

# WSHA NEWS



WEST SALEM HOCKEY ASSOCIATION [WWW.WESTSALEMHOCKEY.COM](http://WWW.WESTSALEMHOCKEY.COM)

August '07

## **Board of Directors Meeting Notice**

Monday, August 13, 2007  
West Salem American Legion  
6:00 pm

## **General Membership Meeting Notice**

Monday, August 13, 2007, 7:00 pm  
West Salem American Legion Hall

### **West Salem Hockey Association Board**

President:	Eric Hesselberg	786-2938
Pres. Elect:	Joe Belling	786-0637
Past Pres.:	Rich Berghefer	786-2926
Secretary:	Kelly Cottrell	786-4371
Treasurer:	Amy Molling	786-3087
League Rep:	Marv Lehmann	786-0286
Director:	John Caulum	786-3597
Director:	Mike Gorniak	786-0980
Director:	Kevin Bigley	786-2723
Director:	Jenny Greiner	786-1159

### **Meeting Agenda**

Unfortunately there were not enough members at the July meeting to have an agenda.

### **Just a friendly hello**

Hi everybody.  
Sorry for such a late newsletter!  
As luck would have it during a lightning storm my house was hit and my computer got fried! Isn't that how it goes?  
Anyway I hope everyone is doing well.  
School is only a couple short weeks away. Which in turn means Hockey season is right around the corner. (Does hockey season ever really end?)  
I took one of my kids to a hockey camp in North Dakota this summer; along with a few other ladies from our association. What an awesome experience we had. It was defiantly worth the drive to Grand Forks. I think all the boys learned a thing or two during that week!  
I've also heard a lot of kids in our association are involved in the La Crescent fall league. Hats off to all of you who make the time to attend the six week program. Our very own Joe Belling coaches in the La Crescent fall league. (I think Joe is Superman in disguise; just a thought.)

Well anyhow there isn't a whole lot to report this month but I'll get on with what I got!  
Thanks for reading,  
Kelly Cottrell

### **An unfortunate Accident**

For those of you who may not have heard there was an accident in a locker room during a camp, where a couple of kids were messing around and one of them was hurt real badly. A 1<sup>st</sup> year Bantam from Onalaska was the one who was injured. He was taken into the hospital where he was diagnosed with a skull fraction and had a subdural hematoma. He required surgery to relieve the pressure on the brain, and they put in a titanium plate and four screws. He was released from the hospital in St. Cloud, which is where he attended the goalie camp. What a terrible, terrible accident.

I'm sure we have all seen a little rowdiness in the locker rooms and as the saying goes "Its all fun till someone gets hurt."  
I hope you all talk to your kids and let that be a huge lesson. It could have been a kid from our association; Onalaska is very close to home. We all need to be aware of the realities of what could happen when things get out of hand, and are taken too far.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Bangor fun Days**

Don't forget about the Bangor fun days, Sunday August 12. We need kids to come and walk or rollerblade through the parade. We will start at Lincoln Street at 11:30. We are still in need for a volunteer to pull the float with their truck.

If you are interested in walking through the parade or would like any more info. Please contact Jody Priebe at 786-4884 or Renee Plunkett at 786-4466. (It would be an easy hour to put towards your hockey hours this up coming year.)  
Hope to see you there!

#### **The 12th annual Slapshot Open Golf Tournament**

Don't forget about the annual Golf tournament. It will be held August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Hollow Golf Course in the Town of Barre. There still 4-5 team openings left if you are interested in golfing with a team of four. It is \$50.00 per person. It will be lots of fun to end the summer. There will be raffles and

prizes and food and drinks. Get your name on the list before it's too late. If you would like to register a team please contact Chase Miller at 780-1505. If you have any items to donate for the raffle please call Kelly Sandvig at 786-4754. (You don't need to be a pro golfer to play in the tournament. It's all for fun and the support of our association). See ya all out on the course!

### **Hockey Registration 2007-2008**

Registration for the 2007-2008 West Salem Hockey Association is tentatively set for:

- Saturday, September 15th from 8:00am - 12:00pm at the West Salem Elementary School Multipurpose Room.
  - Wednesday, September 19th from 5:00pm - 8:00pm at the West Salem Lions Shelter
- Watch your Park and Rec flyer for more information. We hope to hold an equipment swap meet during the registration session on the 15<sup>th</sup>, so dust off that equipment, and figure out what you do and don't need, and join in the fun! Anyone that would like to help organize the swap please contact Eric via email at [wstool@centurytel.net](mailto:wstool@centurytel.net) or call him 786-1104 or 780-7969. Anyone that would like to donate any size of equipment please contact Jenny Greiner at 786-1159. Any usable equipment is very much appreciated and can be used for Termites and new players.

Anyone wishing to get their registration packet before registration please call or email registrar Kris Cvikota at 786-3489 or [kris@webteam.net](mailto:kris@webteam.net). Any registration questions please feel free to call West Salem Hockey President – Eric Hesselberg at 786-2938 or Registrar Kris Cvikota at 786-3489.

Pass the word and help our association grow!

### **COACHING**

We are still in need of a couple coaches. If it is possible please help out. Coaching is very important in keeping our kids on the ice. We wouldn't have a team if we didn't have a coach. Good coaching is so important to the development of our children. If you know the sport and are interested in helping the West Salem Hockey kids strive in improvement, please contact Marv Lehmann @ 786-0286.

### **Referee**

A great way to improve your understanding of the game is to become a referee. This is true from both player and parent stand point. This is also a great way for kids or adults to make some extra money in the winter time.

If you are interested in becoming a referee this year please go to the Whoa (Wisconsin Hockey Officials Association website to register.) You can find a link on the state website @ [www.wahahockey.com](http://www.wahahockey.com)

### **Outlook of the Month**

All right everybody as I wrote in my previous Newsletter about my outlook of the month; I had told you I was going to find out a little bit about some of the people through the year who really stand out and make a difference in our association. I think everybody should realize the hard work some people really put forth in helping things run smoothly for our hockey association, and in turn most importantly for our children.

In saying that; I really thought about it and wanted my first interview to be someone who really stands out and strives to help in so many ways.

With no doubt in my mind when I hear the name Joe Belling I think wow! What an awesome role model for our children and for every foot that walks in the door.

Everyone who has gotten to know Joe would know his love for the sport and for the kids is at a very high level.

I can personally say, I have great respect for the man, and when his wife Lisa and he approached me about running for secretary this year; there was no way I would of said no. Just talking to him for a minute makes you want to do more for the community around you.

Here is what I found out about Mr. Joe Belling not only the president elect but a former President in our association.

"Joe was born in Lacrosse, WI. He is a sales/Applications Engineer with Chart Energy & Chemicals in Lacrosse. He is married to Lisa Belling and has two sons- Noah and Nathan. I asked him how many years he had been involved in W.S.H.A. and he said, "Too many to count"; he started playing with West Salem Hockey at the squirt age.

I was also curious as to what turned him on to the sport, "My parents wanted my brother and I to be active in the winter time, so we gave hockey a try. We were immediately hooked and still are to this day. It's a tough, quick, team sport with lots of action, all using a specialized mode of transportation. Joe played hockey from squirt all through high school, then 3 years of college at UW-Platteville.

He also played a lot of the benchwarmer position in other sports, and then went pretty much exclusive hockey when he hit high school.

I asked him what some of the biggest changes he'd seen since he became a member of W.S.H.A.

“Growing up, we played outside with no roof and really not much of a warming house. Each generation of players and parents have added to the legacy of WSHA, first with the Lion’s Building, then a new outdoor rink, then a shelter, leading what we have now. I would say the most important change I’ve seen was the addition of refrigerated ice- it has made every difference for the kids providing them with consistent ice over a long period of time. I’ve also seen more members take a much more active role in the association.”

I asked him what being President-Elect of our WSHA meant to him. “Growing up as a player in WSHA then having spent a year as President in the past, and now being President-Elect again, I see this office as a very rewarding position within a group that has meant a lot in my life. My philosophy will always be that “this is not my association; it belongs to all of us equally”. That said, I see my major role as making decisions to guide the association in ways that stay in the best interest of the kids- after all that’s the reason we’re all here. I hope that members feel they can bring questions and concerns to me; I will listen with a fair and non-judgmental ear, and try to move forward to best benefit all the players”.

I asked him how he possibly keeps up with devoting so much time to our association, and still keeps up with his family life at the same time.

He said “Hockey is a big part of our lives, and being involved helps us to spend more time together, whether it be the road trips, practices, or just talking about it around the dinner table. That said, there are times when it seems to take over our lives- those are the days when you are forced to remind yourself (and sometimes others) that this is just a kids game and things can usually be worked through”.

I asked how big of a role his wife played in helping him keep it all together. “Pretty big; she’s the glue that really keeps our family together”.

I asked him if he sees any changes for the future of WSHA “I’m extremely proud of what our association has been able to accomplish over time while maintaining the lowest registration fees of any other association in our league. I do see another major project happening in the next year, and that is the addition of permanent locker rooms, and maybe some heaters for the stands. We’ll accomplish these feats again without jacking up our fees”.

Lastly I asked Joe as busy as a man as he is, if he found time for himself and if so what his hobbies were and what he did on his down time.

He said “I have too many hobbies and not enough time for all of them. In the summer I like playing with cars, camping, and doing triathlons. In the winter I enjoy coaching hockey and snowmobiling.

I’ve also been known to brew my own beer from time to time”!

Well there you have it! If you didn’t know much about Joe Belling I hope you all do now. (No I don’t think he sells his beer, or clones himself either, sorry!!)

#### **Raffle drawing winners for July:**

\$100.00 Austin Larson

\$50.00 Lori & John Hammes, NorvalGreenwold, Darren Edres, The Minnick Family , Tina Kussard, Becki Viner, Jim Gull, Brian Sanders, and Holly Deery.

\$20.00 Steve Antony, Glenda Donley, Ron Rothering, Brian Berg/Village Inn, Bob Koch, Mary Humfeld, Tim McGladden, Steve Vettore, Denise Nesheim, Kris Cvikota, Deb Pierce, Bryce Dejno, and Kari Kjornes.