



SHARK BYTES



Volume 2, Issue 5



Proud affiliate of the



February 18, 2008

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND 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 **Wednesday March 26th from 6:30 to 10 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 will **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. So round up all your friends and loved ones and bring them along - you can sign up at the Sharks Booster Club table starting at the 7pm game versus Portland on Saturday February 23rd, or visit our website.

The cost of this event will be for boosters - **\$38 adult, \$33 children 12 and under**, and non-boosters, \$53 adult, \$48 children (you will get booster club membership) . Remember you can use your **Booster Bucks** if you have them. Your ticket **MUST** be paid by March 22nd in order to attend. Space will be limited so sign up ASAP! If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email Josie Brown at (774)262-3735 or josie.brown@gmail.com. This is a non-autograph party, dress is casual. We hope to see you there!

EVENT NEWS - ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE BY JOSIE BROWN



Save the date - **Sunday March 9th!** Once again, the booster club will be marching with the Worcester Sharks office and a few players. We had a HUGE turnout last year—it's a great way to show our Sharks and Worcester Pride! The Worcester St. Patrick's Day Parade is a fun filled march down Park Ave, in Worcester, beginning at Mill Street and Park Ave and ending at Elm Park. Colorful floats and costumed characters are always a special delight for the many people who watch the parade on Park Ave, as well as our TV viewers at home who enjoy the parade LIVE on WCTR-TV 3 Charter Communications. Show your Sharks pride (and colors)! For more information, please contact **Josie Brown** @ josie.brown@gmail.com or 508-829-8285.



NEXT BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21st at 7:00 PM
Meet a Sharks Player!

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL DOWNTOWN
(NEW MEETING ROOM MASS-MAINE DOWN THE HALL)
FREE PARKING ON STREET ONLY—DO NOT PARK IN GARAGE
REFRESHMENTS DOOR PRIZES
ASK QUESTIONS!



Visit the Web!!! WWW.SHARKSBOOSTERS.COM

OFF TO ALBANY!

LET'S FILL THAT BUS!

Hi Everyone - time is running out to sign up for the trip to **Albany on March 1st**. You must be signed up and paid by Sunday 2/24. Cost is Adults **\$39** (\$53 for non-boosters, which gets you membership), and \$35 12 and under, which gets you bus transportation, a ticket to the game, snack, and beverage, and **RAFFLE PRIZES**.

Remember you can use your **Booster Bucks** if you have them. Please note there are only **THREE SEATS LEFT!** So sign up and pay now!

Please email sharksboosters@hotmail.com or call Rich @508-829-8285 with any questions and to RSVP.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH LUNDIN

It seems like yesterday we were marching down Shrewsbury St in the Columbus Day Parade, and all of a sudden St. Patrick's Day is coming up fast! Since the last newsletter, we've had a very busy time! Planning for the Awards Banquet, road trips to Albany, Long Island to watch San Jose, and Manchester, a few times working concessions, getting you the best deal on tickets for away games (and NCAA's at the DCU), planning trips for the offseason to see the Red Sox and Tornadoes - we've been all been a very busy bunch! I have been very impressed with the amount of Sharks fans I've seen at away games. We're everywhere! Showing our team spirit is what it's all about. I've seen a lot of new faces stepping up and becoming a part of this great club. I'd like to taking off my president's hat for a bit and speak a little as a fan. Although the team has struggled recently, I am very happy with the effort, the work ethic, and the attitude of our Sharks. The amount of fans going to the away games, and the support given home and away has been the best I've seen for any Worcester team. Going to these games, being greeted by smiling Sharks and DCU Center staff, and being entertained from the time you walk in the doors from the time you walk out the doors leaves you satisfied and waiting for next game! Be prepared for a winning streak coming up - we've been on the bandwagon all year and have a huge homestead coming, so let's rock the DCU Center!

Yours in Hockey,

Rich

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME TRIPS?!

Fellow Boosters

We have lots of 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. We are also looking into the idea of customizing trips based on the individual. Such as our Long Island trip this year. 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 there for them!

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

Here's the last of the trip schedule:

Sat 3/1 @ Albany - \$39 Adult, \$35 Kids - **hurry only 3 seats left!!**

Sat 4/5 @ Manchester - \$37 Adult, \$35 Kids
(Tentative price)

On some trips, we might go with a mini-coach if there is enough interest. While we don't have trips listed to Lowell, Providence and Hartford, we will certainly entertain plans to go. We can also help you and smaller groups of boosters purchase tickets at discount rates (depending on the team). Just let us know!

Remember – NO non-Sharks hockey jerseys, hats, shirts - these are Sharks trips.

50/50 RAFFLE NEWS

We've had a very good year so far! Proceeds have gone to the Friendly House, and several "Booster Seats" groups. We have a couple of event specific raffles coming up.

All the proceeds from Friday February 22nd will go to the American Heart Association, and the proceeds from Friday February 29th will go to the Special Olympics (along with another large donation from your booster club). So help support charities, maybe win some money along the way!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND EVENTS

BY LINDA LACHANCE

The Worcester Sharks Booster Club has 245 members as of February, and would like to welcome the following new members:

Roy, Marley, Castan and Kira Sommer; Brian Aldrich; Sean and Crystal Driscoll; Caitlyn Markiewicz; Joseph Harlacher; Denise, Justin and Tyler Vlass; Nick Baril; Andy Durant; Laken Euzibio and Mary Quill.

If you haven't picked up your Worcester Sharks Booster Club membership package yet, packages will be available at home games at the Booster Club table in section 109.

The Booster Club has 20 seats on hold in section 120 for the NCAA Northeast Regional Division 1 Hockey Tournament to be held at the DCU Center on March 29 & 30. We must sell the 20 seats to receive an \$8 discount off the \$80 price, which is good for all three games. Payment is due to the Booster Club by Saturday, March 8.

Please contact Linda Lachance if you are interested in watching the Worcester Sharks play the Providence Bruins on Sunday March 9 & March 30, both games taking place at 4:05 pm. Vouchers will be ordered for \$12.50 provided we can sell 12 vouchers. Vouchers can be used for the lower level 100 seats. \$10 tickets are also available for the Sharks games in Springfield on Saturday, March 15 and Wednesday, April 4. You can sign up for any of these away games at the Booster Club table at home games.

Summer activities are being planned for a Night at the Tornadoes during June, July and August along with a Family Day event at Six Flags New England. Watch for more details to follow with dates and cost.

AHL ALL-STAR GAME 2008

BY CHRIS O'SHEA

Binghamton New York was the place to be for the All-Star festivities on January 27-28, 2008. All teams were represented and the Binghamton Senators Boosters were there to greet all the boosters arriving from around the country at the Holiday Inn Arena. The hotel was buzzing with activity in the hospitality room and lobby. Seeing friends from around the league was great as it always is, a mini convention of sorts. The food and drinks were flowing in the hospitality room and conversations abound all over the room. We received welcome bags and all were given hockey sticks that were given to the booster club by the Senators team front office.

Something new this year was a parade of team mascots from the hotel parking lot thru the streets to the arena. I would say that about half the teams sent their mascots to join the festivities and all were great. "Finz" was very well received by fans of other teams, Way to go **Finz!!**. It was then time to go over to the skills competitions at the arena which was just across the street from the hotel. Several booster clubs brought baskets representing their teams and clubs that were to be raffled off on Monday night with the money going to youth hockey in the area. Worcester's had a lot of tickets in their container. I saw several of the Sharks front office staff who attended, **Mike L, Mike M, Mike M, Eric, Suzanne, Abby**. Very entertaining was the night between all that the mascots were up to and the action on the ice. **Mike Iggulden** represented Worcester and he was on the Canadian All-Star team. Former Shark **Nolan Schaefer** was also in attendance representing Houston on the Canadian All-Star team. It was great to see them both. Planet USA won the skills competition 15 -9. Mike participated in the accuracy shooting and recorded 3 goals on 8 shots and was also in the breakaway relay and scored a goal for the Canadian team. After the skills the players all came around to the glass and signed autographs for awhile. The biggest roar of the night goes to Denis Hamel who is Binghamton's biggest star. There were even fireworks over the river. The after parties started at the hotel and were very well attended and everything was super and done right.

Monday morning was for sleeping a little later and then getting ready for the Hall of Fame Luncheon honoring **Emile Francis** (the honoree), **Tim Tookey**, **Noel Price** and the late **Stephen Kraftcheck** (all inducted into the AHL Hall of fame). Honorary captains were **Larry Pleau** (USA) and **Ken Holland** (CAN) Mr Pleau was unable to make it due to his wife's illness. All the players who represented their teams were there and introduced to everyone. After lunch was over it was back to the hotel for some down time before going to hospitality room for some refreshments and conversation before getting ready to go across the parking lot to the arena. I finally got to see Finz to give him a hug. Every where you turned there was a different jersey representing current and past AHL teams. Once again everything was first class except for the announcer who kept pronouncing Worcester wrong when he was talking about the 2009 AHL All-Star Classic. Even the Chicago fans sitting next to me knew how to say it right and yelled it out.

It was a back and forth game with lots of goals and up and down action, great saves were also made by the goalies. Nolan played the second period for the Canadian team. Mike had 2 shots on goal in a game that was won by the Canadian team 9-8 in a shootout.

After the game it was time to get final pictures and say goodbye to friends for it was an early day on Tuesday to get back to Worcester trying to beat the freezing rain that was coming in from the west.

Thank you Binghamton and special kudos to the Booster Club for putting on a great time and show we look forward to seeing you all in Worcester for the 2009 AHL ALL-STAR CLASSIC

2008 AAHLBC CONVENTION

IT'S THAT TIME!

Make your plans to join us on for a trip to



as the Wilkes Barre/ Scranton Penguins Booster Club welcomes you to their wonderful city for the classic TV party of the year!

The 44th Annual Association of American Hockey League Booster Clubs Convention will be held at the Hilton Conference Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania on September 5 – 7, 2008 hosted by the Wilkes Barre/Scranton Penguins Booster Club.

Prices for this year's Convention are: QUAD \$165pp TRIPLE \$180pp DOUBLE \$210pp SINGLE \$320

Prices include:

Standard Room (2 double or 1 king) - Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Includes 2 nights, 2 breakfast buffets, 1 dinner buffet, 1 sit down dinner
Garaged Vehicle Parking (accommodates high top vans)
Taxes

Extra nights are \$98.00 per room US

The Friday dinner theme will be Nickelodeon's Tvland! Get your costume ideas by visiting www.tvland.com

Scranton is home to the Dunder Mifflin Paper Company. So, as an added bonus, fans of The Office on NBC can visit many of the landmarks located in the Electric City. Scranton is also home to the Steamtown National Historic Site, which holds one of the largest collections of working steam locomotives in the world. The wonderful downtown hotel location lends itself to a two-floor shopping mall just two blocks away and many other wonderful shops, restaurants and pubs within easy walking distance.

A Non refundable \$50 deposit is due to the club by March 1, 2008 with **the balance due by May 15, 2008**. All checks should be made out to the Worcester Sharks Booster Club

Chris will have registration forms available sometime in January for those boosters who are interested in attending the convention.

ALL CANCELLATIONS MADE PRIOR TO AUGUST 1ST, 2008 WILL RECEIVE A REFUND. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER THAT DATE ACCORDING TO OUR BY-LAWS. ANY REFUND WILL BE MINUS THE \$50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT. (EXECUTIVE BOARD DISCRETION ON SPECIAL CASES)**

**Arrangements for early arrival or late departure should be made directly with Hilton Conference Center, mention AHL Early Arrival block to get discounted rates of per night
Phone the hotel directly at 1-570-343-3000 and request the early arrival rate code: AAH**

In January of 2008 a link will be posted on the AAHLBC Website to book early arrival rooms on line. This information will be included in the next mailing.

EARLY ARRIVALS PAID BY THE INDIVIDUAL. THIS COST NOT INCLUDED WITH THE CONVENTION PRICE

Hotel info: http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/SCRCCHF-Hilton-Scranton-Conference-Center-Pennsylvania/index.do
Convention info: <http://www.wbspenguinsboosterclub.com>

Any questions, contact Chris O'Shea by email at hockeynanny20@aol.com

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:

Nothing till April - details TBA

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

John Sbrogna

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

Linda Lachance, **Secretary**

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Kevin LaBoeuf

John Sbrogna

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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!



BOOSTERS OF THE MONTH RITCH AND ALLEN BURGESS!

I am proud to announce November's booster of the month - **Ritch and Allen Burgess!** Ritch and Allen have been a huge help at our 50-50 table for many games. 50-50 is not only a critical part of our charitable fund raising in the community, but if we didn't have people like Ritch and Allen to do it, I think a riot might break out if there was no 50-50 raffle! Please congratulate them at one of the games - I'm sure you'll know where to find them!

PLAYER OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER - MIKE IGGULDEN!

Congratulations goes out to **All Star Mike Iggulden** who was our player of the month for November. Iggy scored six goals and six assists and was a +4 in 11 games that month. Effort like this assured Mike as an AHL All Star choice. Way to go Mike!

PLAYER OF THE MONTH DECEMBER - LUKAS KASPAR!

Congratulations also goes out to **Lukas Kaspar** who was our player of the month for December. Lukas put together a great month - scoring six goals and three assists and playing some hard-nose, aggressive hockey. It won't be long before Lukas stays in the big show with San Jose! Great job Lukas!



GAME NIGHT NOTES

BY CHRIS O'SHEA

Wow the season is half over and we are looking for the Sharks to start a surge towards the play-offs like they did last year. **GO SHARKS!**



I want to thank all the boosters who have helped out either at the doors, the club table and 50/50 so far this year. Once again I'm looking for boosters to help out during the games in February, here are the dates

Fri. Feb.22 vs. Lowell @ 7pm Red Sox Night; Go Red Night

Sat.Feb.23 vs. Portland @7 PM

*Sun. Feb.24 vs. Springfield @8PM * note the game time

Wed. Feb. 27, vs. Springfield @7 PM

Fri. Feb. 29 vs. Manchester@8 PM note the game start time, Opening ceremonies Special Olympics @7PM

Please contact me ASAP at hockeynanny20@aol.com if you can help out on these dates

Looking ahead to the month of March, I will also need people on these dates

3/2, 3/5, 3/7, 3/8, 3/12, 3/16, 3/19, 3/21, 3/22 check your schedules and let me know if you can lend a hand or two during March.

For 7 PM games those Boosters on the submitted list please check in between 5:30-5:45 PM @ door 5

For the 8 PM games I will double check on the arrival time on those dates and get back to those who have volunteered.

For 4 PM games sign in time is between 2:30—2:45PM

Please let me know if you need a ticket

Also please be courteous and let me know if you can not make the games you signed up for.

Sharks Birthdays

Good wishes go out to those Sharks with January birthdays

Dmitri Patzold 2/3

Dennis Packard 2/9

Best of luck to:

Josh Prudden who was released from his PTO with the Sharks but signed a PTO with the Manitoba Moose.

ELECTIONS COMING!

Don't forget - this year is an election year! Both the executive board and board positions are all up for election in the spring. These elections are even more important due to the upcoming 2009 All Star Game. Want to run for a board position or lean more? Please contact anyone on the board for more info. You can also consult our bylaws. We'll also be needing an election committee. Come on folks the more the merrier! Get involved with shaping your booster club!

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!

BROOMBALL NEWS

BY CHRIS O'SHEA

Calling out all booster members who may be interested in getting involved in broomball. This is a co-ed team, so all members who are 18 years old and older are invited to come join the team or come to a practice to check it out. Practices will be starting soon so stop by the game night table to let us know your interest. The annual broomball tournament is hosted in either June or July by one of the participating clubs. The Worcester Sharks Booster Club and Broomball team hosted this year's tournament with Worcester coming in second and we look forward to going for the top next July 2008 in Manchester.



SHARKS CALENDAR

Thursday Feb 21 - Monthly Booster Club Meeting - Crowne Plaza 7:00 PM

Friday Feb. 22 vs Lowell - Red Sox Celebration Night & GO RED with the American Heart Association. Wally will join FINZ to help get fans ready for the Red Sox season. Take photos and get autographs with Wally and FINZ.

Saturday Feb 23 vs Portland

Sunday Feb 24 vs Springfield - Special 8:05 PM Start

Wednesday Feb 27 vs Springfield

Friday Feb 29 vs Manchester - The Sharks team up with the Special Olympics and host the Opening Ceremonies for the second year in a row when they take on Manchester. Opening Ceremonies at 6:30, puck drops at 8:05pm. The players will sport a special collector's jersey custom made for this very special occasion. The jersey's will be signed and auctioned off after the game to raise funds for the Special Olympics and Sharks Charities.

Saturday March 1 Bus trip to Albany

Sunday March 2 vs Norfolk

Wednesday March 5 vs Norfolk - First 1,500 hundred fans receive a Sharks/Fidelity Investments key chain.

Friday March 7 vs Albany

Saturday March 8 vs Lowell - First 3,000 fans receive an autographed card from Sharks defenseman, Dan Spang.

Sunday March 9 St. Patrick's Day Parade



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