

Welcoming the New Board Members

Storm Chasers Board of Directors for 2003-2004

Denise Anderson

Newsletter Editor

The election for the Tri-City Storm Chasers Booster Club Board of Directors was held at the May 6, 2003 meeting. Here is the Board of Directors for the 2003-2004 season:

<i>Randie May</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Stu Pesek</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Kathy Knapp</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Kurt Schmidt</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Denise Anderson</i>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>
<i>Karen Heun</i>	<i>Sergeant-At-Arms</i>
<i>Michelle Lewis</i>	<i>Member-At-Large</i>
<i>Heather Milius</i>	<i>Member-At-Large</i>

Thank you to past board members: Pat Budler, Jeff LaBrie and Abe Abraham for all your hard work ♦

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Tri-City Storm 2003-2004: Season of Changes

Changes in the Storm organization and USHL

Denise V Anderson

Newsletter Editor

New season! New coach! New faces on the Storm staff and Storm Chasers Booster Club board members. It is hard not to get excited about this year.

There have been some changes. That is an understatement. We said THANK YOU and goodbye to Coach Simon and Coach Kowal. We welcomed Bliss Littler as General Manager and now for this season he is head coach. Tom Rudrud came up to join the Storm as the new assistant coach. There were a few shifts in the Storm staff with some leaving, some changing job duties and some new faces in the office. The important thing for storm fans to remember is that if you have questions or need information on tickets talk to Beth Schaub.

The fans have been talking, arguing, discussing, debating, and analyzing this upcoming hockey season. How will this year's team be different from last year's team? What can Coach Littler and Assistant Coach Rudrud do for our team? Can we go all the way this year or will it be more of a developmental year? Who will the returning players be? Who will be the new players? What can the fans expect? However, the answers to these questions will have to wait until after tryout camp June 22-25 and the end of the 2003-2004 season.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TRI-CITY STORM TRYOUT CAMP

SCHWAN'S SUPER RINK IN BLAINE, MN

JUNE 22-25

Storm tryout camp 2003 will be in Minnesota this year.

TRI-CITY STORM CHASERS BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

KEARNEY HOLIDAY INN

JULY 1, 2003 @ 7:00 PM

For more information about the Booster club and contact information check out:

<http://www.tricitystormchasers.com/>

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOCKEY SCHOOL

TRI-CITY ARENA

JULY 28 – AUG 1

This youth hockey summer camp is being held at the Tri-City Arena. For more details about this camp and links about Tri-City Youth Ice Hockey Association check out:

<http://www.geocities.com/toyih/youthhockey.html>

LIST OF THE USHL TEAMS AND LOCATION OF THE ARENAS:

EAST DIVISION

Cedar Rapids Roughriders	Cedar Rapids, IA
Chicago Steel	Bensenville, IL
Danville Wings	Danville, IL
Green Bay Gamblers	Green Bay, WI
St. Louis Heartland Eagles	Chesterfield, MO
Waterloo Blackhawks	Waterloo, IA

WEST DIVISION

Des Moines Buccaneers	Des Moines, IA
Lincoln Stars	Lincoln, NE
River City Lancers	Council Bluffs, IA
Sioux City Musketeers	Sioux City, IA
Sioux Falls Stampede	Sioux Falls, SD
Tri-City Storm	Kearney, NE

The unknowns about our team this season are enhanced by the changes within the USHL. There will be no more road trips to Topeka, Kansas. The Topeka Scarecrows have flown east to become the St. Louis Heartland Eagles. There are now 12 teams in the USHL with the addition of the Danville Wings located in Danville, Illinois. However according to an article on Danville Wing's website, within two years they will be moving to Champaign, Illinois. Danville joined the East division and Des Moines moved from the East Division to the West Division.

The Storm coaching changes are not the only coaching changes in the USHL. According to the Chicago Steel website Head coach/General manager AJ Toews was replaced by Willard Nichol. According to the Sioux Falls website, General Manager/Head Coach Tony Gaspirini moved to a consulting position, Mark Kaufman was hired to fill that head coach/general manager vacancy and Wade Nilson was promoted to assistant coach.

Other changes within USHL have to do with the playoffs and games played. According to an article in June 12th addition of the Lincoln Journal Star the Clark Cup playoff format will be similar to Stanley cup playoff format in which the top four teams in each division will qualify for playoffs. The first two rounds will be intra-divisional and then the winner of the East will play the winner of the West for the Clark Cup. There is also a schedule change in which each team will play the teams in their division six times and the teams in opposing division four times. Something new that has been added is that each team will play additional games with designated rivals which are decided by proximity. For the Storm that looks to be Lincoln, River City and possibly Des Moines. Also according to the Lincoln Journal Star there may be an additional 3 teams joining USHL for the 2004-2005 season. ●



Storm Chasers Membership Information for 2003-2004 Hockey Season

Time for Membership Renewal

Denise Anderson

Newsletter Editor

It is that time of year. The 2002-2003 membership year ends on August 31st and the new membership year begins on the first day of September. During these summer months is a good time to get those dues out of the way. In past years this has been an easy task with the Booster Club table being set up during tryout camp. However this year the camp is out of state. How do I renew my membership is the question I'm sure all of you are asking?

Here are a few ways:

- Attend any monthly Storm Chaser Booster Club meeting. Meetings, for now, are held the first Tuesday of the month. You may attend and just drop off your dues to the Treasurer or any board member.
- Write a check or send some cash to:

Tri-City Storm Chasers Booster Club
P.O. Box 2101
Kearney, NE 68848

- New members can Log on to Tri-City Storm Chasers website for a copy of the membership application. Renewing members can get information on membership and a mailing address. <http://www.tricitystormchasers.com>

Single Membership is \$15

Family Membership is \$25 (A family membership includes 2 adults and/or any children 18 years of age or younger)

The mission of the Tri-City Storm Chasers Booster Club is to support the players of the Tri-City Storm, the Tri-City Organization and to spread the excitement of Hockey In the Heartland. We are a non-profit organization that returns the funds we make to the Storm and/or the Tri-City communities. ●



Have Questions? Want to share some concerns? Have some GREAT Ideas for 2003-2004 hockey season?

Well we want to hear from **YOU**, the members of the Tri-City Storm Chasers Booster Club. This is your club and your ideas are important to us. Have some suggestions on how to improve on the past two seasons, we want your feedback. **Talk** to a Tri-City Storm Chaser Board Member in person, **write** a letter or **email**.

You can reach us via postal mail:

Tri-City Storm Chasers Booster Club
P.O. Box 2101
Kearney, NE 68848

Send us an email: **info@tricitystormchasers.com**

Send us an email through the **CONTACT US** section of our website:

Tri-City Storm Chasers **http://www.tricitystormchasers.com/contact_us.php**