



SHARK BYTES



Volume 8, Issue 4



Proud affiliate of the



January 25, 2014

HOLIDAY PARTY – BOOSTER CLUB DONATES OVER \$2200 IN TOYS TO FRIENDLY HOUSE!

BY: RICH LUNDIN

Over 110 attended the 8th annual Worcester Sharks Booster Club Holiday Party on December 10th 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 three years ago, all the rookies were asked 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 posters, signed game used sticks, etc. At the end of the night, the tally of toys was over **\$1250!** On top of this amount, the booster club donated an additional **\$1000** worth of toys to the Friendly House, for a grand total of **\$2250!** 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. A special thanks to **Beth Carrigan** who plied us many toys from Toys R Us!

Pictures of the event can be seen on our website.

ORNAMENT AND JERSEY RAFFLE A SUCCESS!

The Worcester Sharks Booster Club held a Sharks Player Ornament + Jersey Raffle, with the proceeds benefiting the **Worcester 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 **\$889!** And the Booster Club has rounded this donation to **\$1000!** 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

ROAD TRIP UPDATE

BY RICH LUNDIN

We've listened to feedback and we're going to focus on the longer trips this season. Below are some tentative dates, with prices to be announced (all subject to change).

Sun Feb 23 @ Manchester \$35pp *tentative price

Sat Mar 29 @ Albany \$55pp



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

If you'd like to attend the San Jose Sharks playing the New York Islanders down in NY, you can contact the Isles ticket rep (Scott) at 615-501-6843. Sharks play Islanders on 3/14, and Worcester plays Bridgeport the next day. Could be an overnight trip for those folks that wish to go.

Discount tickets in Manchester: \$16 tickets for booster club members

Andrew Yarnall (603) 626-7825 x.6103 ayarnall@manchestermonarchs.com

GAME NIGHT NOTES

BY CHRIS O'SHEA

Hope everyone had a nice holiday season and great new years too. May 2014 be a happy, healthy and safe one for all of us. The Sharks have had some tough times since our last newsletter, but they have started to pick it up the last few weeks and have moved up in the standings. There are still a lot of games remaining in the season so get out there and cheer our guys on.

Thank you to all who attended the Christmas party with the Sharks –from all accounts everyone had a great time and thanks for all the toys. Thanks also to everyone who supported the annual Ornament & jersey raffle. All toys and money went to great causes that the booster club supports.

With Valentine's season upon us if anyone would like to donate candy for our shark candy dish at the games it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who donated candy during the Christmas season.

Still looking for additional people to help out with 50/50 on game nights-please see me if you can volunteer some time.

CANDY DONATIONS

Can you help with Christmas candy???

Donate yours to help keep the Shark dish full throughout the coming months. All donations (whether candy or monetarily) are greatly accepted and will be very much appreciated

Thank you to all of you who brought in Halloween candy to help keep our shark candy dish full. I really appreciate it. ☺

BOOSTER CLUB PINS NOW AVAILABLE!!

Please stop by the booster club table and pick up your free booster club 2013-2014 pins!

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 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 **\$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 sign up!

Thanks again!
Rich

Dates coming up:

Feb 8 Bullriders

Feb 14 + 16 Monster Jam



COMMITTEES

Awards

Rich Lundin

By-Laws

Darryl Hunt

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

Linda Lachance

Special Events

Looking for more help

Travel

Rich Lundin

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

wsharks06@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

Monday April 14th

\$44 Adult, \$39 Seniors 65+, \$15 Kids Under 17

AAHLBC BOOSTER CLUB CONVENTION 2014

It's time to think about the annual AAHLBC convention that is held in various cities around the AHL every September to celebrate our hockey, our hockey teams, our love of hockey and our friendships. It's a great way to start off officially our hockey season

The 2014 AAHLBC which is the 50th one will be held in **Pittsburgh, PA on September 5-7, 2014** at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh and will be co-hosted by the Philadelphia Firebirds and the Pittsburgh Penguins Booster Clubs.

Here are the particulars that you need to know!

Being such a special anniversary for us we would like to see many past attendees as well as new ones try to come join us for this weekend.

Prices are \$340/single, \$230/double, \$190/triple and \$175/quad – These prices are per person for Friday- Sunday and include 2 breakfasts (Sat & Sun) and two dinners (Fri & Sat) and your hotel stay.

The hotel only has valet parking at \$17/day but the Pittsburgh Club will pick up one night (Fri) and the AAHLBC will pick up the other night (Sat) and you will only be responsible for parking if you arrive early or leave late.

If you intend to arrive early in Pittsburgh the room rates would be \$112.86/per room /per night inclusive of taxes for September 3&4 and then the \$17/day parking for those days.

When calling the hotel 1 412-281-5100 ask for the HLB for the AAHLBC convention rate for those two days. REMINDER – YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR EARLY ARRIVALS OR LATE DEPARTURES THEY ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION PRICES UP ABOVE DEADLINE FOR EARLY ARRIVAL RESERVATIONS IS AUGUST 4,2014 SO DON'T DELAY

There is a link to the hotel on our Convention www.aahlbc.org website

A \$50 non refundable deposit id due to the club (checks made out to Worcester Sharks Booster Club) by March 15, 2014 and the remaining balance is due on June 15, 2014

The theme is Hockey through the Years –where you are encouraged to wear jerseys, t-shirts of your teams or past teams in homage to our history. This would be for the Friday night dinner.

For the Saturday formal dinner it would be nice with this being our 50th year that you come more formal than in years past. Suits & ties for the guys and formal dresses, pants suits, suits for the ladies!
Registration forms will be available shortly and I will have them for you.

Any questions on anything related to convention please do not hesitate to ask – Chris O'Shea – email is Hockeynanny20@aol.com or see me at the games.

RED SOX TICKETS!

We have a limited amount of tickets (20) to the **Red Sox** game on **Monday August 17, 2014 vs the LA Angels of Anaheim**. They are bleacher seats in section 41 and are **\$28 per ticket**. You need to have payment when you request the tickets. Reminder these tickets cannot be resold outside the booster club for if they are it could jeopardize our group's ability to get tickets in the future. I will keep a list of who we sell them to. First come first serve, See Chris at the table on game nights or contact her via email. Thanks!

50/50 ON GAME NIGHTS

I'm still looking for boosters to step up and help with volunteering some time for 50/50 before and during the games. Please see me during the games or shoot me an email to lend a hand-we will show you what needs to be done-no experience necessary. I thank Chris G and Judi for their help in our three home games so far. In November John W will be stepping in and doing some games as well with Chris and Judi. I'm taking names and availability for December and January now so please check your schedules and let me know -Thanks

Here is what you need to know: 1) You will need to be over 18. 2) You are asked to be there at least 15 minutes before the doors open to the public to help set up the tickets 3) You are at the table prior to the game until about the drop of the puck or a little after. 4) You are asked to be back by at least 5 minutes left in the periods to get ready for the intermission rush. 5) You are finished by the end of the 2nd intermission and free to enjoy the 3rd period. Everything is spelled out for you at the table and I'm always there to help if you need it.

Arrival for 7PM games 5:45PM, for 7:30 games 6:15PM and for 3PM games 1:45PM

LOOKING FOR BROOMBALL PLAYERS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS O'SHEA ASAP

It looks like the 2014 AHLBC Broomball Tournament will be down in Hershey in July. This will be our 18th year coming up and we are in need of some fresh and younger legs to help out our many veterans on our team so I'm putting out the call to any and all boosters over 18 who can commit to practices through the fall, winter and spring and then the tournament come July. Other booster clubs that participate or have participated in the past are Hershey, Manchester, Providence, Philadelphia, Syracuse, WBS, Springfield, Albany, Adirondack (however the last 5 haven't been in it the last few years).

This is a Co-ed team so if you are interested please see or contact me for more details.

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). We hope to set a practice in late October or November to start - at least once a month to start and then maybe twice a month as the tournament gets closer. Our practice times aren't the best usually 11 PM or later, but sometimes we luck out and have them at 10 PM or even on Sunday mornings.

A few more things you need to know-Practice costs about \$20 per person each time we practice! Also there is a AHLBC broomball tournament fee that is split between the team so that is usually around \$40 per person

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.

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



INFO@SHARKSBC.COM
GRAFTON, MA 01519-0210
P.O. BOX 210
SHARK BYTES