



Shark Bytes



VOLUME ONE

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President's Message

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Greetings everyone! Are you ready for some hockey? Our long wait is over! It will be great to see old friend, and make new ones as well. The Booster Club board has been meeting weekly for a few months - to coordinate activities with the Sharks, the DCU Center, and to jump-start the old booster club with idea from the new. Kudos to The Gym On Main Street for supplying us with a place to meet, as well as some great free food! The rest is going to be a repeat of my message from last month. We are starting to assemble our committees. We got a lot of new blood to help out, but we'd love to have more!

As a club, we face new challenges and opportunities. While our main focus is to promote the team, we can't do this without building our membership back up. More membership means many things to our club. More trips, more (and better) group functions, more outreach to the community. I'm asking you all to be as active as you can be. **We can use help on all committees.** If you can't serve on a committee, perhaps handouts at the games, or help with concessions, or helping out at an event. But the easiest, simplest thing that we all can do is be an ambassador to the Sharks, and to hockey. There's going to be many new faces sitting around us this year. Help them out with the rules, etiquette, etc. Make new friends! Make their experience one in which they want to keep coming back. You can actually start the process now. Talk to your friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors about how excited you are about the Sharks coming to Worcester. And of course - ask them to join the booster club! Only \$10 to join is a great deal. We're already planning trips, and events. Our first official event will be marching in the Columbus Day Parade. Come join us - this will be the week before the Sharks take to the DCU Center ice for the first time! Please watch the web site for upcoming news and events, and I hope to have a "President's Blog" online very soon! Remember - this is YOUR club!

Warm regards,

Rich Lundin

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 19th AT 7 PM

JJ'S SPORTS BAR & GRILLE

At the intersection of Route 9 and Route 20, Shrewsbury

NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS COMING SOON

Submitted by Mark Caseau

A great new additional benefit program for booster club members is in the works and will increase your “reasons” to always be a member. Even more so, to stay involved and spread the word. So talk to those people you meet at games, that sit next to you, that are in the concession line, that you meet at the mall, even your next door neighbors. They are all potential members to the greatest new Booster Club in town.

Our new program consists of marketing partnerships with area businesses that will bring you discounts on their restaurant and pizza menus, auto repairs, oil changes and hopefully some gift and specialty stores. So if you have suggestions or know a local business owner who may be interested, send me an email at mrc3737@charter.net and we will work towards getting them involved.

Future plans will involve them having their ads and/or logo on a special page to be constructed on our website showing their “special offer”, future listings of who has come on board and what their offer is here in the newsletter, a special print guide that will be available to members, and an additional listing available through a second special page that will be listed courtesy of www.familyactivitiesguide.com and a new laminated membership I.D. card that will be presented to the shops and restaurants for you to obtain the discounts they offer.

The first new business on board, signing up without hesitation, is the new AAMCO Transmission on Cambridge Street in Worcester, who will offer 10% off oil changes and auto repairs as well. Seems like we will be able to get back the cost of our membership and then some pretty easily once this builds up, so spread the word and pass out those membership applications.



GAME NIGHT NOTES

by Chris O’Shea

Wow!!!!!! It is almost Hockey time in Worcester. The inaugural 2006/2007 Opening night is on Saturday October 14, 2006 and it can’t get here fast enough. There will be hand outs on that night so if you would like to volunteer your time before the game and haven’t let me know yet then please email me at sharksboosters@hotmail.com.

I will also be keeping a list for future games as well so join the fun, also there will be a list for potential after the game handouts just in case we are needed. Home games in October are on the 14th, 21st, 27th, and 28th.

Just a refresher for those who volunteer their time at the doors before the game, please try to arrive at least 1 hour and 15 minutes before game time and be dressed appropriately. That means no other teams jerseys and be presentable, remember besides representing the Booster Club we are also representing the Sharks. Be kind and courteous and if you have any questions ask the door captain or send the guest to the Sharks table. We are asked to be at the doors either until the giveaways are gone or 5 minutes before the game starts.

I will have more info closer to the opener about where to enter the DCU Center so stay tuned to your emails.

It was nice seeing everyone at the preseason game in Marlborough and at the general membership meetings that we have had. We are already at 160 plus in membership and the season hasn’t started. We are off to a great start but we want more.

Ask your friends, family, your neighbors around where you sit at the games to join the club. There are many things planned or in the planning stages for this inaugural season. Get Involved! Remember it is your club.

WORCESTER SHARKS BOOSTER CLUB



AAHLBC



The 2006 AAHLBC was held on September 8-10 in Philadelphia PA and hosted by the Philadelphia Phantoms Phan Club. In attendance were 140 boosters from around the league both past and present teams.

The weather was beautiful and although the convention is three days many boosters take advantage of the host city and come a day early. About half the attendees came in on Thursday. The Sheraton Society Hill was the host hotel and it was very nice in both atmosphere and accommodations, the food was excellent as well. The Phantoms Phan Club hosted the hospitality room on Thursday night.

Early bird trips on Friday were to Atlantic City and a tour of the Philadelphia sports stadiums. There were about 20 that went on the Atlantic City trip and we were served donuts and drinks and played 5 games of bingo along the way. We had 5 hours in Atlantic City to see the sites, gamble or walk the boardwalk on the beach. Weather was beautiful, too beautiful to be inside so my choice was the beach and the walk on the boardwalk.

The other trip was to the Spectrum (AHL Phantoms), Wachovia Center (NHL Flyers), Lincoln Financial Field (NFL Eagles) and Citizens Bank Park (MLB Phillies). The football and baseball Stadiums look huge from the highway and those that went on that trip had a good time.

Both trips got back in time for the executive meeting where two representatives from each club in attendance go and catch up on what has been happening since we last met in Hamilton in 2005. Then it was dinner time as well as costume time for those who decided to dress up for the theme 1776 You Figure it Out!. Binghamton came as the Redcoats accompanied by a music contingent. Many came as patriots, Betsy Ross or persons from that era. Lowell re-enacted the Boston Tea Party.

Fun was had by all then the "Rookies" were told that they would be initiated that night instead of the usual Saturday night. There were only about 20 rookies this year so it didn't take 3 hours as it usually does.

The hospitality room was hosted by the Hershey and Wilkes-Barre clubs and everyone had a great time with lots of hockey talk.

Saturday started with the Booster Club tables open for business to sell things or to do raffles or just give away things. The Sharks gave us a t-shirt, some pucks, pencils, some hockey sticks and a voucher for two tickets to a future Sharks Game. Ann from Syracuse won our raffle and although we do not play Syracuse she said she would try and get to a game when she was visiting family in New England. The general meeting for everyone in attendance was next after the tables and breakfast. All things were discussed especially the new bylaws which were passed and then everyone was free until dinner time. Most took tours of Philadelphia, while others relaxed or slept. The Duck Boat tour of Philadelphia was wonderful as was the National Constitution Center in which they had a beautiful picture display of efforts from people around the country in response to 9/11 and how they responded.

Dinner was great and we heard from Flyers color commentator Steve Coates and all his escapades from the AHL and NHL. We also heard from a representative from the AHL who thanked us all for all that we do for the teams and the community. Hospitality room was next and it was hosted by the New York teams (Albany, Binghamton, Rochester, Syracuse). It was a wonderful way to end the night before getting ready to finish packing to go home on Sunday. On Sunday it was time for breakfast and to say goodbyes for another year unless we see them during the season.

Convention is a time for fun, friends, new acquaintances, and lots of hockey talk. It is a good way to start the hockey season for real and all were happy that Worcester was back in the league. Claudette Marshall, Rich Lundin, Josie Brown and Chris O'Shea represented Worcester.

Next year's convention will be in Lowell and hosted by the Lowell Devils Booster Club on September 7-9, 2007 and the theme is Mardi Gras. More information to follow once it becomes available. Come join the fun of convention.

Sympathy and Condolences

The club sends our prayers and thoughts to club member Pam Berthiaume on the recent passing of her Mother, Mary.



Congratulations

The club sends baby well wishes to PR and radio Announcer Jamie Smock and his wife on the recent birth of their daughter Cassandra born September 4, 2006

Booster Club Members of the year 2005 Linda Lachance, Judi Dionne and Chris O'Shea, who were voted by the board for all their efforts in keeping the club going and together and working on getting a team back in Worcester and continued even after it was announced that we had a team.

Get Well Wishes

The club sends well wishes to members Al Marcell, Jim Chinigo, Dan Rovero, and Irene Sarty who had health setbacks since last season.



Thank You

I want to take this opportunity to thank the whole Sharks organization for coming to Worcester and bringing a team back here. Many of us have had much interaction with the front office and they have been very helpful.

I also want to thank all those booster members both new and old who have stayed with the Booster Club as we went thru this challenge of not having a team to trying to get a team to now having a team. We all need to work together to accomplish the many things that we have planned. It has been nice to see all those new people in the club and their excitement about the Sharks.

I also want to thank our Booster friends in Cleveland who wished us well and gave us some insight on the players who may be here in Worcester.

We had 11 great years with the Worcester IceCats and our memories but now it is time to move on with our new team the Worcester Sharks and make new memories for the years to come.

ROAD TRIPS!!!



Going to a game is always fun - but that fun is tripled or more when you go with the Booster Club! The price includes round-trip motorcoach transportation from the Park-n-Ride Lot at the Mass Pike/Route 20/Route 146 intersection and a ticket to the game (see further details for the Hartford game below.) All ages welcome. I also need help - if you'd be interested in being a Group Leader, please contact me!

Sunday, November 12 th	@ Bridgeport	\$40	Deadline Oct 19th
Friday, December 15 th	@ Hartford	\$40	Deadline Nov 16th
<i>This price includes a Hot Dog or Pizza, Soda, and a Hartford Wolfpack Souvenir</i>			
Saturday, January 13 th	@ Springfield	\$35	Deadline Dec 21st
Saturday, February 3 rd	@ Albany	\$45	Deadline Jan 18th
Sat-Sun, Dec 2-3 rd	@Hershey	\$180	Deadline Nov 16th
Thu-Sun, Mar 28-Apr 1	San Antonio/Houston	TBD	Deadline Feb.
Sat – Sun, April 7 & 8 (approx)	@Binghamton	\$200 single /\$140 double occupancy	Deadline Mar.

All prices subject to change, depending on interest. Deposits and/or payment in full due at time of sign-up (in full for the Oct-Nov trips, deposits for others at sign-up; deadlines are for payment in full. Booster Club policy is that no alcohol is allowed on the bus for any of our trips. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Judi Dionne at sharkbytesbc@gmail.com.

WORCESTER SHARKS BOOSTER CLUB

www.sharksboosters.com



Worcester Sharks Booster Club
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