

# MWHA NEWS

01 DEC  
2023

## Presidents Corner

Now that the season is in full swing and teams are traversing the state for games, tourneys and scrimmages it would be a good time to talk ice! You may be wondering, "how does ice get assigned"...and depending on where you are at in the schedule you may also think "do they know what they are doing". At a high level we buy our ice from Pond-Thaler in July/August based on what we project for teams for the season. That ice is then assigned to individual teams once the tryout process is complete. As a member of D3 we work with/wait for them to complete game schedules before re-balancing the schedule and publishing it. We work to get teams a minimum of four touches a week, those touches could be a shared/solo practice, a game home or away, tournaments, the Whitehawk performance center, and Shirley Hills (weather permitting). Our scheduler works hard to make sure teams are well balanced and we don't have any major scheduling gaps.

We have a committee that is responsible to review the ice that consists of level coordinators (mites through bantams), our HOC director, our girls director and the president. We are currently on pace for all teams to fall +/- 1-2 hours to target by the end of the season. There are several review processes that happen and head coaches are also asked to provide input for their specific teams. If there is a take away here, its that the ice buying process is done well in advance and laid out in a thoughtful manner to ensure all teams have the right number of solo sessions, game opportunities, etc. As a developmental organization we strive to ensure that teams from A to C receive the sessions budgeted for them. If there are questions on the process, please dont hesitate to send them to the [president@westonkahockey.org](mailto:president@westonkahockey.org) inbox and I will do my best to answer. Keep the skates sharp, and the sticks down.

See you at the rink,  
CR Childers  
MWHA President

## CONNECT WITH US

[www.westonkahockey.org](http://www.westonkahockey.org)



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### *Raffle Time!*

We are excited to launch the MWHA/Warrior 7th Annual Raffle. The raffle is set for January 13, 2024. This is an EASY, effective, (and mandatory) way to raise money for the association! A BIG thank you to Northern Taphouse for sponsoring this year's raffle. Be sure to check the back of your tickets for a DEAL at this restaurant!



# WARRIOR GIRLS UPDATE

## November was a very busy month for the Warriors!

The 8U6U team were formed and Orono hosted the first Youth Day of the season.



U12B1 kicked off the tournament season with a 3rd place finish at the All American Girls Tournament in Blaine.



## Raffle Tickets!

MWHA raffle tickets have been handed out. If you do not have your tickets, please contact Tina O'Shea for pickup.

All Warriors travel teams competed in the Edina Cake Eater tournament over Thanksgiving Weekend.

## Some notable finishes:

15B - 1st Place Champs

12A - 4th Place

12B1 - 3rd Place

12B2 - 3rd Place



The Mound Westonka Warriors Co-op consists of the following members:

Tina O'Shea - MW Girl's Director

Doug Runke - Player Development Director

Shane Olsen

Casey Burns

**HOME OF THE ORONO-WESTONKA WARRIORS**

## Great Season Start for Squirt C!

Our Squirt C team started their season with two back to back tournaments and finished both in 3rd place!



## Youth Night at Varsity White Hawks Game!

Youth Night was a huge success! Our players packed the stands and were the loudest cheerleaders for the HS Boys White Hawks helping to cheer them to victory!



## GET TO KNOW OUR HOC DIRECTOR

**Todd Schmidt**

Do you have a skater: Yes, Loretta Schmidt (PWB2)

Why did you get involved: I got involved because hockey has always been a passion of mine. I enjoy working with kids and teaching them the game of hockey while providing positive mentorship. I played competitively for almost 20 years and have been coaching for 15 years. As much as I enjoy teaching and being a mentor, I enjoy how all of my kids have taught me patience, humility and a to be a better coach and person.

How long have you been involved with the BOD: I have been the Director of the HOC for 3 seasons.

What are a couple of things you are most proud of: I am proud relationships I've built with our student athletes and the positive changes we've made within the association, changes to our try-out process, building a strong HOC with a fabulous group of fathers who are dedicated to the advancement of our association. Looking back, I am most proud of the relationship I've made with my student athletes, some go back as far as 15 years.

# SAVE <sup>THE</sup> DATE

## Fire & Ice Event!

## January 13th at Back Channel Brewery



# MITE CORNER

## Mite Captains!

The Mound Westonka High School Hockey team has an amazing opportunity for up to five Mites as honorary Captains to represent the MWA Mite program at multiple home Varsity games throughout the season.

The Mite Captains are invited to join the Varsity players in the locker room before the game, carry the Westonka Hockey flag onto the ice and skate with the Varsity players before the game, each kid is announced over the arena as a Mite Captains and then together they line up to join the team for the National Anthem!

Talk to your Mite manager about your child's interest in being a Mite Captain! These spots fill up fast! Preference will be given to Mite 3's or graduating 3rd graders before they venture onto Squirts.

Huge thank you to the MWHS Hockey Boosters for making this opportunity happen for our Mites.



**Learn More Here:**

