



EVHA *Slapshot!*

Newsletter for Eastview Hockey Association Members

Summer 2003

Greetings from the President

I hope everyone is enjoying the off-season! As the new EVHA president, I want to take this opportunity to share a few thoughts and update you on the many things EVHA is continuing to work on throughout the spring and summer months. This issue of the new *Slapshot!* newsletter includes articles from several EVHA board members and coordinators with information on current and upcoming events and activities in the association.

First and foremost, I want to stress my belief in the importance of open communication. To that end, a list of your EVHA Board of Directors is included in this issue, with contact information. Feel free to contact any board member with issues or concerns, and please let me know if you do not get a timely response. I invite and encourage all members to attend an EVHA board meeting — to bring an issue or concern to our attention or to just listen. Meetings are typically held the fourth Wednesday of each month (excluding holiday months), 7 p.m. at the Apple Valley Community Center.

We are also working to improve member communication with an updated website that will feature timely information and user-friendly features. (*Read Dave Hinker's article about the new website in this issue.*)

As all of you know, EVHA is made up entirely of volunteers, from members on the board to many of you who spend countless hours, often behind the scenes, making sure everything works so that our players have a positive hockey experience. To achieve that goal, I ask each of you to continue to volunteer your time and talents to EVHA this upcoming season.

I take great pride — and you should, too — in the very positive reputation that EVHA has throughout the hockey community. Parents and players conduct themselves professionally, which is reflected in the direct feedback I get from other hockey associations. I ask everyone to remember that this upcoming season as we work toward furthering a program that strives to balance the varying needs of individual players with the goal of ensuring that all enjoy the great sport of hockey.

Have a great summer!

Dean Frederickson
EVHA President

Show your EVHA pride in July 4th parade

The EVHA board encourages all EVHA players to show your Lightning pride by wearing your jerseys and participating in the upcoming Fourth of July Parade in Eagan. We will again be handing out treats as we inline skate and walk along the parade route.



The Eagan parade begins at 10 a.m. Friday, July 4th. Parents, if your player(s) would like to participate in the parade, drop them off between 9 and 9:30 a.m. at the staging area by Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) headquarters at Highway 13 and Yankee Doodle Road. The only way to get into the BCBS parking lot will be Blackhawk Road from the south. Highway 13 and Blackhawk Road will be closed. From 35E, take the Diffley Road exit west to Blackhawk Road north. Turn right on Blue Cross Road and head to the staging area.

After dropping your players off, drive to the Lockheed Martin facility on the northwest corner of Pilot Knob Road and Yankee Doodle Road. You can park near the new Central Park, which is where the parade will end. When you exit BCBS you will need to take Blackhawk Road south back to Diffley east, then north on Pilot Knob Road to Lockheed Martin. The parade should end at approximately 11 a.m. For parents of very young skaters who wish to accompany their kids, note that parking at BCBS will be extremely limited, so you may want to have someone drop you off and meet you at the end of the parade route.

The association chose to participate in only the Eagan parade this year because Apple Valley no longer allows players to inline skate alongside the float and children must be 12 and older to walk beside the float.

We look forward to a great turnout at the Eagan Fourth of July Parade this year. If you have any questions, please contact Dean Frederickson at 952-423-1336.

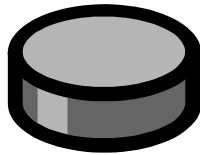
Tryouts for the 2003-04 season

Plans for the upcoming season's tryouts are starting to take shape. The tryout process will remain basically the same as in past years. A tryout information sheet will be available to each family at the time of the tryouts. The information sheet describes the tryout process, the evaluation, skill and scrimmage sessions in greater detail.

Tryout Clinics are scheduled for **Sept. 5-7** and **Sept. 12-15**. The Tryout Clinics will be geared to help prepare each player for the upcoming tryout sessions.

Tryouts are scheduled for the following dates:

- **Sept. 20-21**
- **Sept. 27-28**
- **Sept. 29-30**



Detailed schedule information will be available soon for both the Tryout Clinics and Tryouts.

New this year, the association is purchasing additional tryout jerseys so that each player will be issued one jersey to keep and use for the entire tryout process. The tryout jerseys will be collected at the end of tryouts instead of after each session. This will reduce the amount of laundry and staff needed to distribute and collect the jerseys.

Members of the EVHA Tryout Committee are Rob Kleven, Director (kleven@charter.net or 952-432-4891); Ernie Companion, assistant; Dave Gerken and Lance Berger, logistics and facilities; John Wilharm, volunteers and officials, and Gordy Christian and Jack Goldbach, operations and communications.

Age cutoff for girls teams has changed

The Minnesota Hockey Board of Directors has voted to change the age cutoff to July 1st for all girls youth categories, effective with the 2003-04 season.

Earlier this year, it was also announced that the girls' playing levels will be changed to U10, U12, U14 and U16, eliminating the U15 level.

Here are the age ranges for 2003-04:

- **U16** (birthdates July 1, 1986-June 30, 1988)
- **U14** (birthdates July 1, 1988-June 30, 1990)
- **U12** (birthdates July 1, 1990-June 30, 1992)
- **U10** (birthdates July 1, 1992 and after)

These changes will impact some players as well as the number of teams we have at each level. Girls Coordinator John Wilharm encourages parents of players to communicate any questions and concerns to the EVHA board as soon as possible, so that the board can make appropriate decisions in planning for the upcoming season.

Register for 2003-04 by mail or in person

It's almost time to start planning for the 2003-04 hockey season, starting with registration. There are two ways to register.

Register by Mail:

In early August, last year's participants will receive a registration form in the mail. You will have the option to update this information and sign up for the 2003-04 season by mailing in the form.

Register in Person:

In September, EVHA will hold two registration sessions for those who are new to the program or who prefer to register in person.

Registration will be held at the Apple Valley Senior Center (next to Hayes Arena) on the following dates:

- **Saturday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**, and
- **Wednesday, Sept. 10, 5-9 p.m.**

SPECIAL NOTE FOR FIRST TIME PARTICIPANTS: Please be sure to bring a copy of the player's birth certificate; players are not allowed to participate without a copy on file.

Equipment is provided for new mites. They can be measured for their equipment at signups, so please bring your player with for their fitting.

Volunteers are still needed to help staff tables during registration. If you are available to help, please contact Liz Reyer at 651-452-7857 or reyerharnagel@msn.com.

New all-girls mite team will be offered

This coming season, EVHA will offer mite-age girls the opportunity to play on an all-girls mite team. Other associations have found that providing an option for girls to play on an all-girls team has resulted in increased participation by girls.

At EVHA registration, parents of mite-age girls will have the choice of signing up for the new all-girls mite team or a co-ed mite team.

If you have questions, call Mite Coordinator Kurt Chatfield at 952-322-5359.

Help wanted: no experience required

EVHA needs one or two members to help coordinate the concession operations at the Hayes and Apple Valley High School arenas for the 2003-04 season.

The volunteer coordinators will help train workers, schedule team assignments and generally troubleshoot throughout the season. If interested, contact Linda Kaye at 651-686-5812 or thompsonscout@msn.com.

New EVHA website coming soon!

As some members may have already noticed, changes are underway on the EVHA website. Up to now, all of our website design, hosting and updating have been provided by one of our members, Bryan Sandager. Bryan has spent countless hours keeping EVHA on the Internet since he first developed the eastviewhockey.com site. We are very appreciative of Bryan's efforts.



There are numerous additional features that EVHA is interested in adding to the website – features that are currently being used by other hockey associations in the metro area. (Minnetonka, Edina, Wayzata, and Burnsville are good examples.)

The board has approved the purchase of a “ready-to-go” website that includes many of those additional features. We hope the new site will be easier to maintain and that it will give members greater ability to update and contribute information for the website in order to keep it current. Negotiations with the new provider are nearly complete. Look for the new look EVHA website soon at www.eastviewhockey.com.

Head coaches asked to indicate interest for 2003-04 season

Most of our coaching positions do not get filled until right after tryouts are completed and teams are selected. At that point, we determine which parents would like to coach and hopefully there are enough parents interested for each team.

While we do have a few non-parent coaches, the majority of our coaches continue to be a parent of a team member. The 2003-04 season will likely be very similar in that regard. Consequently, we will have a rush to finalize a number of coaching positions once tryouts are completed.

This year, we would like to identify head coaching candidates during the summer so we can determine our needs earlier in the process.

If you would like to be considered for a head coaching position this season, email Brooks Smith at bsmith@medcarelifts.com, before **July 15**, and include the following information: name; home phone #; alternate phone # and email address. Your message should also include the following: whether you are the parent of an EVHA player; which age group (squirrel, peewee, U10, etc) you are interested in coaching; if you are a parent, which age group your player will be playing at in 2003-04 and which level they will likely qualify for (A, B or C); if you would like to be considered for an assistant coach position if not selected to be the head coach, and finally, are you certified to coach at the level indicated?

Mark your calendars: 6th Annual EVHA Golf Tournament set to tee off August 18

Make sure your summer plans include the 6th annual EVHA Golf Tournament on Monday, August 18 at Valleywood Golf Course in Apple Valley. The tourney is set for a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Players can form their own group and individual players are also welcome.

Player Information

The \$85 per player fee includes:

- * 18 holes of golf
- * Cart/range balls
- * On-course events
- * Lunch
- * Prizes
- * Chances to win raffle prizes



For More Information Contact: Gordy Christian, 651-905-9616; Darrell Retka, 952-432-3130; or Jack Grotkin, 952-431-5349.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Tournament Sponsor \$ 2,000

- One foursome in golf tournament
- Sponsor's name included in all publicity
- Banners at golf tournament location
- Recognition in tournament program
- Recognition in EVHA newsletter

Hole Sponsorship \$ 500

- One foursome in tournament
- Sign on one tee box with sponsor name
- Recognition in tournament program

Tournament Contributor \$ 200*

- (*Cash prize or donation)
- Recognition in tournament program

Eastview Hockey Association
P.O. Box 240682
Apple Valley, MN 55124

EVHA Board of Directors

Dean Frederickson, President 952-423-1336
deanfred@charter.net

Brooks Smith, Vice Pres. (coach selection) 651-894-5196
besmith@medcarelifts.com

Randy Hart, Secretary (District 6 rep.) 952-431-5884
anglers@frontiernet.net

Dave Hinker, Treasurer (website) 952-423-1036
hinkrdh@msn.com

Jeri Vig, Ice Coordinator 952-423-2247
jerivig@msn.com

Ernie Companion, Director (tournaments) 651-882-1174
ernest.r.companion@jci.com

John Wilharm, Director (girls coordinator) 952-432-5995
john.wilharm@mt.com

Vic Zukanoff, Director (fundraising/apparel) ... 952-423-5336
starmkt@frontiernet.net

Kurt Chatfield, Director (mite coordinator) 952-322-5359
kurtchatfield@msn.com

Rob Kleven, Director (tryout coordinator) 952-432-4891
kleven@charter.net

Gordy Christian, Director (hockey operations)..651-905-9616
glchristian@yahoo.com

Liz Reyer, Director (Registrar)651-452-7857
reyerharnagel@msn.com

About the EVHA *Slapshot!* Newsletter

Many thanks to member Susan Retka, who gave many hours of service as editor of the EVHA newsletter for the last several years. Susan more than put in her time and did a tremendous job in the process.

We are Tony and Jenny Taschner, charter members of EVHA and the new editors of the association's monthly newsletter, *Slapshot!* We hope you like the name we picked, but more importantly we hope you find the newsletter to be interesting and informative.

This is *your* newsletter. Its quality and usefulness depends on your input and participation. Tell us what information you would like to see in an upcoming issue of the newsletter and on EVHA's soon-to-be re-released website. Likewise, we need your help in gathering the important and interesting news that's happening within EVHA all year long.

The next issue of EVHA *Slapshot!* is scheduled to be mailed in mid to late August, just prior to the start of the 2003-04 hockey season. The deadline for submitting information for that issue will be August 1, but you are always encouraged to report news and information as soon as it happens so we can share it with members in a timely manner on the website and in the newsletter.

We look forward to working with you.

Send EVHA *Slapshot!* Newsletter Submissions to:

Tony and Jenny Taschner
tasch@unique-software.com
651-683-9391