



LHA *in the* Crease

Misc Info

LHA web site moves to ".org"

In an effort to better recognize LHA's status as a 501c3 non-profit entity, LHA has changed the web site from .com to www.lakevillehockey.org.

Registration

There are big changes coming for registration this season.

Watch for an e-mail from LHA.

Pictures

Sports Star Photography has been chosen to do the LHA pictures this season. An e-mail blast will be sent out with information about fun, new products being offered.

Coaching Certifications

USA Hockey coaching certifications are required for all coaches and assistant coaches at all levels of LHA.

If you need certifications, stay tuned for more info from LHA or visit www.usahockey.com.

LHA will reimburse class fees.

Association Bookkeeper

LHA is seeking an Association Bookkeeper. Please e-mail Kent Johnson if interested. treasurer@lakevillehockey.org



this issue

Letter from the President **P.1**

Board Meeting Notes **P.2**

Lakeville Ignite Invitational **P.3**

Letter from Assoc. Head Coach **P.4**

Tentative Tryout Dates **P.4**

Memo from Bill Monahan, LHA President

Immediately following the close of the 2007-8 hockey season, your LHA board began working on the development and implementation of our 2008-9 goals. I would like to share with each of you the activities and direction your board is moving in for this upcoming season and beyond.

As president of LHA, I have identified four key initiatives which we will accomplish for the 2008-9 season.

1. Enhance Communication
2. Provide more internal clinics for our players
3. Review what we've done and make changes if necessary
4. Take steps to move LHA closer to being the premier hockey association in Minnesota

Enhance Communication

Lakeville Hockey has changed our website to www.lakevillehockey.org. The change better reflects our classification as a non-profit organization.

To better enhance our communication, we have split our previous communication director role into two roles; communication director and technology director. Our plan is to make our website more user friendly, while taking advantage of how powerful a communication tool a website can be. To accomplish this task, we determined it

is essential our association have an individual skilled in website management. Our communication director will be working closely with the technology director improving our website communication to our members. You will begin to see an increase in our association communication, as well as technology improvements to keep everyone aware of items important to our Lakeville Hockey community.

Player Clinics

With the changing hockey landscape taking shape in MN, it's a fact; parents spend a considerable amount of disposable income providing their children opportunities to attend skill clinics outside of Lakeville hockey. This season, LHA will be providing level-based clinics internally. We have attained bids and have worked through the selection process on skill clinics such as stick handling, checking, shooting, and power skating. This, along with our internal goalie clinics and our exceptional coaches, will be a new step for LHA.

Review What We Do, Make it Better

In the past seasons, we have only interviewed "A" level coaches. This season we have

Continued on Page 3



Warm Up Sizing

Jr. Golf Outing

Mark your calendars!

Please mark your calendars now to get your child sized for their official LHA traveling team warm-up (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam, U10, U12, U14 levels). Anyone anticipating coaching should also attend. The sizing will take place at Ames Arena on the remaining two dates:

September 6th – 9 AM to 1 PM

September 20th – 9 AM to 1 PM

You must attend one of these three dates to ensure that you will receive your warm-ups prior to Thanksgiving.

Allan Duchon
LHA Equipment Director

Lisa Diercks has once again organized the Lakeville Hockey Association Junior Golf Outing. The event will take place on **Monday, August 25th at 9AM**. The outing is open to boys and girls ages 7 and up. Each foursome is required to have an adult (18 or older) volunteer to walk with and keep score for the group. The event will be held at Boulder Pointe Golf Club in Elko, MN. The cost will be \$20 per player, which includes golf, food and prizes. If you would like to donate either money or prizes for the tournament, or would like to register your child, please download the registration form (below) for all information. The registration form and more detailed information are also available on the LHA website, www.lakevillehockey.org. There will be a shot gun start and golfers will play best shot." Mites/Squirts will play the front nine while Bantams/Pee Wees will tee off on the back nine. [DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM \(Adobe PDF Format\)](#)

LHA in the Crease Issue 1 August 2008

Brief Board Notes

Meeting Date: July 9th

Overview: The meeting started out with more visitors than usual packed into the conference room at Ames. Dave Engquist and Monty Seper presented their views on the proposed "opt out rule." The meeting ran for over three hours with many subjects being covered.

Some highlights from the meeting:

- Gambling sites less profitable than usual due to economy
- Motion for \$30,800 passed to pay City of Lakeville for ice billing discrepancy from last season
- Warm-ups bid for Westwood approved, same design as last season
- Stick handling clinics discussed for kids (\$250) and also coaches clinics
- HDC ice approved for 2008/9 season, approximately \$30K
- "Opt Out" Motion narrowly passed, will not be in effect until 2009-10 season, \$1,500 allocated for legal opinion, more details forthcoming on policy wording
- New domain name (.com to .org) approved
- Not enough numbers for U16 team this year
- After viewing samples/bids, Sports Star Photography bid approved for 2008/9 team pictures
- Motion for new Communications Director approved, former to move to Technology Director

The full minutes from every LHA board meeting are available on the LHA web site. (Main page, left side, "Minutes and Agendas")

Wanted! We need Volunteers!

If you have some time to donate, but do not wish to volunteer for a long-term assignment, there are ample opportunities for you. Many people are needed for short-term projects. An association as large as the LHA needs all members to "get off the bench!" If you can help, please contact the following people:

Fundraising

Linda Mullenbach
mullenbach@integra.net

Pictures

Deb Hazlett
deb@performancesales.net

Tournaments

CJ Anderson-Johnson
cjaj@charter.net

Junior Golf Event

Lisa Diercks
ldiercks@charter.net

Attention LHA Bingo Players!

Come, join the fun and support your hockey association. Champion's (Elko Speedway) has Bingo every Thursday at 7PM. Wednesday night bingo at Ole Piper will resume beginning September 10th.

Buy/sell used hockey equipment

Buy/sell used hockey equipment on the LHA web site. The service is free. (Main page, left side, "Equipment Exchange")



A unified Youth Hockey Development Association supporting our Lakeville community

Continued from Page 1

greatly expanded that concept. Over a 4-day span, any individual interested in coaching or assistant coaching went through a coaches interview. The Hockey Development Committee interviewed over 66 candidates for traveling teams.

This season, you will witness a change in practice sessions. Lakeville hockey will be moving to a combination of 60, 75, and 90-minute practice sessions. The goal is to respect \$4/gal gas, better use our ice hours, and to give coaches flexibility in planning.

We have looked at the concept of expanding the non-parent coaches to levels other than Bantams. This season, we are happy to say we have non-parent coaches at Bantam and Peewee levels. Our future goal will be to have all non-parent coaches at all "A" levels.

We are moving in the direction of providing outside evaluators during our tryout process at all levels. We believe our tryout process to be one of the premier tryout processes in MN. It is always good to see if we can improve our methods.

Premier Association in MN

This season our Association Head Coach will be having coaches consistently wear Lakeville coach's attire while at practice and on the bench during games at all traveling levels. This will clearly identify Lakeville Hockey and raise the bar on our global association branding.

Included in our key initiatives is our continued quest to leave District 8 and move to District 6. We are continually looking at methods to achieve this goal.

The board has taken steps to build storage bins adjacent to Ames Rink 1. Coaches at all levels now will be able to store their equipment at Ames, rather than cart it back and forth to the rink each week.

If you were familiar with our storage facility just off CR70, note we have moved our site. Our old facility necessitated that we store everything in hundreds of plastic bins. At our new facility, all equipment/jerseys are hung and sorted by level. Special thanks to Colin Fowler, who volunteered countless hours to build out this facility.

"Enjoy the upcoming 2008-2009 season. Support your players, coaches and association."

Bill Monahan

Sponsorships

The LHA Sponsorship Program is in need of participants. Platinum, Gold and Silver levels are all in need of business owners who would like to increase the visibility of their business name. Levels Mites to Jr. Gold may be sponsored. Please e-mail Jim Lunneborg for specifics if interested:
jlunneborg@farmersagent.com

Lakeville to host Girl's U10/U12A Tournament

First-ever, Lakeville "Ignite Invitational" home tournament, Nov. 21-23, 2008!

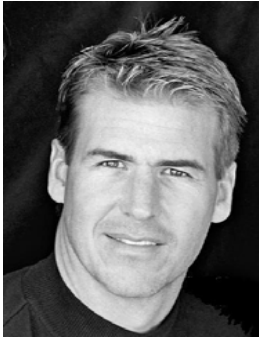
Lakeville will be hosting a girls U10A/U12A invitational tournament the weekend prior to Thanksgiving, Nov. 21-23, 2008. Lakeville's first-ever invitational hockey tournament will bring much-needed business to both our community and LHA's local sponsors. Many volunteers will be needed to make this tournament a success. Please contact CJ Anderson-Johnson if you would like to volunteer:
cjaj@charter.net.

Questions Wanted!

Do you have a question you'd like answered in this newsletter? Please submit questions to Julie Hokeness:

communicationsdirector@lakevillehockey.org

We'll pick a couple questions each month and publish the answer.



*Darren Gardner, USA Hockey
Level 5 Master*



“Getting to know your child’s coach on a personal level can be mutually beneficial”.

Darren Gardner

News from Association Head Coach

Coach Selections

This spring we asked anyone interested in coaching a team for the 2008-09 season to submit their resume and coaching credentials. We had an overwhelming response from 77 applicants. The season is fast approaching and we have been proactive, the Hockey Development Committee (HDC) interviewed 66 coaching prospects, including 42 for our 12 “A” teams. We identified “B” and “C” coaches that will be

appointed in conjunction with player evaluations. The process, while time consuming, was very informative and beneficial to both HDC and the coaches. View selections at www.lakevillehockey.org.

Certification

We are fortunate to have a tremendous amount of USA Hockey Certified Level 1 and 2 coaches in our association. I have been able to secure a USA Hockey Level 3 Coaching Certification Clinic in Lakeville.

The date will be announced in late August and has been targeted for 4th quarter.

Communication

Please make an effort to get to know the coaches in our association. These individuals will have a significant impact on your child. Getting to know them on a personal level can be mutually beneficial. Most importantly **SUPPORT** your coaches. Feel free to contact me regarding any coaching matter via e-mail.

headcoach@lakevillehockey.org

Calendar Watch

Tentative Try Out Dates Set

Tryout dates have been set. Starting dates are:

Squirt: Oct. 1,

Bantam: Sept. 29,

U12: Oct. 30,

Goalies for these levels:

September 28,

Pee Wee: Oct. 7,

U10: October 9,

Goalies for these levels:

Oct. 6.

See the [Tryout Schedules](#)

link on the website for a full schedule.

LHA Pull Tab Locations

Ole Piper,
Red Fox Tavern,
Champion’s at
Elko Speedway,
Chart House,
Rocky’s Grill

Please support those businesses that support the LHA. The businesses listed above were directly responsible for the much-appreciated break we all received on our ice costs at the end of last season. Gambling/fundraising proceeds benefited each team at a rate of approximately \$18 per ice hour.

This Month’s Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where/when are LHA board meetings and who may attend?

A: Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month in the Ames conference room. LHA members may attend any meeting. If you choose, you may address the board with a 2-minute question/comment and a board member will get back to you. You may also attend if you’re just curious about what is being discussed



or would just like to meet the board members. All members are always welcome.

Q: Why do we have a fundraiser?

A: Our LHA forefathers felt that future groups that pass through the LHA should contribute to the Arena since their group built/paid for the two sheets over a 5-year period. Consequently, they envisioned yearly fundraising serving to pay the \$95K yearly payment supplemented, to the extent we can, by the gambling proceeds.