



## For Mites & U8

### Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting for Mite Prep, Mite and U8 parents on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. The mandatory meeting will be held at Kenwood Middle School.

Questions you may not have even thought to ask yet will be covered at this meeting. That's why attendance is mandatory. The new volunteer schedule, fundraising, Mite levels 1-4 explained, indoor and outdoor ice scheduling, evaluations and many other topics will be covered.

Consent to Treat forms will be available at the meeting along with collection boxes. **This form must be filled out before your child will be allowed out on the ice for evaluations.**



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## Traveling Tryouts Begin Hockey Festival

Tryouts for Squirt/U10, PeeWee/U12 and Bantam traveling teams will begin on September 28<sup>th</sup>, concluding the second weekend in October.

The format for tryouts was changed slightly to allow for more scrimmages. The evaluators should get a better look at the bubble players so that the most accurate placement of skaters and goalies can be made.

Jr. Gold players have been assigned tryout times and U14s will be announced soon.

The LHA has again hired outside evaluators to score the skaters and goalies to take away any possible bias that local coaches/evaluators may have had. This is an expensive undertaking, but one the LHA feels gives our tryouts the highest possible level of integrity.

### Lakeville



Fundraising Director Rhonda Rasmussen has planned a Face-off to Fall Hockey Festival, taking place the weekend of October 3-4 at Ames Arena.

The hope is that hockey families will be able to sell some of their gently used hockey items (no apparel please) in the tent off of the Ames parking lot during the first weekend of traveling tryouts. A fee of \$3 plus 25% of the selling price will be charged, per piece up to a max of \$15, to families wanting to sell equipment.

LHA families may also donate their used equipment. All proceeds from donated equipment and fees from equipment sold will be put into the general fund of the LHA.

**Please drop off equipment on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> or Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00-8:00 PM at Ames Arena.**

Equipment not sold may be picked up between 5:00-8:00 PM on Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>. Any equipment not picked up will be donated by the LHA to a charitable cause.

In addition to the sale, there will be games, a silent auction, prizes, food and lots of fun. Empty those closets, grab the kids, head down to Ames, and join the fun!



# Lakeville Hockey Association



## Tires Plus Fundraiser Successful!

The Tires Plus Fundraiser has helped many of our hockey families earn money to reduce their individual costs of hockey. For each \$59.99 oil change card sold, \$39.99 will be credited towards that player's team payment. It isn't too late to sell the cards. Dates for card pick up: 10/3 and 10/4.

## Raffle Tickets For LHA Fundraiser

The annual mandatory fundraiser for LHA will once again be raffle tickets. The tickets will be handed out in time to make the Thanksgiving Holiday timeframe in an effort to give kid the opportunity to sell to relatives. Tickets will be distributed through team managers at a later date.

## Good News!

The strengthening economy is helping the LHA charitable gambling locations. Business is up. Please keep our sponsors in mind when planning for a night out.

## Ice Draft Reality for 2009

The LHA is gearing up for a new way to allocate ice for the 2009-10 hockey season. An ice draft is being put into place on November 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be many benefits for the association and for individual teams.

Even though it feels like we never have enough ice, at times we have too much ice. Usually this occurs on a weekend when there are too many teams out for tournaments. The combination of better tournament management and the ice draft should save the LHA a significant amount of money.

The whole process is going to be a huge undertaking. Imagine every traveling

team sending three representatives to the ice draft. Every hour of ice for the remainder of the season will be assigned. Every round each team will pick one hour that best suits their team needs.

This should finally settle the dispute that "Billy's team has better ice than our team." Every effort has been made in the past to evenly distribute ice, but now the power lies in the hands of each team's coach and manager.

Eden Prairie has successfully used this system for many years to allocate ice to their various teams.

### Mandatory Traveling Team Meeting Dates Set

Anybody that plans to be a team manager or co-manager need to attend either of the Traveling Team Manager meetings to be held Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> or Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting will be at 6:30 in the Ames conference room. Whether you're a new manager or one that has experience, you should plan on attending this meeting. Topics will include: the new ice draft, making a team budget, game scheduling, concession stand, and fundraising. This is a great opportunity for experienced managers to pass along tricks that make the job easier and the season more enjoyable for the whole team.

## LHA Sponsors

**Thank you for supporting our student athletes!**

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Patterson Dental  
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### Bronze

Action Plus Sign Co.  
Blue Line Medical Svcs.  
Jonathan Zweber Ins.  
Lupient Chevrolet  
Rink Rat Skating School

These sponsors have graciously sponsored the LHA. Please support their loyalty with your business throughout the 2009-10 hockey season.



## *Volunteer System Up and Running*

The on-line sign up for the new LHA volunteer system is up and running. Volunteer Coordinator Robin Lundberg has put in some serious hours making this all happen. If you have not already signed up for volunteer hours, you might want to keep checking the web site for updates. There will be more opportunities to volunteer during the upcoming tournaments Lakeville is to host in early 2010. Lakeville is set to host a U10A/U12A tournament the weekend of January 15-17 and a PWB2 Tournament the weekend of January 29-31.

In case you missed the article in the July newsletter, volunteering is now mandatory for all LHA members. The term "mandatory volunteer" seems to be a contradiction of terms, but the LHA feels it is a necessary one. The amount of volunteer time and effort needed to coordinate daily activities for an association with just shy of 1000 members is mind-boggling. The purpose of the on-line sign up is to offer each member a task or activity they're comfortable doing. Each member then contributes to the organization that does so much for their kids.

There will be a \$125 fee assessed to any family that has not signed up for a total 4-hour time commitment. It is hoped that we do not collect any money. The time and effort of our members is much more important than any fee we could hope to collect. After the season closes, any members not meeting their commitments will be assessed this fee with their last team payment.

When you registered your child on-line, you will have created a user account. If you have any questions on how to use the volunteer system, please go the LHA web site and look for the Volunteer menu on the left-hand side. You will then have a link to both the volunteer system (where you can sign-in and view the current opportunities available) and also the volunteer policy. Any questions on this can be addressed to Robin Lundberg via e-mail. Her e-mail address is [volunteercoordinator@lakevillehockey.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@lakevillehockey.org).

### This Month's **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: My son/daughter is new to Mites/U8 hockey. What is involved in being a team manager?**

**A:** Behind every good team is a great team manager! Managing a Mite/U8 team is a great way to volunteer and meet lots of fun parents. You need not know anything about hockey, but just need to know how to be organized. Since the commitment at this age level is not great, the commitment to manage is not ultra time consuming either. The most important job of a team manager at this level is to facilitate fun and team



camaraderie. Some work with collecting fundraising money and communicating to parents are the main tasks. This is also a job that can be shared by two parents on the same team. Managing a traveling team requires more of a time commitment, but is a vital function of the team. Consider it!

**Q: Why are there some Wisconsin teams in Minnesota's District 8?**

**A:** The Wisconsin teams are yearly renewable guests. The good news is that Onalaska was not asked back as a guest for this season! The District 8 representatives look at the Wisconsin teams yearly to make sure it still makes sense to add them to District 8.

### **Fall Hockey Festival urgently needs volunteers**

Please come and help if you can. The intent of the festival is to help both our members sell items no longer needed and also to help families find gear that is affordable. Please volunteer to help if you can. If you have high school kids who need community service hours, we can give them documentation. Contact Rhonda Rasmussen.

### **Don't forget about the "Giving Site"**

If you're ordering anything on-line, don't forget about the "Giving Site" on LHA's home page. You will get the product you want at the same price you would have paid and also be supporting the LHA!

### **Elementary Open House Event a Success**

Volunteers manned tables at the elementary school open house events on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The goal was to find the kids who needed an extra nudge to sign up for hockey. Successful traveling hockey programs recruit the youngest players. As a result, they can master the technical skating skills at an early age.

# Tidbits of Important Information



## **H1N1 and Tryouts**

Nobody wants sick kids at tryouts. If your child develops the fever and sore throat and needs to miss a tryout session, please contact your level director. **As a precaution, please send your child with their own water bottle to use during tryouts.**

## **Warm-Ups**

Warm-up sizing for traveling teams took place in August and September. If you missed the dates, please contact Westwood Sports in Apple Valley directly (952-431-5590), and they will take care of you. Sizes and delivery dates are not guaranteed if you missed the initial sizing dates. Warm-ups are optional if you have one from a previous year in good condition. If you are an incoming Squirt or U10, or a new LHA traveling player, a new warm-up is recommended.

## **Junior Gold/U14 Registrations**

Registration will be open for Jr. Gold and U14 for one week after high school teams have been picked.

## **Free Mouthguards Offered**

October 24<sup>th</sup>. See story below for details.

## **Attention Coaches and Potential Coaches**

Please make sure to check your coach certifications to make sure they're up to date. Remember, if your coach card says that you have until 12/31/09, it expires THIS year and you cannot coach for the '09-10 season. You will be scratched from the team roster if you have this date (or earlier) on your card. If it is not up to date at the time the roster is created, you will be required to make an extra trip to District 8 to rectify.

## **Mite/U8 Evaluation Dates and Mite Prep Start Date**

Evaluations for Mites and Girls U8 will be October 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>/November 1<sup>st</sup>. Team practices, as well as the beginning of the season for Mite Preps, will start the weekend of November 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>.

LHA in the Crease Issue 8 October, 2009

## Dr. Arnold Again Offers Free Mouth Guards to All LHA Members

### **Dr. Arnold Again Offers Free Mouth Guards to All LHA Members**

For the 21st year, Dr. Tom Arnold and staff of Arnold Orthodontics in Lakeville will provide custom mouthguards at no charge to all players in the Lakeville Hockey Association. The mouthguards are Proform brand in red, and can be made with or without strap attachments. Coaches are welcome to take advantage of the mouthguards as well. Impressions to make the mouthguards will be taken on Saturday, October 24th at the office next to the Dairy Queen at 10920 175th Ct.

West in Lakeville. No appointment is necessary, but please try to come at the following times:

**Mite Prep 9:00-10:00 AM**

**Mite 9:30-11:00 AM**

**Squirt, U-10 11:00AM-12:00PM**

**Pee Wee, U-12 12:00-1:00 PM**

**Bantam, U-14 12:00-1:00 PM**



As we have done the past years, the mouthguards will be given to your coach within 7-10 days for distribution to team members. Additional or replacement mouthguards can be made during the season but there will be a charge of \$25. The American Dental Association has reported that thousands of injuries are prevented each year by mouthguards. Even though mouthguards greatly reduce sports injuries, Dr. Arnold cannot be held responsible for any damage to teeth or jaws while wearing these mouthguards.

Thanks to Doctor Arnold and his dedicated staff for their generous donation of time and materials to make this happen.