

North St Paul Area Hockey

Since 1967 ... dedicated to promote youth hockey!



March 2007

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an election of NSPAHA officers and directors for the 2007-08 term will be held at the North St. Paul American Legion Club on Monday, April 23, 2007, @ 7:30 PM. Pursuant to NSPAHA Bylaws, the ballot will be published at Polar Arena and on the NSPAHA website on or before April 13, 2007 . Please come and cast your vote.



SUMMER HOCKEY CAMP

For Players of North St Paul Hockey (Squirt-10U) (Peewee-12U) Bantams-14U)
Please see the registration form at the end of this newsletter.

Special thanks to the Families and Business below for their donations to the Spaghetti Dinner. Thank you.

Anchor Bank
Afton Alps
Maplewood Community Center
North St. Paul Community Center
St. Paul Saints Baseball
Minnesota Twins Baseball
Spinal Wellness Center
Chris Sindt
Deb & Rich Hellquist
Jim Engen
Tim Cole
HomeTown Creamery
Sandberg Mortuary

Mo-Tech
Carpet Country/Carpet One
Pearson's Candy
Strauss Skates & Bicycles
North St. Paul Area Hockey Association
14U NSPAHA Girl's Hockey Team
Minnesota Zoo
Dave Orlando
Yocum's Holiday
Joe's Sporting Goods
RCA Rent a Center
Kellie's Corner
Big Steer Meats

Coach's Corner

Greatest Season Ever

The story of the greatest season ever for the North Saint Paul Pee Wee C - White team.

On paper this hockey team was impressive, perhaps even setting a record for most tournament wins in a season. The statistics though never tell the whole story.

From perhaps the smallest player, a kid named Alex Blesener, who played as if he were a fearless giant, to a goal scoring phenom named Jake Dahlberg and all the other players who contributed countless moments of excitement and joy, this was a team in the truest sense.

It didn't matter what letter was hung on this team, A, B, C or Z, they were good enough to beat anybody at times this season. They played like champions play, with unselfishness and character. When they lost a game, which was rare, they practiced humility and learned from the experience. When they won a game, they were gracious and appreciated the efforts of their opposition.

When they were matched against a lesser opponent in a tournament in Onalaska, Wisconsin, up by 8 goals with nearly 70 shots on net at the end of the 2nd period, like gentlemen they passed a little more, slowed down a bit and showed they were a class act.

When they faced bigger and faster opponents they rose to the occasion with old fashioned team work and demonstrated why "we" will always beat "me".

Perhaps a reflection of their coaches, they played as if they felt lucky to be on the ice, as if every game were a gift.

They won four tournament championships, 33 games and finished third in a tough District by beating the number one seed in the final game. Did they win because of talent or coaching? They had plenty of great players, but those that watched this team all winter know the truth, it was all heart.

All this proves that however sophisticated the tools you employ to evaluate a players skills, you can never measure "heart". This team never gave up or quit, not once. Maybe it was the tenacity of Darien Sindt or the quiet strength of Spencer Berglund in goal or maybe it was the work ethic of Dan Horan or the politeness of Neil Vruno or the contributions of so many of their teammates.

For my own son it was a wonderful experience in which he grew and learned about teamwork and friendship. His success like that of his teammates was connected to that of the entire team.

Whatever the magic ingredient was, it was sprinkled on us all like tiny snowflakes of hope. And in the many summers and winters to come, perhaps it will, as all things do, slowly fade from their memories. But I like to think that a little of the magic from the hockey season of 2006 will remain with them as they each grow into men.

CONGRATULATIONS 2007 S.K.A.T.E. Marcus Theatre Gift Card Winners

Fairbanks, Dan
Fox, Bill
Mercer, Joe
Blesener, Andrew
Kusterman, Kevin
Frenette, Derek
Wickermann, Chloe
Strandberg, Kari

Glaus, Austin
Flaherty, Frank
Ronsberg, Tyler
Jirele, Matt
Kubiatowicz, Luke
Commers, Cody
VanWagner, Kyle

CONGRATULATIONS 2007 S.K.A.T.E. QUALIFERS!

PURPOSE

Skaters Keep Achieving through Education (S.K.A.T.E.) was established to encourage, support and reward youth hockey players who commit themselves to their schoolwork while enjoying the sport of hockey.

GOALS

It is the goal of the Skaters Keep Achieving Through Education (S.K.A.T.E.) program to significantly increase awareness among youth hockey players that performance in the classroom is more important in life than performance on the ice. It is also a stated goal of S.K.A.T.E. to generate a lasting, measurable impact on higher achievement in the classroom.

Adamsky, Lacie
Adamsky, Lexie
Althoff, Leah
Anderson, John
Berglund,
Spencer
Blaney, Jack
Blaney, Peter
Blesener, Alex
Blesener, Andrew
Blom, Cody
Blom, Kyle
Bollmann, Tony
Bothwell, Alyssa
Bothwell, Jimmy
Bowlin, Taylor
Boyer, Anthony

Bruski, Bobby
Buche, Ashley
Busker, Nicole
Callaghan,
Charles
Capeder, Michael
Carle, Julia
Casale, John
Cashman, Danny
Cole, Ben
Cole, Sam
Commers, Cody
Cramlet, Logan
Croonquist,
Hannah
Czech, Chris
Czech, Michelle

Dahlberg, Jake
Dick, Jake
Dick, Jason
Diedrich, Mike
Donovan, Ryan
Drake, Victoria
Edmunds, Derek
Edmunds, Megan
Eggert, Kayla
Epland, Matthew
Fairbanks, Dan
Figg, Blake
Flaherty, Frank
Folkerts, Jessica
Folkerts, Tony
Fox, Bill
Frenette, Derek

Furlong, Joe
Furlong, John
Gagnier, Kaleigh
Garvey, Martha
Gierke,
Mackenzie
Giunta, Marco
Glass, Cecilia
Glaus, Abby
Glaus, Austin
Goetzke, Rob
Greeley, Riley
Greer, Nick
Haag, Kevin
Hansen, Tom
Hei, Sam
Hellquist, Blake
Henderson, Brent
Hersom, Brianna
Hinz, Nick
Horan, Dan
Husom, Jake
Inglebrand,
Sophie
Jackson, Jamie
Jackson, Jordan
Jahnke, Paige
Jirele, Matt
Juairé, Nick
Jungmann, Erin
Jungmann, Kyle
Karel, Jimmy
Keeley, Brendan
Kelley, Shaun
Keran, Katie
Keran, Mike
Kline, Tyler
Kolias, Jordan
Koller, Henry
Kranz, Jim
Kranz, Joe
Krings, Nicole
Kroska, Alex
Kubiatowicz,
Luke
Kusterman, Kevin
Langevin, Carli

Langevin, Nick
Larson, Haley
Larson, Jake
Leingang, Nicole
Lemire, Ben
Lovdokken,
Hunter
Mallet, Michael
Manteuffel, Eric
Mattson, Kaisa
McCarver, Zac
McKenzie,
Kariann
Meister, Madeline
Meister, Maverick
Mercer, Joe
Merritt, Jake
Mesenbrink, Kyle
Michel, Andrew
Miller, Paul
Moore, Marshall
Moore, Taylor
Morey, Jack
Mortenson,
Wylend
Murnane, Jack
Nelson, Bridget
Nielsen, Tad
Oberfrank, Austin
Oliver, Justin
Oliver, Tyler
O'Neil-Como,
Jack Hunter
Orme, Steve
Orme, Travis
Ostertag, Dillon
Otis, Andrew
Otis, Danny
Pickar, Justin
Piechowski, Abby
Rasmussen, Katie
Regan, Chelsea
Ricci, Courtney
Richards, Audra
Ronsberg , Emily
Ronsberg , Kyle
Ronsberg , Tyler

Rose, Matt
Rubbelke, Nate
Salava, Jimmy
Sandholm, Taylor
Schaller, Tyler
Schanks, Haley
Schuyler, Ben
Schuyler, David
Semlak, Zach
Sergot, Elizabeth
Sievers, Mark
Sindt, Darien
Skelly, Chris
Slagle, Tony
Smith, Gabe
Smith, Zach
Starr, Ryan
Steigauf, Gretta
Steiner, Tyler
Stepaniak, Cory
Stepaniak,
Katelyn
Stickler, Emy
Strandberg, Kari
Strom, Mady
Tabaka, Ellie
Tahedl,
Samantha
Teije, Kaycee
Toy, Peter
Tretsvén, Nathan
Unger, Joe
VanWagner,
Derek
VanWagner, Kyle
Vogel, Amanda
Vruno, Neil
Wagenbach,
Peter
Warner, Lindsay
Warner, Nate
Welk, Tanner
Wickermann,
Chloe
Wolter, Trenton
Zappa, Travis
Zupan, Sam

North St. Paul Area Hockey Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 8:08 PM, Wednesday, February 7, 2007 @ the Polar Arena Loft
Roll Call: Absent: Pete Donovan, Dennis Greeley, Denay DeMars, Dewey Berglund

Officers Reports:

Secretary

A Motion was made/seconded (David Epland, Josh Mortenson) to approve January 10, 2007 meeting minutes as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

President (Peter Koller)

- Peter distributed charts showing declining mite and squirt membership for NSPAHA. Peter would like people to think about how to get more people to join the association. Peter stated that we need to market to the parents of potential hockey players.

1st Vice President (David Epland)

- David reported that the spring league is filling up, and he is collecting checks. David also pointed out that the girls 10 and 12 levels are low.

2nd Vice President (Tim Cole)

- Tim passed around a sign up sheet for people to work the D2 sponsored end of year tournaments.
- Tim wanted to remind all coaches that when they are at out-of-district tournaments, they need to report major penalties within 72 hours after the incident.

Treasurer

- A Motion was made/seconded (David Epland/Rich Hellquist) to approve the February treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.
- Gary reported that about \$14,000 was still due from NSP teams.

Members' Forum

- Members were present to get a better understanding of how the spring league is run, because they were confused by rumors about the league.
- A member requested that the player development committee put together a manual for next year that all levels within the organization could utilize so as to have more uniformity teaching across all levels.

Director's Reports:

Publicity/Spring League

- Spring league report is in the 1st Vice President's report.

Squirt/10U/Jr Gold (Josh Mortenson)

- Josh reported that Junior Gold would like more practice ice. Tony looked but could not find any more ice for Junior Gold to use. For the first 23 days of February, the Junior Gold team is on the ice for 13 of those days with practice or games.

Equipment (Steve Kolas)

- No report.

Ice Scheduler (Tony Giunta)

- Tony wanted to know when the squirt to peewee checking clinic could be held. It was determined that it should be held after the squirt D2 tournaments, and before spring league. So Tony was going to purchase the ice needed.

Advanced Mites/HEP (Dennis Greeley)

- Dennis reported via email that advanced mites were going smoothly. The end of year Jamboree Ice is ready to go, and trophies have been ordered.
- Polar Pals is finishing up next week, and again this year was a huge success.
- Advanced mites "Skate with the Polars (varsity) Pizza Party is Monday 2/12 and should be a great time for the kids.

Player/Coach Development (Steve Czech)

- Coach's evaluations are being sent out.
- Peter O'Brien is interested in coming back as an A coach for the peewees.
- Tartan set up a summer program for the girls, so the Czech summer program numbers for NSPAHA players will be down. Steve will hold 50 spots for NSPAHA kids until April 15. Steve would then open up participation to other hockey associations.
- A Motion was made/seconded (Rich Hellquist/Steve Czech) to approve \$5,000 for player development in the form of Steve Czech's Summer Clinic. There was much discussion at the January board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Volunteer (Denay DeMars)

- Denay reported via email that she needs to work with Tim Cole to fill out the D2 end of year volunteer tournament hours. It looks like we as an organization need to fill 20 to 40 assignments.

Registration (Kelly Starr)

- Before fall registration, Kelly would like to put out a pre-registration document for new people to our association to provide information on how the whole hockey experience works. Kelly would like input from current members for this document.

Ways & Means (Pete Orme)

- No Report.

Tournaments (Chris Tretsven)

- Chris reported via email that she wanted to thank Denay DeMars for her help in getting all the volunteers for both of the tournaments. Denay's help was instrumental to the success of running the tournaments. Chris also singled out Chris Greer, Dave Blesener and the board members that stopped by to help. Chris appreciated it very much. All finance information has been turned into Gary Stadler, and there are no outstanding bills.
- Chris reported that enough money was made from the Hot Dog Eating Contest that the proceeds paid for the hot dog machine.

Bantam/14U/Girls Coordinator (Jim Krings)

- Jim reported that Bill Halbrehder is working on having a building built on the west end of Polar Arena between Polar and North High for dry land training. He feels the school district will let the land be used for this.

New Business

- There are many open positions for next years' board of directors. Current members should be recruiting new potential board members.

Old Business

- A Motion was made/seconded (Rich Hellquist/Steve Czech) to approve a scholarship program for one girl and one boy for 2007, for \$1,000 each from the proceeds of the spaghetti dinner. This motion is based on the presentation of Jim Engen to the board. There was much discussion at the January and February board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made/seconded (Rich Hellquist/David Epland) to approve \$2,000 to purchase two TV's for the spaghetti dinner raffle. The motion passed unanimously.

March's Board meeting will be held at a TBD place and time during the week of March 19th.

Motion was made/seconded (Tim Cole/Jim Krings) to adjourn the meeting at 10:04PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Tony Giunta
NSPAHA Secretary

NSPAHA
PO BOX 9004
NO ST PAUL, MN 55109

To the family of -

www.nsphockey.org NSPAHA North St. Paul Hockey Polar Pride is a monthly news publication serving the needs of North St. Paul and the surrounding communities. To submit an article, team summary, player profiles and any other misc. info contact your team manager and have it posted to the website.