

Rustin Hockey Club
General Membership Meeting
September 26, 2007

President: Kate Nelson

All members welcomed to the meeting.

- Nick Russo, our Hockey Director and Head Coach, was unable to attend this membership meeting due to a required coaches meeting being held by the ICSHL.
- Team Overview-We will have 5 teams instead of 6 this season. The main reason for this is because of the restructure of the middle school program. Middle school divisions are now evened off better. We will have a MS A American and a MS AA team this year. A hard copy of all rosters distributed and a power point presentation given at this time.
- Swing Rule-This will apply to the high school teams only. We have 16 Varsity, 11 JVA and 10 JVB players. This rule has been implemented by the ICSHL and will result in more playing time at a higher level for our players. With this rule, players are allowed unlimited play when swinging up. Each team is required to lock 10 players and a goalie. A player who is locked will not be allowed to swing down. Our rosters are small but will work with this swing rule. All 8th grade MS AA players will be allowed to play up, however they will not be allowed to play down on MS A. At the Middle School level, the MS A players will be allowed to play up but become locked on the MS AA roster with their 4th move up.
- Practice Ice Slots-Although we went down to 5 teams, we have not given up any our practice ice slots. These extra ice slots will help to improve our teams as they continue to develop. The current practice slots will be designated as such, but will always be subject to change:

Tuesday--	3:45 pm—MS AA and JVB
Wednesday--	3:45 pm—Varsity and JVA
Friday--	3:45 pm—MS A (unless needed by another Rustin team)
Saturday--	9:15 am—MS A
Sunday--	6:00 pm—Open to all teams
- School Support-We have a new Athletic Director, Chris Lunardi, at Rustin. Chris is very supportive of our club. We now have a trophy case at the school near the gym. You can now find our club linked from athletics on the Rustin High School website.
- Elementary Team update-We have a full roster of 18 players (17 skaters and 1 goalie). We have had to place a few players on another West Chester roster for this season.
- Team Photos-still need to be scheduled. Kate Nelson will follow up on this.
- Mentor Program-Our club did this last year. High School players will have the opportunity to mentor a Middle School team while the Middle School players will mentor the Elementary team. In having this program, there is crossover of players within the club which promotes unity of the players. Mentors will have the opportunity to demonstrate leadership and be a role model to the younger players. All mentors will be at least 2 grade levels above the team they are involved with and will be asked to be committed to the team that they will mentor. Attending practices will be an important role in this position.

- Raffle Winners-Last spring, our club held a raffle which began at the time of the banquet and registration. Over the summer the drawing was done with Rustin players picking the winning tickets while standing on the ice for summer clinic. The Grand Prize of two round trip airline tickets was donated by Frontier Airlines, courtesy of the Nau family. Our winner for this prize was the Stoup family. Second place went to the O'Grady family and they received a gift certificate to the Dilworthtown Inn. Third place went to the Frawley family who received a gift certificate to Waterloo Gardens. Congratulations to our winners and thank you to all who participated in this club event.
- Fundraising-After a general consensus from the general membership at a member meeting last spring and then with complete Rustin Hockey Club board approval, we will no longer fundraise as a club. It is clear that the families who participate in this financially are usually the same people giving. It has been decided that our club will seek outside funding through sponsorship.

At this time, as per our Rustin Hockey Club bylaws, a membership vote of approval was done for this season's Team Representatives. With the first motion by Chris Burke and second by Tom Nelson, all members present with unanimous approval.

The Team Reps will be as follows:

Varsity—Debbie Stoup

JVA—Peggy Preuhs

JVB—Ginny Knox

MS AA—Rick Clark

MS A—Kim Beebe

Many thanks go out to these volunteers! Your individual teams will be lucky to have you.

Vice President: Neil Kinch

- Sponsorship Program-A power point presentation was done at this time along with a handout of the specific sponsors that our club has received to date. We have received a substantial amount of money which will offset the fundraising needs. An example of a pamphlet that will be distributed by each team showing the sponsors, rosters and game schedules was shown at this time. Sponsors will also be linked from our website too. (www.rustin-ice.org) Sponsorship to our club will not be considered a donation for a tax write off but these individual companies can write the donation off as an advertising cost. The goal of our club is to get at least one sponsor per team. There is and will always be room for more sponsorship. Although we tried, no sponsor has been found for the Varsity helmets.
- Discipline Committee-As Vice President, Neil will be in charge of this committee. Members at large who will be available if this committee needs to meet are: Steve Christie and Debbie Cirilli. All disciplinary rules can be found at the end of our club bylaws. When this committee is required to meet, they will make suggestions for action which will be brought to the Rustin Hockey Club Board prior to final approval.
- Season Passes-Each pass will cost \$50 which will offer a significant savings from the cost of \$4 per game at the door. Passes will be valid for ALL ICSHL games. Checks can be made payable to the Rustin Hockey Club. An email will be sent by Karen to the club with this information ASAP. The ICSHL gave our club short notice with the passes and will have a deadline of October 5th.

Equipment Manager: Debbie Stoup

- The collection and redistribution of shells with the embroidered Rustin logo has gone well. We are about 95% done and the shells look great.
- Team Polo shirts-All players and coaches will receive a short sleeved polo shirt with our logo embroidered on them.
- Spiritwear-Examples of current spiritwear shown. An order form can be obtained from our website. Photos of spiritwear can also be viewed and will be updated soon.

Treasurer: Mike Giduck

- Remaining dues/payment schedule will be as follows:

Total dues are: High School -- \$1425

Middle School -- \$1225

Families with more than one player in the MS and/or HS to receive \$100 discount.

Middle School-\$725 remains in dues to be collected. You can pay in full by November 1 or divide into two payments with \$500 due by November 1 and \$225 due by December 15.

High School-\$925 remains in dues to be collected. You can pay in full by November 1 or divide in to two payments with \$500 due by November 1 and \$425 due by December 15.

- Financial update-the club has no outstanding bills at this time.
- 2007-2008 Budget-Power point presentation of the budget done at this time. The following is what the board and membership discussed upon presentation of the budget:

Our budget will consist of approx \$108,000. We would like to see a management reserve of 10% but with the lower number of players this year, we will have approximately 6-7%. This fund can certainly increase over time.

Coach fees-Each team will be given an operating budget for use by the discretion of the coach. Although other clubs are financially able to pay their coaches a salary, our club is not in that position at this time. Our club will however cover the cost of USA registrations, criminal checks and coaching certificate fees.

ILMSHL-Our Middle School teams are governed by Ice Line. All monies paid by our club to Ice Line include the cost of referees and scorekeepers. Non league games that are scheduled by our club will not be included in those costs.

ICSHL-Our High School teams are governed by the ICSHL, which has a different fee structure. Referees and scorekeepers are not included and must be paid when our team is the Home Team.

Our Middle School and High School dues are influenced by these differences in fee structures (as stated above).

Trainer/Nurse-this is a requirement of the school district-WCASD.

Holiday Tournament-We have budgeted for each team to participate.

Club revenue can be calculated by: #players X dues=revenue. This is difficult to do with the number of players changing prior to the season beginning. As a result, our deposits must be nonrefundable.

All players will receive the shell embroidery, new game socks and team polo shirt included in the cost of dues.

Banquet-We have budgeted for the cost of players and will offset the cost of families with ticket sales.

Secretary: Karen Young

- Paperwork-many thanks to the majority of members who have returned their paperwork. This paper work is required by the school district and USA Hockey.
- Adopt A Soldier program-Last year, each of our teams adopted a soldier and sent packages and cards to their soldier. A poll of the membership was done at this time to see if we would like to do this again. All members in favor. We will need to find new soldiers for this. Please contact Karen Young if you have a soldier in mind for your team or the club.
- Website-our Rustin Hockey Club is constantly being updated. Last year we had over 3700 hits to our website and so far this year we've had over 600 already. Many thanks to Peggy McCaughern for all of her time in updating the website so frequently.
- Game Schedules-The Varsity and JVA have complete game schedules. The MS AA, A and JVB can find the October schedule on the Ice Line website. Updates will be sent via email by Karen as schedules are completed. Team practice schedules will be finalized with the completion of all game schedules.
- Trophy Cases-We have a great trophy case at the Rustin High School and now have a bigger and better trophy case at Ice Line, which can be found to the left of the chalk boards. Each case now has a miniature version of our banner that hangs in the Main Arena (Rink 1). Please make note of our new sword that will be used to KNIGHT our players.

An additional note: The West Chester Girls Hockey Team is made up of girls from all three schools in the WCASD. Rustin only has 2 girls that play on this team. In the future we will need to form a Rustin girl's hockey team.

The meeting concluded after 1 hour at 8:00 pm.