



Tri-City Storm Booster Club

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Vol. 9, No. 9

PO Box 2101, Kearney, NE 68848

May 2010

May General Meeting

May 25, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Conference Room E – 2nd floor – Good Samaritan Hospital

Park in Employee Parking lot on Ave. A across from Emergency Entrance

Enter through the Emergency Entrance door

Go through the waiting room to the elevator

Take the elevator to the 2nd floor & look for Room E

Jan will be waiting outside the entrance about 6:15 to provide guidance

Nominations

The Nominating committee reported at the April general meeting. Here is their slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors

Jan Hankey
Mardi Anderson
Jamie Legates
Cindy Rademacher
Chelsie Shaw

Since there are eight positions on the Board, there will definitely be a need for nominations from the floor at the May meeting.



Only two members of the 2009-10 team left who have birthdays to celebrate.

Mario Puskarich turns 18 on June 22
Jaden Swartz will be 18 on June 25.

Congratulations!!

Jaden Schwartz was named to the All-USHL First Team. He was also named the Forward of the Year by the USHL. His 83 point total for the year was the highest since the 2001-02 season when Thomas Vanek (Sioux Falls Stampede) took the honors. Jaden is the youngest named since the 1982-3 season.

Storm Booster Club

Official Booster Club of the Tri-City Storm
stormboosterclub.com
P O Box 2101, Kearney, NE 68848

Board of Directors

Kathy Knapp - President
Betty Smith – 1st Vice President
– Membership
Jan Hankey – 2nd Vice President
– Special Projects
Mardi Anderson – Secretary
– Newsletter
Jennifer Turek – Treasurer
Cindy Rademacher – Director
– Bus Treats
Jamie Legates – Director
Travis Flies – Director

The Draft

Games and prospect tournaments were attended. Interviews were conducted and home visits were made. Telephone conversations were held. Now it's time for action.

May 17, 18, 19 were the red letter days in the USHL this year.

May 17 was the Expansion Draft. May 18 was the Futures Draft. May 19 was the Entry Draft.

The Futures and Entry drafts are annual events. The Expansion Draft happens only when new teams join the league. And in those years there is another, pre-draft step, when Tenders are offered.

Tender

When the word "tender" is used as a verb it means to present or make an offer. Someone might tender one's resignation, for example. In the world of hockey a tender is an offer made by a team to a player to sign a contract to play for them. If he signs, he will not be eligible to be drafted by any team in that conference.

There are pros and cons to signing. From the team's point of view they have secured the promise of a player to play for them so now they can use that draft turn to select someone else and they have not run the risk of having another team ahead of them in the bidding lineup grab their player. They do not have to guarantee the player a spot on the team, and they can drop him or trade him any time before the February freeze deadline.

From the player's point of view, he is guaranteed the opportunity to try out for the team of his choice and has a good chance of making the team. He does not have to worry about being drafted by another team in the league, a team for which he would rather not play. There are some restrictions, however. He can try out only for the team he signed with unless they have given him permission to attend some other tryout in the league. While not being guarantee a spot on the team, he knows his chances are very good. However he cannot skip the team tryouts and believe he will make the team anyway. He still has to show up and put in a good effort. While the team can drop him at any time, it will probably cost the player if he wants out of the contract, possibly in the area of \$4,000.

In the USHL Tenders are used only by expansion teams. There are as many tenders available as there are teams in the league. Last year as the only expansion team entering the league, the Phantoms had 11 tenders. This year there are 13 tenders available since Team USA does not count; they have their own system. With two expansion teams the tenders are split with Dubuque getting 7 tenders and Muskegon 6.

Expansion Draft

Before the expansion draft took place each of the current 13 USHL teams had put together a protected roster of eight players. All the rest of their players and affiliates went on the list of non-protected players. This list was supplied to the Muskegon and Dubuque teams at 8 a.m. Monday, May 17. At noon the draft began with Muskegon making the first selection.

Since Dubuque got seven pre-draft tenders, they were allowed six expansion draft picks. Muskegon was allowed seven expansion draft picks since they had six tenders. No present team could lose more than one player. However, each team only chose five players so Fargo, Omaha and Sioux Falls did not lose any. The Storm lost T. J. Schlueter to Dubuque.

USHL Combines

Something new this year were the USHL Combines. These were a series of showcases in which USHL coaching staffs and NCAA college scouts had an opportunity to observe future players. These tournaments were held at the Arctic Ice Arena in Orlando Park, Illinois, which is on the southwest edge of the Chicago metro area.

During each weekend the players were divided into teams and played four games. Then after cuts, the top players competed on Sunday morning. They also took part in some off-ice physical and cognitive testing.

On the third week-end in April the '95's competed. Although not eligible for the Futures Draft, this gave coaches and NCAA scouts an opportunity to see the potential coming up for a year from now.

During the last weekend in April the '92's and '93's were featured. This was their last opportunity to be seen before the Entry Draft. Finally, during the weekend of May 13-16 a total

(Cont. on p. 3)

of 284 players with 1994 birth dates took their turn. Our own assistant coach, Eric Fink, coached one of the teams. These were the players eligible for the Futures Draft this year.

Futures Draft

The Futures Draft was held Tuesday, May 18 beginning at 10 a.m. It was available for fans to watch on the USHL website at <www.ushldraft.com> and the lists are posted there afterward.

This year players with a 1994 birth year were the ones eligible to be drafted. Each team picked six. A lottery determined the order in which teams made their selections. Then the list was reversed for each round.

Drafted players may either be placed on the team's active protected list or added to the affiliate list.

Players are protected for three years. By the end of the third year they will have been added to the roster, traded, or dropped.

The Affiliate List

Each year the players selected in the Futures Draft may be placed either on the team's protected list or its Affiliate list. Members of this list remain at home, and have the time to develop as hockey players to reach the skill level needed to play in the USHL. They are also available in case they are needed by the team to fill in for an injured player or for someone who is absent to play in a tournament.

Each team is limited to 12 names on the Affiliate list. Not only can it include the players selected in the current year's Futures Draft, but also players selected in the past two years who have not yet been moved up, dropped or traded may also be included. That means that the Affiliate Lists for this season will include those with 1994 birth dates and some with 1993 and 1992 birth dates.

These players do not have to have played 10 games in the previous season/post-season in order to be eligible to be moved up to the pre-Entry Draft Protected List.

Entry Draft

The Entry Draft was held on Wednesday, May 19 beginning at 10 a.m. It was also available for fans to watch on the USHL website at <www.ushldraft.com>

Before this draft begins, each team submits a list of up to 23 players they wish to protect. These players are not eligible to be drafted by any other team in the league. This protected list includes both veteran players and any members on the affiliated list they want to move up to the protected list.

A **veteran** is any player who participated in 10 or more games during the past season and post-season.

In part I of the draft each team takes a turn until they have 23 players. Since the teams have different numbers of players on their pre-draft protected list, when a team reaches 23 it drops out until all teams were even at 23. Then in Part II, there were seven more turns to pick a player. Now the teams have a total of 30 on their protected lists and the draft is over for another year.

Following the draft there will be a two-week freeze. During this time the 30-man roster is frozen and cannot be changed by adding, dropping, or trading players.

Other details about the draft:

- Drafted players with 1994 birth dates may be placed on the Affiliate list
- Just because a player is drafted he is not assured a spot on the team. He still has to participate in tryouts.
- Once a player is drafted in this league no other team in the league can draft him. He can, however, also be drafted by a team in another league.
- Behind the scenes trading between teams has been and will be going on up until the end of the draft. Many of those trades include giving or receiving the team's turn to make a draft selection in a specific round.
- The order in which the teams made their selections was in reverse order of team standings at the end of the regular season.

Former Player Update

Jarod Palmer (2004-06) has completed his college hockey career at Miami of Ohio. In late April he signed a one-year contract with the Minnesota Wild. The author of a Wild fan blog recorded this description of Jarod: “He has size, he is described as a durable, healthy guy who wins battles and plays solid defense. He is 24 years old, so he will not need, nor likely be given, years to develop in Houston [on the farm team]. He led the #1 team in the country in scoring, and has a .76 point-per-game average coming out of college.”

Where Are They Now?

In the continuing series of updates on players who were members of the very first Storm team 10 years ago, the focus this month is on #25 Kyle Worner and #27 Corbin Schmidt.



**Corbin
Schmidt**

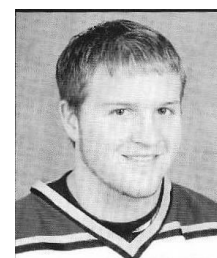
←2000

2008→



**Kyle
Worner**

2000→



Corbin Schmidt was born in Anchorage, Alaska. He spent one year here playing for the Tri-City Storm. During that season he set an individual season record with a five consecutive games goal streak. It has been matched by three players since then but not broken – yet.

From here Corbin went to the University of Alaska at Fairbanks where he played four seasons. Then he went back home to Anchorage and joined the Alaska Aces in the ECHL.

After four years, at the end of the 2008-09 season Corbin ended his professional hockey career. He went to Minnesota and last season was assistant coach for the South Washington County high school girls’ hockey team at Woodbury, MN. Recently he was hired by the Herb Brooks Training Center in Blaine, MN, to be the facility manager and Program Director for FHIT (Flexx Hockey Institute of Training) which operates the training center.

Kyle Worner has the distinction of being the Tri-City Storm’s very first draft pick in May 2000. Kyle is claimed by both Omaha and Sioux City since one parent lived in each city at the time he played here. He had played high school hockey in Sioux City and then put in one season with the American West Hockey League in Helena, Montana before coming here.

Kyle played for two seasons for the Tri-City Storm. At one point he had a 10 game point streak going. In January 2001 he scored a hat trick and had a record 7 points in that game. He was named Player of the week by the USHL. Kyle had 7 game winning goals during his two-year career here.

Kyle had taken some courses at UNK while he was playing here. A year after leaving the Storm he returned to Kearney for another two years at UNK. During this time he worked as an intern in the Storm office.

Did You Know

... that Fred Waghorne (1866-1956) refereed for over 50 years and officiated at 2,400 games in his career (all pre NHL-era). In 1900, he had a situation where a puck split in two and one half ended up in the goal, after much deliberation he ruled it as 'no goal' because the official definition of a puck included specific dimensions and since the piece of rubber in the goal did not meet these specifications, it could not be a puck. He therefore instituted the rule that the entire puck must cross the line for a goal to count.