



A WHAM Snapshot

The final tally is in! WHAM remains the largest adult women's recreational hockey league in the world! This season we registered and rostered 1337 players and coaches; down just slightly from 1366 last season. The number of players who went through assessments in 2011 was 213; this compares to 215 in 2010. The average age of a WHAM member is 37 years, with the breakdown as follows:

18 – 29 years: 416 members

30 – 39 years: 333 members

40 – 49 years: 441 members

50 – 59 years: 134 members

60 – 68 years: 13 members

Players in WHAM come from Canada, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, and South Africa. Twenty-four members reside in Wisconsin. Welcome to the State of Hockey!

Judy Jungwirth: Still on the Trail She Helped to Blaze

Check out WHAM's own Judy Jungwirth, B2 player for MCM and the oldest player in WHAM, who was recently featured in a Star Tribune article on January 31, 2012 at: <http://www.startribune.com/sports/138369304.html>. Congratulations Judy on the great article and thanks for being an inspiration to all!

WHAM Board Openings

At the Spring meeting, the membership will vote on three Board positions: B Vice-President, Treasurer and President. The league can't run without members who are willing to help out and the league administrator position has been extremely helpful in reducing the time commitment for Board members. Please, please, please consider stepping up and volunteering for one of these important positions. This is your opportunity to help shape the league! No experience is needed and current WHAM Board members will be available to train and mentor you. To see a full position description of these positions, please see the WHAM League Handbook Bylaws (available online). Here are the essential job duties:

The **Treasurer** is responsible for:

- § Keeping accurate financial records for the organization;
- § Depositing all moneys (e.g. drafts, and checks) in the name of and to the credit of the organization;
- § Endorsing deposits (e.g. notes, checks, and drafts) received by the organization;
- § Issuing checks and drafts in the name of the organization;
- § Disbursing funds of the organization; and
- § Attending Board meetings and providing financial statements at each of those meetings.

A background in accounting (QuickBooks) is desired.

The **B Division Vice President**, ideally (though not required) a member of the B division, is responsible for:

- ☑ Appointing and guiding the B1 and B2 Commissioners;
- ☑ Working with the division commissioners to manage and enforce the rules and regulations of WHAM;
- ☑ Organizing all aspects of the division including, but not limited to: game scheduling, statistical standings, collection of assessed fees, and mediating issues between member teams;
- ☑ Attending monthly Board meetings; and
- ☑ Assisting with the coordination of the season end league tournament.



The President is responsible for:

- ❧ Presiding at all Board meetings;
- ❧ Actively managing the business and affairs of the organization, ensuring that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect;
- ❧ The application and implementation of established policies in the operations of the organization; and
- ❧ Executing all contracts, deeds, and other instruments that may be required or authorized by the Board.

To nominate yourself or someone else, please send an email to that effect. Nominations are due to the league administrator (leagueadmin@whamhockey.org) by Sunday, April 15th.

Alcohol Consumption at Rinks

The Board has heard scattered reports of teams drinking in arenas. Remember that USA Hockey rules “*prohibit use by any participant of mood altering substances during active participation in its programs...*”. In addition, most arenas have specific rules prohibiting the consumption of alcohol on its premises. Please take before and after game celebrations off arena premises.

WHAM League Championship Tournament

There are some very tight races in the division standings for teams to be eligible for the end of season championship tournament! The tournament will be held **Thursday, March 15** through **Sunday, March 18, 2012** at the Schwann Super Rink in Blaine. Detailed information will be sent to those teams involved but here is some important preliminary information:

- ❖ IMPORTANT! All teams: Please have stats for all games entered into the stat program no later than March 1st so that final standings can be determined ASAP. Teams that are eligible will then have until March 4th to commit and until March 9th to get their fee for the tournament submitted to WHAM. A2, B1 and C3 will send four teams; B2, C1 and C2 will send six teams to the tournament.
- ❖ The cost to teams is still being finalized but should be fairly close to the \$550 paid last year for four games.
- ❖ Based upon feedback from all teams over the past couple seasons, all teams will play only one game on each of the four days of the tournament. Below are the first and last ice start times scheduled for each day:
Thursday, March 15: 5:45 to 10:00 pm
Friday, March 16: 6:15 to 10:00 pm
Saturday, March 17: 1:30 to 6:00 pm
Sunday, March 18: noon to 4:15 pm
- ❖ As last year, each team will need to provide one volunteer for each game to keep score and run the clock. No other volunteer hours will be required. There will be no gate fee - all fans attend for free!
- ❖ All players and coaches should be prepared (when requested) to show a government-issued, picture ID at all games.
- ❖ Vendors are being sought! You can reserve a table for the tournament for only \$50. Contact Erika Hockinson-Spande if you would like to exhibit.
- ❖ Advertising space in the tournament programs is also available. Advertising fees help cover the cost of printing the program and offset costs of the championship tournament. Every tournament participant will



WHAM NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2012

receive a program and they'll be available free of charge for all spectators attending the tournament as well. Ads must be high quality, photo-ready files or images (approximately 200 dpi or higher). Checks are made payable to WHAM. Ads are due by Monday, March 5 at 12 pm. Contact Erika Hockinson-Spande if you would like to purchase ad space. Pricing is as follows:

Ad Space	Size	Black and White	Color
Whole page	5.5" x 8.5"	\$125	
½ page	4.5" x 2.5"	\$75	
Business card size		\$50	
Outside back cover	5.5" x 8.5"	Not available	\$200

Good luck to all teams on your remaining games!

WHAM Hall of Fame

Every two years WHAM elects deserving individual(s) to the WHAM Hall of Fame. This year the induction will occur at the Fall 2012 meeting. Nominations and voting will occur over the summer and early fall but begin thinking about someone you'd like to nominate and watch for more information in the coming months.

The candidate must be either a current or former WHAM member, or a former Minnesota Girls' & Women's Hockey Association (former league name) or Minnesota Women's Hockey League (former league name) member. Members include players, coaches, managers and volunteer board members. The ideal candidate has been involved in league activities and the development of girls' and women's hockey for a recommended minimum of ten years. The candidate should be a positive role model for all girls and women in the sport and be respectful of the rules governing our association.

- ☞ **Players:** A player who has performed with excellence and promotes the sport as a positive role model.
- ☞ **Coaches:** A coach who has distinguished himself/herself by demonstrating exceptional leadership, character, and athletic achievement during his/her time in the league and contributes to the growth and development of women's hockey.
- ☞ **Manager/Volunteer Board Member:** A manager or volunteer board member who has been a loyal and devoted supporter of girls' and women's hockey.

WHAM Wear



The Board has had many inquiries from members who are interested in purchasing sportswear (e.g. T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, sweatpants, etc.) with the WHAM logo. Additionally, the Board is interested in increasing league awareness and pride by helping to facilitate an avenue for those who wish to purchase sportswear with the WHAM logo. Do you know a sportswear vendor who would be interested in selling sportswear with the WHAM logo online? We'd like to talk to them! Go to the website and review the WHAM Logo Use and Policy (<http://www.whamhockey.org/page/show/101484-wham-rules-and-forms>), then contact Gina Wright at C_vicepresident@whamhockey.org for further information. All vendors who are interested in pursuing this opportunity would have links to their sites on the WHAM website for members to purchase items directly from them. Vendors could also exhibit at the upcoming league tournament in March.

WHAM League Growth & Town Hall Meetings

Over the past two seasons, the Board has heard numerous suggestions, both directly from the membership, and from comments in the survey conducted at the end of last season, about the growth of the league, assessments, number of games, etc. To help address these concerns, a committee has been appointed to look into possible solutions. Beth Chaplin, B Division Vice-President will be chairing this committee. Beth will

be convening this committee beginning in early March with the plan to bring suggestions forward to the full Board and membership in April. In an effort to get feedback from the membership, Beth will hold two “town hall-style” meetings on **Tuesday, April 3rd** and **Wednesday, April 11th**, both evenings from 7 to 9 pm at a location to be determined. All members are invited to attend one of these meetings. If you cannot attend, or you'd like to give feedback or input to the committee before then, please send an email to Beth at b_vicepresident@whamhockey.org. We're always looking for opportunities for improvements so that WHAM continues to meet the needs of its membership.

WHAM Spring Meeting

Based upon the very positive comments from last season's virtual spring meeting, the Board has decided to follow that same format again this spring. Like last year, the Spring meeting information will be sent out to both team managers, who will be expected to forward the information to all team members. Each team will then be required to have one member submit confirmation that they have received the information and forwarded it on. Elections for Board members will occur as part of this process as well. The confirmations will need to be received anytime between Friday April 21st and Sunday April 29th, 2012 or teams will face a \$50 fine for “non-attendance”. Please contact your division's vice-president with any questions.

Referee Reminder



Kudos to all those female referees out there officiating WHAM games! It's great to see more females officiating at our games! Just a quick reminder to all those WHAM players who also referee within WHAM. Remember that, to avoid any potential conflict of interest, you should not be refereeing games within the same division in which you play. Please request to be rescheduled if you are selected to officiate at a game within your same division.

Important Upcoming Dates

- 🗓 **Wednesday, February 29, 2012:** Last day to play regular season games
- 🗓 **Thursday, March 15 to Sunday, March 18, 2012:** WHAM League Championship Tournament at the Schwan Super Rink in Blaine
- 🗓 **Tuesday, April 3, 2012; 7:00 to 9:00 pm:** WHAM League Town Hall Meeting; location: TBD
- 🗓 **Wednesday, April 11, 2012; 7:00 to 9:00 pm:** WHAM League Town Hall Meeting; location: TBD
- 🗓 **Friday, April 21 to Sunday, April 29, 2012:** Virtual Spring Meeting dates

Important Contacts

President: Terry Provo
A Vice-President: Alison Hanson
B Vice-President: Beth Chaplin
C Vice-President: Gina Wright
League Administrator: Erika Hockinson-Spande
Phone: 203-887-4526

Email: president@whamhockey.org
Email: a_vicepresident@whamhockey.org
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