



Booster Club

Website: www.tricitystormchasers.com E-Mail: info@tricitystormchasers.com

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December 2007

No December General Meeting

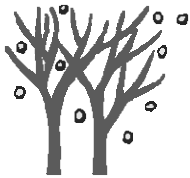


Merry Christmas

See you next year.



January General Meeting



*January 22, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.
Kearney Event Center - Second Floor*



Time to look at our planned activities for the second half of the season

Holiday Party

On the evening of December 2 Storm team members and Storm fans gathered at the Holiday Inn for a Holiday Party. [Details on page 2]



Stormy poses with the whole team



Captain Mario Lamoureux and Stormy with Mario's gift

Holiday Party

With two players at each table, fans had the opportunity to sit with them during the meal and become better acquainted. Then during a Bingo game, which required players to get information from fans and fans we all got even better acquainted.

Stormy Santa appeared and each player received a gift from the Booster Club. First year players received a fleece blanket with their name, number, Storm logo, and name of sponsor embroidered on it. Returning players received a very large sheet towel with the same embroidery. Both were black this year.

Photos of each player with Stormy Santa and his gift can be seen on our website in the photo section. The players also gathered for a group picture.



One birthday to note this month.
Troy Mattila will be 20 on January 12.

Our Website

Check out the Booster Club website.

www.tricitystormchasers.com

We have a new front page arrangement with pictures instead of all words. The menu on the left and event information on the right are still the same.

The button page is also being remodeled with some interesting new features. Click on the picture of the player and information about him will drop down.

Hagemeijer in IJHF Tournament

When the team returned to Kearney after the Ohio victories, they were short one player. Diederick Hagemeijer stayed in Columbus and flew out the next day to Tallinn, Estonia. There he joined the Netherlands team in the U-20 International Ice Hockey Federation tournament. This group of teams played during the week of December 10-16.

Since the tournament started the day Diederick left Ohio he missed the first game. However, he arrived in time for the second game. He must have gotten a good rest on that flight over because he had a hat trick and an assist in that game against Croatia. The Netherlands team won the game 8-0. They had a shutout in the first game also, against Mexico, 7-0.

After skipping a day – wonder if the guys slept or went sightseeing on this free day – the tournament continued on Thursday when the Netherlands played China. Maybe it should be said they played around with China. With a score of 14-1 there was probably not much challenge to this game. However, China was the first team to score on the Netherlands. Shots on goal were 74-14. China put their back-up goalie in for the third period. The starting goalie was probably tired after facing 50 shots in the first two periods.

Diederick scored twice in this game and had one assist. With 5 goals and 2 assists in two games, he now had 7 points in the tournament.

Next came the game against Spain. The Netherlands again came out the victors with a score of 5-2. Diederick's scoring string continued with one goal in this game. The Netherlands team had 69 shots on goal in this game compared to Spain's 17.

After another day off for rest/sightseeing, The Netherlands played their last game. In fact, it was the last game of the tournament, against the host team, Estonia. Although he made 7 shots, Diederick was unable to score in this game. The two teams were evenly matched with regulation time ending in a 2-2 tie. After no scoring in overtime, Estonia finally won in the shootout.

Information Gathered from Here and There.....

Fog

Remember that first game in Des Moines last fall that was called because of fog and had to be finished later? The two Lamoureux brothers were not the only Lamoureuxs caught in that situation. Two weeks later brother Phillippe was in goal for North Dakota in a game with Boston College that was called at the end of the second period because of fog. In that case, the game went into the books as a 0-0 tie (the score at the end of two periods) and was not finished at a later date.

Refs

So far this season there have been fewer complaints about referees than in the past. We must have a good group in training.

Have you ever stopped to think about the game from the ref's point of view? The referee has to know the rule book for the USHL conference from front to back.

But many of these refs move from one conference to another during a season. We've known that several of our USHL refs also work NAHL games, for instance. And then there is the AHL and the NCAA, etc.

Not only must a ref know the standard rules of the game but each conference has some rules that are different from other conferences. According to one ref, Al Stensland, who has worked in five different conferences over the past 10 years, the first thing he does when scheduled for a new conference, is go through their rule book and highlight rules that are different. Then he reviews the differences before working the game.

Attempts have been made to standardize the rules. The problem comes when considering the differences in abilities and expectations, for example, between a 10-year-old who only plays in his own arena and a 22-year-old student playing on a scholarship in college.

Looks like the refs will have to keep their highlighter handy for a while longer.

[from "Different Rulebooks" by Matt Nilles, USA Hockey, Dec. 2007]

Distance

Did you know that you only drive 128 miles to go to Lincoln to a Storm/Stars game? A Lancer game is 187 miles away.

Did it seem like the Fall Classic in Sioux City was closer than the Buc Bowl in Des Moines? It was. It is 277 miles to Sioux City and 310 to Des Moines.

Sioux Falls is another 56 miles up the road from Sioux City, 366 miles from Kearney. Waterloo and Cedar Rapids are about equal distance from us, 439 and 440 miles away.

The teams that seem really far away, are. Chicago is 637 miles, Green Bay is 778, Indiana is 802 and Columbus, Ohio, is 971 miles from Kearney.

The two longest ones are already past us for this season. How many trips are you going to make with the Storm during the rest of this season?

Heath Subs

Affiliate player, Danny Heath, moved up to the Storm roster temporarily for the two home games before the Christmas break. He was filling the spot left by Diederick Hagemeyer while he was absent playing in the IIHF tournament.

Heath is from Phoenix, Arizona where he plays on the P. F. Chang U18 AAA team as a defenseman. Danny is a senior in high school this year. He recently committed to Minnesota State at Mankato but will not join them until the 2009 season. In the meantime, we may see him here on the Storm team next season.

More Fog

Fort Wayne Komets and Toledo Mercurys Goaldiggers were big rivals.

In 1984, the rivals played in a thick Toledo Sports Arena fog. With the Komets hitting the post eight times, the Goaldiggers scored the only goal late in the game - at least the red light went on. Komets goaltender Darren Jensen complained he couldn't see three feet in front of him, and the shot came from 10 feet away. [from "the Unusual", azhockey.com/]

Booster Club Booth



Between now and the end of the season we have 23 home games. Well, that figures. We only had 7 home games before Christmas.

We have 23 more opportunities to provide pins and beads for sale to Storm fans, to visit with fans as they stop or pass by the booth, to meet player parents and host families.

There are more than enough members to allow each family or single member to volunteer

at the booth for just one game. No game viewing time will be lost because the booth is only open before the game and during intermissions. The paper work for keeping track of sales has been cut back to a bare minimum to allow more time for visiting with fans and less confusion during busy sale times.

So, stop by the booth at the next home game and reserve the time that is convenient for you before someone else grabs that night. Spend some time at the booth and see how many new fans and old friends you meet.

Storm Chasers Booster Club

Official Booster Club of the Tri-City Storm

tricitystormchasers.com

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