



LHA *in the* Crease

This and That

North South Day

Lakeville's North/South day was held on February 14th. Most teams at all traveling levels had a North vs- South game vying for bragging rights. Unfortunately, some of the games turned a bit too physical and the format for this will be under scrutiny for the next hockey season.

Looking For A Non-voting Board Position?

There are several non-voting board positions (appointed by the President, required board approval) that will be vacated soon or this fall. If you feel that you have a special talent, or feel you have some time to devote to the LHA, please drop an e-mail to:

communicationsdirector@lakevillehockey.org

Not every position board members hold requires "hockey know-how."

Many jobs require communication and organizational skills that have very little to do with hockey knowledge. Please consider donating your time to the LHA.



Lakeville Represented at State Hockey Tournaments

LHA's most successful MN State run was put together by the U12A North Girls earning them 4th place in the MN State Tournament. It was a determined group of girls that fought their way to a very important 4th game in Regions. They beat an impressive Edina team in a 2-1 nail biter to clinch a first place seed to the MN State Tournament. The festivities began Thursday March 18th, with a social gathering at Coach Manes' house, where the girls were surprised with a Limousine ride to their banquet. After an evening of whooping it up...off came the fancy shoes and dresses and out came the hockey skates and stinky gear with ponytails flying through the air. They came out strong and hard and played the game of their life beating Centennial 1-0 in the 3rd period. Edina brought their "A" game and exacted their revenge for their earlier loss in Regions and upset North. North Wright County came out strong in the first period and defeated North taking 3rd place. Placing 4th in the MN State Hockey tournament is something these girls will never forget.

After a 4 year absence from the Metro Hockey league, the Lakeville Junior Gold A team completed the year with a trip to the State Hockey Tournament. In the early practices of December, a goal was to make it to State. After some trying times and disappointing games,

the end result was accomplished through hard work and the competitiveness of our players.

Going into the year, coach Orrey stressed that making a move up in levels would be a struggle and the team would need to work hard to get those results. Ironically, this was not a practice team. Even after skating hard or doing drills that were "not" the norm, the kids continued to work and progress through the weeks. It was emphasized to put a madness to the drills and skills being worked on. The madness turned into the kids' goal, a State Tournament appearance when many were skeptical that the team could successfully make the jump from Junior Gold B to Junior Gold A.

Bantam A North took third place in the 55th Annual VFW State Tournament. Thief River Falls VFW Post 2793 did a terrific job hosting the 55th Annual Bantam A Hockey Tournament. After a carb-filled banquet dinner the night before, the Lakeville North Bantam A boys came out strong to defeat the home team, Thief River Falls, in a dominating 8-1 victory. The next morning held more of a challenge and Lakeville had to skate hard for three periods of hockey to win 5-2 over a solid Mounds View team. Later that same day, Lakeville fell to Woodbury, (state MAHA champs) who were coming for their first game of the day. Many congratulations to the Lakeville boys for winning the 3rd place trophy over Coon Rapids the next day. Duluth East went on to win the Championship over Woodbury with Mounds View finishing as consolation champs over Rochester.

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Lakeville





Lakeville Hockey Association



Volunteer Wrap

The mandatory volunteer program put in place by the LHA for the first time this season came to a close with mixed results. One of the hardest things about starting a new system in any organization is disseminating information when members may or may not come to meetings or read information.

Unfortunately, almost 90 letters went out to LHA members letting them know that there was a \$125 fee charged to them that would have to be paid before they can register for next year's season. The last thing that this program was intended to be was a revenue generator. The intention of the program was to dole out the work to the parents of our skaters in a more equitable fashion. With an association this size, there is plenty of work to be done!

On the positive side, 3100 hours were assigned to 590 families. The same software-based system will be in place for the 2010-11 season.

NHL Alumni tie LHA

The NHL Alumni game against the LHA coaches team was a success from many vantage points. The LHA had over 20 coaches participate. The game was scheduled over two long periods. After the first period, the LHA team was up 3-1. The game ended in a tie. Goaltending by the LHA team was exceptional.

The main focus of the event was to create a fun "family atmosphere" for the game while having time for an adult party at Babe's after the game was over. The hope was to at least break even. A silent auction raised over \$800 and many kids got autographs and a little face time with some hockey

legends. The NHL Alumni will be donating funds raised to the LHA. These funds will be used for hockey development and scholarships. Over 250 adults and kids came to the game to cheer on the LHA team.

The LHA would like to thank Babe's for their sponsorship of this event. A KDWB DJ livened up the night and gave away Wild tickets. Babes outdid themselves with great food and drink.

The NHL Alumni are eager to return next year, as they have never lost a game and had not tied a game in several years.

District 8 Results

There were several teams that had impressive runs at the end of the placing in the year end District 8 Tournament.

PeeWee North B1: District 8 Champions

PeeWee North B2 Red: 3rd Place District 8

Bantam B1 South: 2nd Place District 8

Bantam B2 South Crimson: 3rd Place District 8

U10B South: 3rd Place District 8

U12A North: District 8 Champions

U12A South: 3rd Place District 8

U12B North: 2nd Place District 8

Teams highlighted went on to play in MN Regional Tournaments.

LHA Sponsors Thanks for Supporting our Student Athletes!

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These sponsors have graciously sponsored the LHA. Please support their loyalty with your business.



Anonymous Letter Received From LHA Member

A letter was sent to the LHA Board of Directors to the PO Box address.

2/24/10

Dear Lakeville Hockey Association,

We as parents are comfortable with responsible drinking practices, but it always seems to get out of control at tournaments. When did hockey become more about the partying parents rather than focusing on these young hockey players at their events? What kind of example are we setting for these young athletes with our behavior? There are other venues better suited for the parents. Out of control drinking at a child's sporting event is not one of them.

I know the coaches repeatedly emphasize to the boys about respect and how to represent themselves on and off the ice. Why should this policy not hold true for us as parents as well? We should be serving as role models for them. Hockey is more than a sport. They learn many life lessons along the way. We have several boys in hockey and this happens at every level. We are sure you are aware of this, but it should be addressed. We can still socialize and have a great time without getting out of control. I think that sends a powerful message to our impressionable little hockey players.

The other area I want to address is the North/South rival games. We witnessed several sad occurrences over the Valentines Day weekend games. It was all inclusive, parents, players, etc. It is one thing to have a healthy rivalry, but this too has gotten to a whole new playing level. There has to be some guidelines that can be instituted to keep everyone safe, including the refs. Those kids were out for blood, and again that is not what it is all about. We are hoping LHA can come up with a strategy for next year's North/South encounters. Thank you for your time, we appreciate the time you put into Lakeville Hockey.

This Month's Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can you explain "President" and "President Elect" in terms of the LHA board structure?

A: Lakeville Hockey Association has two positions related to the presidency of our association. Acting as President of such a large organization takes some getting used to. Basically, a President Elect is elected into office every "odd" year, but they do not assume the full responsibility of being president until the following year. The President Elect for the 2009-10 season was Dave Rucki, and he will take over the President position that has been held by Bill Monahan after Monday's election. Another President



Elect will be voted into office at the 2011 elections and will work with Dave for a year before taking over.

Q: How do you become a Ref?

A: There are three steps to become a USA Hockey Official. You must register with USA Hockey, and then you must sign up for a local seminar and attend. To complete the process, the official must also pass a written test. There are District and National registration fees that must also be paid. The specific fees are level dependent. More information is available at the Minnesota Hockey web site.

Interesting

This condensed answer was in response to a question posed by a parent wanting the City to spare late hours: Just remember that LHA would not be able to purchase any ice at Hasse if we do not commit to paying for all the ice at Ames Arenas during the JPA season. There are many other associations who would love to have three arenas in their community to skate at 9:30 at night instead of driving to other arenas, not in their city, for the same late ice times. The long and the short of this is, if you want to renegotiate the contract with the city and cherry pick hours, they would have every right to go to Farmington or another city and say you pay the bond and you can have all the ice, and they would be willing to pay a higher hourly fee. Obviously the city politically would not want this, nor does LHA. The City does not have to sell the ice to LHA, but LHA does have to pay the bond and buy all the ice if they wish to skate at the three arenas, because LHA was the one who wanted the ice in the first place and incurred the debt to build them. The LHA board and members need to be sure what they wish for, as LHA might not get these late night hours at Ames along with not getting any hours at all... not the outcome LHA would want. It might not seem to be a good deal, but it is what LHA needed to do and it was the only way we have our arenas in Lakeville.

For the entire question and answer, just e-mail the [Communications Director](#).



Board Elections April 12th - Please Vote!

The Lakeville Hockey Association will hold the annual board elections on **Monday, April 12th** at Kenwood Trail Middle School at 7:00 PM during the LHA annual meeting. Bill Monahan (outgoing President) and Dave Rucki (incoming President) will each give a short and sweet wrap up of the 2009-10 hockey season. Kent Johnson (Treasurer) will give a brief financial overview for the year. This year's candidates will then each have five minutes to speak to the voters before elections. Please note that no absentee ballots will be available and you must be present to vote.

The following positions are open for the 2010 election: Treasurer, VP of Administration, VP of Operations, Association Head Coach, Registrar, PeeWee Director, Bantam Director, Jr. Gold Director, Girls U8/U10 Director, and Girls U12/U14 Director. All positions, with the exception of VP of Administration, have at least one person running. If you would like to view the on-line resumes for each candidate, go to the LHA web site and click on "Board" and then "Board Elections", or go to this link: <http://www.lakevillehockey.org/Ballot10.html>. Each candidate was given a chance to list their backgrounds, goals and objectives.

It is important that members have a vested interest in who is running the "LHA Show," as board members make decisions that effect each member of the LHA. It is often noted that the people who complain the most about how things are run are the same people that don't run for office or bother to show up for elections. Running an organization the size of the LHA (currently just short of 1000 members) requires a dedicated team of volunteers. Please show your support by attending the meeting and casting a vote.

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Summer Hockey offered in Lakeville

The LHA will be offering summer hockey clinics for U10/Squirt up through Bantam ages skaters and goalies. The program put in place is designed to help skaters keep the skills they've acquired over the season and get them geared up for next season's tryouts. They are also a great way to keep your player occupied and keep them in shape, and we won't even mention keeping them away from the X-box! The clinics will start July 20th and will conclude on August 26th at Ames Arena. In an effort to be more "family vacation friendly", the clinics will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Ice and dryland (one hour prior) will be combined for an optimum workout for your child. Questions can be sent directly to the LHA Hockey Development Coordinator, John (Gus) Barger. His e-mail address is: johnbarger@frontiernet.net.

On-Ice start times will be as follows: U10/12/14 11:00AM, Squirts 12:15, PeeWee 1:30, Bantam 2:45. Parents should sign up for the level that their child will skate at for the 2010-11 hockey season. More information is available on LHA's web site:

<http://www.lakevillehockey.org/SummerRegInfo10.html>

Please note that you will need a credit card with the 3-digit security code before you can do the on-line registration for this first-come, first-served program. Cost is \$350. Profits from these clinics will be put back into hockey development for the LHA.