CENTER** in Worcester on **Tuesday April 3rd from 6:45 to 9:30 pm**. A buffet-style dinner will be served, and we will be handing out our annual awards to the players (which you as a booster can vote on starting the beginning of March at the booster club table) There will be a variety of raffle prizes, including autographed Sharks merchandise and other great items.

Voting begins Friday March 9 until Sunday March 18 at the Booster Club Table.

So round up all your friends and loved ones and bring them along - you can sign up at the Sharks Booster Club table now, or visit our website.

The cost of this event will be the same as last year - **for booster's \$41 adult, \$36 Seniors 65+ and only \$10 for kids 17 and under, and non-boosters add \$10 (you will get booster club membership)**. Remember you can use your Booster Bucks if you have them.

Your ticket **MUST** be paid/received by March 27th in order to attend.

Please note the last home game to pay at the table is Sunday March 18th! Space will be limited so sign up ASAP! If you have any questions, please feel free to call Rich at 508-829-8285 or email us at info@sharksbc.com.

This is a non-autograph party, dress is professional/casual. We hope to see you there!

VOTING AT BOOSTER TABLE - FEB 10th and 12th

DENNIS LEGER 1951-2012



Sadly we lost a great friend and supporter of Worcester hockey on January 30th. Dennis was president of the Worcester IceCats Booster Club, and was as enthusiastic a fan as you'd ever want. Whether it was "harassing" an on-ice (or off) official down in the front row of section 107 next to the penalty box, or just hanging out at the booster club table, Dennis was always quick with a joke, a smile, and an inviting nature. He is what being a booster is all about. At the booster club conventions, he was totally in his element – telling stories, jokes, and having the time of his life. Whenever I get down about the pressures of being the Sharks booster club president, I think of Dennis, and how he always seemed to have fun – and how he made it fun. Or condolences go out to his wife Ann, to his daughters Becky, Sharon, and Michelle.

Visit us on the Web!!! WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM

CONCESSION STANDS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BY RICH LUNDIN

Last year we had a slower, than normal, response to our need to work concessions. We had about 15 people volunteer for several shows. We raised over **\$3000** 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 sell-out 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 **\$10 Booster Bucks (up from \$5)** 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! Please email the club at info@sharksbc.com or call me @508-829-8285 to signup!



Thanks again!
Rich

Dates coming up:

February 17—Monster Jam

February 23—Blake Shelton (MUST DO THIS ONE)

COMMITTEES

AWARDS

Rich Lundin

BY-LAWS

Darryl Hunt
Josie Brown
Bob Gillies
Ernie Racine

COMMUNICATIONS

Judi Dionne
Rich Lundin

GAME NIGHT

Chris O'Shea
Looking for more help

HOSPITALITY

Chris O'Shea
Looking for more help

MEMBERSHIP

Rich Lundin Erin
Martin

SPECIAL EVENTS

Josie Brown
Looking for more help

TRAVEL

Rich Lundin
Josie Brown
Chris O'Shea
Darryl Hunt
Always looking for help/ideas

NEWSLETTER

Rich Lundin Erin
Martin

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

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Buzz Bayer
beekaybear@aol.com

John Grogan
jfgrogan@alum.wpi.edu

Dave Jaffarian
wsharks@charter.net

Darryl Hunt
DarrylHunt@gmail.com

John Wetherell, Jr
jwetherell1@aol.com

Chris Gesek
chrispy0818@hotmail.com

Erin Martin
erinm.martin@yahoo.com

Mary Teixeira
matatm@yahoo.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!

SAVE THE DATE



Player Awards Banquet—Tuesday April 3rd

\$41 Adult, \$36 Seniors 65+, \$10 Kids Under 17

VOTING AT BOOSTER TABLE - MAR 9th to 18th



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH LUNDIN

Hello Boosters!!

Already past the All-Star break – season is moving along quickly. Things are starting get pretty exciting around here. We had a great session with San Jose Hockey Ops with the State of the Worcester Sharks. I think it really helped everyone understand what the fans thoughts were and what hockey ops is trying to do. While we may not all agree, at least there were explanations. I hope this happens every year – which we believe it will. If you missed it – there's a great recap by Darryl Hunt on Sharks Page <http://www.sharkspage.com/?p=5760>

Lots of player movement as we say goodbye to Sean Sullivan, and hello to Tim Kennedy. We also will be getting Andrew Murray from San Jose, and Al Stalock looks about ready to join Worcester soon! Roy Sommer hopefully will hit the 500 win mark soon – would be nice to get it at home! Another great article on his "journey" is here - <http://www.thehockeynews.com/articles/44370-Boylen-Roy-Sommers-long-journey-to-500-wins.html>

On the trip front – doesn't look like the trip down top Harford is going to go off. Disappointing to say the least. I have doubts about Portland too. To be honest, I don't know what to do about it, except maybe next year we just focus on 2 trips a year that take us a further distance. I do have hope that Adirondack will go off though.

Don't forget the Awards Banquet is coming up quickly. Even though the banquet is April 3rd, our last home game to sign up and pay in person is March 18th. You have to be signed up and money in our hands by March 27th – there will be zero exceptions.

Our membership meeting at Jillian's was great. We had Sena Acolatse and Mike Connolly as our guests and they were very gracious with everyone and had a lot of fun answering questions. I hope everyone can make the next meeting on February 27th.

Go Sharks!
Rich

RED SOX TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE!!

We have a limited supply (25) of tickets to the game Monday June 25 vs Toronto

The seats are as follows:

Bleacher Section 43

Row 9 seats 3 - 10 (8 total)

Row 10 seats 7 - 10 (4 total)

Row 11 seats 3 - 10 (8 total)

Row 12 seats 1 - 5 (5 total)

\$28/ticket



ROAD TRIP UPDATE

BY RICH LUNDIN

We've had some great trips this past year! Are you ready to do it again? We have been reviewing the recently released schedule and have some tentative dates and prices (all subject to change)



Sat Feb 18 @ Connecticut \$39

Sun Mar 4 @ Portland \$39

Sat Apr 14 @ Adirondack \$55

Please call Rich @ 508-829-8285 or email at info@sharksbc.com with any questions

We will look into getting anyone who is interested tickets to see at game in St. John's, and will help plan your travel.

DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR BOOSTERS!

The following teams have provided discounts to our booster club members (you must make the arrangements)

Providence Bruins

have a buy one get one free Promo all year

<https://www.providencebruins.com/Tickets/BOGOFGame/free>

50/50 ON GAME NIGHTS

Thanks to Erin, Chris and John who have handled the 50/50 sales through the first five games. If you are interested in helping out please let me know so I can put you on the schedule. Looking for help in February and March. Stop by the table on game nights to see what is open or send an email to Hockeynanny20@aol.com and I'll let you know what is available.

LOOKING FOR BROOMBALL PLAYERS

We are looking for boosters to come join the broomball team- requirements 18 yrs & older have your own equipment (helmet, pads, gloves, shoes and broom-although not all needed until you decide if you want to partake in the team) The team is a CO-Ed one so we are looking for men and women to check this out. We hope to set a practice in late October or November to start. Our practice times aren't the best usually 11 PM or later, but sometimes we luck out and have them at 10 or even on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in seeing what it is all about please email me at Hockeynanny20@aol.com so I can keep you up to date on what is going on. We need players at every position-goalie, forward and defense. You can also check out footage from this year's tournament on www.livesportsvideos.com go to other sports-broomball AHLBC Broomball Syracuse and all the round robin games are there. Unfortunately something went wrong and the playoffs are not there.

GOOD LUCK WISHES

The Booster Club would like to wish Travis Lash all the best as he leaves the Sharks' office for the National Guard. We wish him safety and god speed in this venture.

We also want to send good luck and well wishes to former Shark Sean Sullivan who was dealt to Florida (NHL)/ San Antonio (AHL) in late January for Tim Kennedy. We Thank Sean for all his hard work and efforts on and off the ice and he will be missed.

GAME NIGHT NOTES

The second half of the season has started and the Sharks find themselves in third place in the Atlantic Division and playing some exciting hockey.

Let's get out there and cheer on the Sharks-invite your family and friends to a game, the more the merrier.

Remember to check the Booster club game night board for updates on what is happening from game to game. Also all the trips are listed at the table as well as the Awards banquet, so stop by and sign up.

Home games in February will be Fri 2/10 vs Manchester (Lord of the Rinks poster night), Sunday 2/12 vs Portland(Pink in the Rink day), Fri 2/24 vs Providence(Gronk night) and Sat 2/25 vs Portland(Special Olympics Night)

Next general meeting is Mon February 27, 2012 at Jillian's on Grove St @7 PM all members are welcome -come meet a Shark!

WELCOME

We welcome Tim Kennedy and Andrew Murray to the team.

SYMPATHIES AND CONDOLENCES

We wish to send out prayers, thoughts and condolences to Pam Berthiaume on the recent death of her Uncle.

We also send out our prayers, thoughts and condolences to Ann, Becky, Michelle & Sharon- the Family of former IceCats Booster Club President Dennis Leger who passed away on January 30, 2012 after a long illness. Many of you knew Dennis to be a super supporter of the IceCats and of hockey in general. We had a lot of fun on trips, parties and events with him. He always went out of his way to help, always had a good story to tell or a joke to say. He kept up with what was going on with the Sharks Booster Club although he wasn't able to be around for games and things. HE WILL BE MISSED TREMENDOUSLY & REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND

2012 BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT

The tournament will be held on Saturday July 21, 2012 in Manchester, NH hosted by the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club and Broomball Team.

If there are any boosters 18 and over that may like to play on the team please see Chris O'Shea at the game night table or contact by email. This is a CO-ED Team.

ELECTIONS ARE COMING

Don't forget - This Year is an Election Year!

Both the executive board and board positions are all up for election in at the May Meeting. Nominations will be taken at the April meeting. Please make every effort to attend! Want to run for a board position or learn more? Please contact anyone on the board for more info - but most importantly show up at the membership meetings! You can also consult our bylaws. We'll also need an **election committee**.

Come on folks the more the merrier! Get involved with shaping your booster club!

2012 ALL-STAR CLASSIC

This year's All-Star game was played in Atlantic City, NJ at historic Boardwalk Hall, a neutral site for the first time. Fans and boosters made their way there from all over to see the stars of today and the NHL stars of tomorrow.

The AHL Mascots took to the Boardwalk to greet fans and boy did they get looks from those non hockey fans around, prior to the 3 PM skills competition start time All good fun had by all.

The Skills Competition was a fun 6-event afternoon event that all the All-Stars took part in. Our All-Stars Matt Irwin and Tyson Sexsmith took part, Matt Irwin in the Hardest shot –best time 92.5, and the Breakaway relay where he scored. Tyson participated in the Rapid Fire, Pass and Score, and Breakaway relay. It was a great event to watch on the ice and the Mascots were fun to see in the stands. The West side won the Skills 18-10. Fun day all around!

The after skills party was held at Caesars and it gave fans a chance to mingle with other fans, club staff and officials. There was food, music, air hockey and eventually dancing.

Monday it was off to walk the beach (by the way it was beautiful weather down there) before getting ready for the AHL Hockey Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and the Circus Maximus Theater. Captains Boyd Kane (Hershey), and Darren Haydar (Chicago) were given pictures and honorary captains Bill Barber and Bobby Clarke were given pictures depicting their careers in Philadelphia. Honorees were Joe Crozier, Zellio Toppazzini, Jack Gordon, and John Stevens.

We did more walks along the boardwalk to see the sights and then the mascot stroll down the Boardwalk that lead to a visit to the beach and some awesome pictures.

Monday Night it was the game - and it was a very exciting game on and off the ice for both the players and the mascots. The West won the game 8-7 in a shootout and Peoria's goalie Ben Smith was named MVP. The mascot game in between periods went to the team in the dark jerseys (FINZ's team) 2-1 which saw a penalty shot by Bruiser from Hamilton and then all the mascots" Tebowing" after it. GREAT JOB GUYS!

You can go to www.theahl.com for more info and the winners from the skills competition. You can also go to the Official American Hockey League fans page on Facebook for a recap and pictures.

Great ready for 2013 AHL ASG will be held in Providence!

AAHLBC 2012 CLEVELAND UPDATE

This year's convention hosted by the Cleveland Hockey Booster Club will take place on **September 7-9, 2012**

Place: Crowne Plaza Cleveland South in Independence OH

Prices \$300/single, \$210/double, \$180/triple, \$165/quad

All prices are per person for the weekend that includes two breakfasts (Sat&Sun), two dinners (Fri & Sat), and two night hotel and ground lot parking

Extra nights would be \$87.19 per room

Early Arrival discount rates are available for September 3-10

Extra nights are paid by the individuals and are not included in the convention prices above.

IMPORTANT DATES: March 15 deadline for a \$50 non refundable deposit

June 15 deadline for the balance due

ALL CANCELLATIONS MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 1, 2012

Please see Chris for a registration form at the games in February and more info will be forth coming



BOOSTER SEATS PROGRAM

BY ERNIE RACINE

Our Booster Seats program, in its fourth year, gives the club another way of giving back to the community while supporting Sharks hockey. We got a "wow" response from the AHL as we brought a large number of attendees to the All Star Classic. These are people who wouldn't otherwise have been able to attend. With the state of the economy, there is more need than ever and we want to respond. Here are a couple of ways that you can help.

First, help us connect to local groups who have a need. Have the organization fill out a Booster Seats request on the web at <http://www.tinyurl.com/boosterseats>. You can also forward contact information to Ernie Racine (FinAddictAHL@verizon.net) and we'll call them and explain the program. We are especially interested in supporting local organizations that serve the Worcester community. Second, support our ability to bring in more and larger groups. Proceeds from our 50/50 raffles support this as well as other charity efforts. So buy some tickets and encourage your friends to do the same.

Are you a season ticket holder with ticket vouchers that will go unused? (The Sharks 'no wasted ticket' program makes it more likely that you will have extra vouchers.) Put your extra vouchers in an envelope with your name and bring them to the Booster table at any game. We'll put them to good use. I'll let you know which group your tickets supported and help you get a receipt that might be useful as a tax deduction.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES / PUBLICATION DATES

We are committed to delivering your Booster club and team news each month. Below are the deadlines for article submissions, and publication dates. If you subscribe by mail, may pick up your newsletter at our table outside section 110.

March 3rd/6th
April 7th/13th

BOOSTER CLUB TRAVEL MUGS

We have a limited supply of Booster Club travel mugs available for \$10 each. They are the same ones the players got at the Holiday Party. They are very nice stainless steel with our Booster Club Logo on it. Please stop by and see Chris at the Booster Table to get one!

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The following is a tentative schedule of our 2011-2012 General Membership meetings to be held at the Jillian's – 315 Grove St, Worcester. We will meet in their beautiful back room. Each month we will have a guest player to answer all your questions! Come on down for some great company, great food and drink and great Sharks talk!

All meetings start at 7pm



Monday February 27th
Tuesday March 20th
Monday April 9th
Tuesday May 22nd
Tuesday June 19th

Visit us on the Web!!!
WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM



NEXT BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
Tuesday February 27th –7pm
Jillian's—315 Grove Street Worcester
**** Meet a Sharks Player ****



info@sharksbc.com
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