



SHARK BYTES



Volume 6, Issue 4



Proud affiliate of the



January 6, 2012

HOLIDAY PARTY—HUGE HIT! BOOSTER CLUB DONATES \$2,000 IN TOYS TO FRIENDLY HOUSE

Over 120 attended the 6th annual Worcester Sharks Booster Club Holiday Party on December 14th at the DCU Center. It was a great time for boosters to mingle with their favorite players and the office staff, as well as to give back to the community.

Everyone was greeted with a big platter of goodies at their table (thanks Chris!), and the night was started with some casual mingling and banter. The DCU Center provided a great (as usual) buffet, which many went for seconds! After dinner, Mrs Claus (Chris) gave presents to all the kids in attendance, and then the players received their gifts. But the night was far from over. In a custom started two years ago, coach Roy Sommer asked all the rookies to come up to the podium and tell a story from Christmas past—whether good or bad. The guys were really caught off guard and had to think quickly. Some truly hilarious stories ensued, and it really helped create a mood for the rest of the night.

But what makes this event most important is what we do for charity—and has been our custom, for Friendly House. We asked for boosters attending to bring unwrapped toys, and a receipt, and for each dollar spent, they would receive a raffle ticket for some cool items, such as a team signed helmet, a game worn jersey, signed game used sticks, etc. At the end of the night, the tally of toys was over \$700! On top of this amount, the booster club donated an additional \$1300 worth of toys to the Friendly House, for a grand total of \$2000! Chris O'Shea and Rich Lundin delivered the toys to a grateful Friendly House, and the toys were all distributed at their Christmas Party - to kids that may never have received presents this year, without their help.

ORNAMENT RAFFLE TO CREATE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Major Success!

The Worcester Sharks Booster Club held a Sharks Player Ornament + Jersey Raffle, with the proceeds benefiting the Mid-State Junior Sharks Mike Ellsessar Scholarship Fund. Each ornament was hand crafted and signed by a Sharks player. We also raffled off a team signed Sharks practice jersey. **The raffle raised \$1026!** This scholarship fund is great way for us to give back, and we plan to continue this every year going forward. Thanks again to everyone who bought tickets and to Judi Dionne for coordinating and thanks to all those who helped.

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 4+5—Federation Cup Tennis

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICH LUNDIN

Hello Boosters– Happy New Year to Everyone!

I hope you all got through the holidays unscathed. The Sharks had quite the month of December back by some stellar goaltending and defense. This team is a lot of fun to watch – it has a lot of personality. It looks like Benn Ferriero has moved on to the NHL and more than likely won't be back. Best of luck to him! Tommy Wingels is the latest call-up – well deserved after the December he had.

Well we finally had our 1st trip go off to Springfield – just barley though. We could really use more participation. Shortly, we're going to be sending out a survey to all boosters about some general things surrounding the booster club, but also very interested in feedback on trips. We want to make this club fun and enjoyable, and for all of us to go on trips together is an important part of that.

We've got a new venue for our general membership meetings – Jillian's on Grove St. I expect this to be a long term place for us. I don't see parking as an issue, as our meetings will be on Tuesday nights (with a Monday thrown in occasionally). It would be great to have a big turnout for the next meeting.

Again thanks to all the help and participation the past month. Between the Holiday Party, Ornament raffle, concessions, we've all been very busy. And that's a *great* thing! Let's keep the ball (or puck) rolling!

Go Sharks!
Rich

RED SOX TICKETS

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

First come first serve

PAYMENT IS NEEDED BY JAN 15th GAME

See Chris at table to sign up or email her at hockeynanny20@aol.com or email at info@sharksbc.com



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 or Sun Feb 19 @ Springfield \$20

Sun Mar 4 @ Portland \$39

Sat Apr 14 @ Adirondack \$55

Please call Rich @ 508-829-8285 or email at info@sharksbc.com to sign up for the Providence trip.

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

We'll also look into getting tickets for a game in San Jose (thinking maybe vs St. Louis Sat March 3rd). Those we went last time were treated well- special access to practice, players, and admission to the club inside the arena.

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. The rest of November is all set, so I am looking for help in December and on into January. 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.

GAME NIGHT NOTES

Well here we are in 2012 and almost half way through the 2011/2012 season and the Sharks are coming off a fantastic month of December. The Sharks are now in third place just a few points out of first. Let's all get behind them at home and on the road and cheer and support them as they go for victories. There is a lot of hockey in January.

I will be looking for 50/50 help in the months of February and beyond so if you have the time and desire to help out on game nights please look at the schedule and contact me by email Hockeynanny20@aol.com or at the games and let me know if you can help in any way.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the candy supply for the table and any donations are always welcome. Thanks for all the items (Shark related or teal in color) also. Everything is very much appreciated. And NOOOOO!!! My teal tree is not up for sale or raffle. It will be put away until next Christmas and then reappear.

AHL ALL-STAR CLASSIC

The 2012 AHL All-Star Classic will be held down in Atlantic City, NJ on January 29-30. Worcester will be represented down there by Matt Irwin and Tyson Sexsmith at the moment but additions could be made as we get closer-due to injuries or NHL call-ups. Stay tuned to www.sharksahl.com for all the update info. Finz will be joining his fellow AHL mascots down there as well. Recap will be in the February newsletter. If you are interested in attending please find all the info on the Sharks 'web site or on www.theahl.com for ticket info, hotel info and special events going on during the Sunday and Monday.

AAHLBC 2012

More info should be forthcoming by the February newsletter.
Here is what is definite - Date: September 7-9, 2012 Host: Cleveland Hockey Boosters
Hotel: Crowne Plaza South-Independence OH

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!

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Holiday Party on the 14th of December, hope you all had a great time. We try and make the party as family friendly as possible to make it enjoyable for everyone that attends. The arts and crafts table was a real hit with the kids and the players. The food was delicious especially the apple/caramel torte for dessert, the atmosphere was festive and fun. There were lots of laughs and conversations with the Sharks, coaches, and office staff and the one and only FINZ.

Thanks to the ornament painting crew Judi, Chris G., AJ, Mary, Dave, Chris who put in all the time to get all the ornaments done for the raffle and the gifts to the players and coaches.

Thank you to all boosters and fans that purchased tickets to the ornament and jersey raffles. We hope everyone is happy with what they got. The players really liked the ornaments.

Thanks to the cookie brigade Linda, Chris G., Dave, Judi, Mary, Chris, who made the cookies for the party table centerpieces and for the breads and cookies that went with the gift to the Sharks' office.

Thanks to all the boosters, Sharks' players, Office and Staff, FINZ and the DCU personnel for a wonderful get together.

Thanks to all those who brought in toy donations that went to the children of Friendly House here in Worcester, those toys in addition to the ones that were purchased with 50/50 donations from the many fans who purchase tickets each and every game or just once in awhile. We all appreciate very much. It is just one of the places where the 50/50 money goes.

Thanks to Eric Lindquist for taking a video of the happenings at the party and to Dave Jaffarian for taking pictures which can now be seen on www.sharksboosters.com



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.

February 7th/10th
March 3rd/6th

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



Tuesday January 17th
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 January 17th —7pm
Jillian's—315 Grove Street Worcester
**** Meet a Sharks Player ****



NEWSLETTER



SHARK BYTES
P.O. BOX 210
GRAFTON, MA 01519-0210
info@sharksbc.com