



WHAM C DIVISION NEWSLETTER – FALL 2011

HELLO C DIVISION!

Allow me to introduce myself! My name is Gina Wright and I am your new C-VP. I was the former C1 Commissioner and I play for Billy's, so I know many of you in C1. I am however new to C2 and C3, and very much look forward to broadening my horizons and getting out to some of your games. I am eager to continue to develop the C division, the largest within WHAM! I am most focused on the following items which you will hear more about in the coming months:

- C3 Recruitment and development – partnership with established organizations focused on developing new players and allowing for a “feeder” process into WHAM, and the formation of more teams ready to play!
- C1 Division split – we currently have 22 teams and are asking you all to play 28 games to accommodate all. We have heard that is too much and I am working on a way to break up the division fairly and competitively for 2012-2013, more to come!
- Assessment process – in response to the Fall Meeting challenges, WHAM has assembled a group to review and evaluate our current process and identify opportunities to simplify and continue to support our goal of supporting our recreational hockey league.

Thank you very much for your support of the years in my role as Commissioner, I look forward to acting on your behalf as your C-VP.

Thanks!

Gina

STATS – STAT COORDINATORS

The “Instructions for Entering Stats” document on the website was updated on Oct. 24, 2011 and is correct. It can be found at: <http://www.whamhockey.org/page/show/101484-wham-rules-and-forms>.

Please be prompt in entering your team's stats **and sending your scoresheets** in to ensure the website is current and correct! **Starting 12/1/11**, we will be strictly enforcing the 7 day policy of getting those scoresheets to your stat cat (See WHAM Handbook for more details). If 7 day threshold is not withheld, **your team won't get any points for the game(s)**! Please be prompt so we can keep the workload fluid for your Stat Coordinators!

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

Reminder, occasionally the Board hears about disputes when a team member does not fulfill their financial obligation to the team. A player is not allowed to transfer to or join another team if she has any outstanding financial obligations to her previous team. To clearly delineate expectations teams have regarding payment of monies or, for example, disposition of jerseys. A few teams found it helpful to create a letter of understanding that all team members sign at the beginning of the season. **This is not a Board or league requirement**, but if



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your team wants to consider such an option, the Board has placed a “Team Letter of Understanding Template” on the Rules/Forms tab of the website that teams can use as a starting point for customizing their own letter. If you have tried to obtain owed funds or jerseys from a former player with reasonable means of contact, you can engage your commissioner PRIOR to registration so that she can communicate to the WHAM registrar and not allow that player to register for the following season until that previous obligation is met. This is the only recourse WHAM can offer in solving these issues.

GOALIES & SUB GOALIES

Goalies who have assessed as a skater at C1, for example, and also have assessed as a goalie at C1, they may roster for both positions on the **same** team and they need to do that if they intend to both goaltend and skate out. The team’s rostered goalie must play **as a goalie** in over half of the games for their team in order for the team to be eligible for post-season play.

www.whamhockey.org has a list of goalies who have expressed interest in subbing in the league. Any goalie is eligible to sub at the division at which they are approved for or higher. For example if a goalie is approved for C2 they may sub for any team C2 or higher in classification. Goalies are not allowed to sub for teams in divisions lower than what they are approved for.

If you wish to be added or removed from this list, please email leagueadmin@whamhockey.org. Please provide at least one contact phone number, your email address, and the team/division where you are rostered.

RESCHEDULING GAMES – PROCESS OVERVIEW

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANCELLING, FORFEITING OR RESCHEDULING WHAM GAMES

Season 2011 – 2012; Updated September 27, 2011

Every effort should be made for teams to adhere to the scheduled game times agreed upon at the WHAM Fall Scheduling Meeting; however, on rare occasions (e.g. weather) there may be a need to change, forfeit, or cancel a game. Once the master WHAM game schedule is finalized and sent to the referee scheduler (October 17, 2011), cancelling or rescheduling a game should be done as follows:

To Cancel or Re-Schedule an Upcoming Game:

1. First, contact the opposing team manager. Arrive at **consensus with the other team** regarding the date, time and location of the rescheduled game.
2. Contact the district referee scheduler, Pam Loftus, at kploftus@q.com to cancel the scheduled referees and also request that referees be scheduled for the new date. For each game cancelled **AND** rescheduled let Pam know:
 - a. WHAM division (e.g. B2, C1), team names, date, time, arena (including rink) and city.
 - b. Contact information (name, phone number and email) for the team requesting the change.
 - c. Request a reply so that you’re sure she received the email.



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3. **If the game is being forfeited**, the non-forfeiting (i.e. winning) team should email the WHAM League Administrator (leagueadmin@whamhockey.org) and notify her that the game is being forfeited. Copy the team managers of the forfeiting team and your division's commissioner in the email. Please let the WHAM League Administrator know the division (e.g. B2, C1), team names and date/time of game being forfeited.
4. **Rescheduled games**, notify the WHAM League Administrator (leagueadmin@whamhockey.org) so that the change can be made to the WHAM website's calendar.

Same-day Game Cancellations:

In addition to the above, on short notice to cancel referees for a game, notify Pam (try 651-778-9746 first, then 651-260-2606) or Kevin Loftus (651-261-6995) by phone. Send an email to Pam as well at kploftus@q.com; however, this email is her personal email account and she does not always get it in time for a same day cancellation. **Therefore**, you must call Pam or Kevin at the phone numbers listed here. This only applies to same day cancellations. Any other game changes or cancellations in advance of the game can be emailed per the above procedure. Please make sure that all team managers have these phone numbers handy in case they are needed.

Paying Officials: The home team is still responsible for paying officials for a cancelled game unless Pam receives and acknowledges receipt of a cancellation notice at least four (4) hours in advance of the game.

Rescheduling Fee: The fee for rescheduling games is \$75.00/game. This charge is half of what is charged by the district and other leagues that are scheduled by the D1 Scheduler. All \$75.00 fees must be paid BEFORE referees will be rescheduled. If weather is a factor and businesses/schools/activities are cancelled, there won't be a reschedule fee for a game that is cancelled and then rescheduled as long as four (4) hours notice is given. If it is snowing and the teams just decide they don't want to venture out, there will be a charge to reschedule the game. Pam will notify teams if a change fee is being charged and the \$75 fee must be paid **BEFORE** officials will be rescheduled. Please make check out to D1 Officials Association and send it to:

Pam Loftus
D1 Officials Association
327 Hazelwood St.
St. Paul, MN 55106

GENERAL REMINDERS

GAME PROTOCOL AND BEHAVIOR

Ladies, unfortunately there have already been complaints about foul language and overly aggressive play; in some cases, resulting in injuries. **PLEASE**, play fair and keep personal attacks and profanity out of the game. We are all adults, each one of us needs to police ourselves. This is a recreational league, meant to be a **STRESS RELIEVER!** There is no room for vicious play or retaliation which can often lead to injuries. If there are challenges during a game, I encourage managers to communicate with each other to resolve and work out. If that is not effective, **please utilize the grievance form posted on the WHAM website** and send to your commissioner to forward.



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REFEREE INTERACTION

WHAM, along with USA Hockey, and MN Hockey enforce a Zero Tolerance Policy whereby referees do not have to accept any form of abuse from Players, Coaches, Team Managers or fans. Teams will be held responsible for the actions of its Players, Coaches, Team Managers and fans if a situation occurs. Again, penalties and/or disciplinary action may be assessed by the Board. If there is a complaint concerning a referee or the quality of a game, write all comments on the score sheet. Complete the Officials Conduct Complaint Form (found on the WHAM website) and send it, along with a copy of the score sheet to the Organization's Referee Liaison and the respective Division Commissioner (contact information on the Organization's website). The winning team must still submit the white score sheet to the Stat Coordinator by the required deadline.

Conflicts of Interest: Referees must not officiate games within the same division in which they play (i.e., a B2 Player must not officiate B2 games) and/or officiate games involving family members. Board members are prohibited from refereeing State Tournament games. Referees please ensure you communicate your division to your assignment secretary to avoid this issue!

Also, any person on the Players' bench during an Organization-sanctioned game or practice **must be registered with USAH as a Player or Coach AND must be eighteen (18) years of age or older**. No one else is allowed in the bench area, including children or pets. This is a USAH Rule. If someone is injured on either team and there is a person on the bench or the ice who is not registered with USAH and therefore does not have USAH insurance, insurance for **EVERYONE** is invalid for that game or practice ice. Also, anyone who is doing timekeeping or scorekeeping must be age 18 or older. **Children are never permitted** in the bench area.

HOGAN HOCKEY INC. – CUT RESISTANT HOCKEY PRODUCTS

Hello WHAM Members!

We sell cut-resistant hockey products that will help prevent and reduce the risk of injuries caused by skate blade cuts. Our products are being worn from the pros on down to the grass roots level player. With all the cuts we hear about at the pro levels there are many more that we don't hear about at the grassroots level. We are sending you our info as we want more people to be aware that there are products available that will help protect against these types of injuries and be proactive rather than reactive. **We are offering a 25% discount off all our products to WHAM (use coupon discount code HH002)**. Some of the teams that have worn our product recently include the 2010 Stanley Cup Champs Chicago Blackhawks, 2010 Memorial Cup Champs Windsor Spitfires, 2011 Stanley Cup Champs Boston Bruins & Vancouver Canucks, 2011 NCAA Champs (UMD) University of Minnesota @ Duluth Bulldogs, Minnesota Wild.

We have product available to ship from our warehouse in Minnesota. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Randy Hogan / President Hogan Hockey Inc.
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(p) 1-877-698-7762