

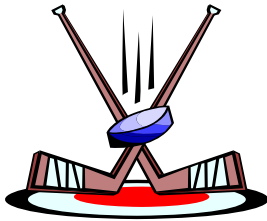


# NBAHA

Newsletter of the North Branch Area Hockey Association – January 2008

## Dates to Remember

- 1/30: Arena Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.  
@ North Branch Library Community Room
- 2/2: Learn to Skate, 9-11:30 a.m.
- 2/2: Youth Hockey Night, 8 p.m.
- 2/9: Learn to Skate, 9-11:30 a.m.
- 2/9: Chili Cook-off Contest, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 2/14: Library Community Room available for Arena or Other Committee meeting, 7 pm
- 2/15: Spaghetti Dinner, 5-8 p.m.
- 2/24: District Tournament commitment (need volunteers to fulfill NBAHA commitment)
- 2/27: NBAHA Membership Meeting 7pm/Board Meeting 8pm  
@ North Branch Library Community Room



## Arena Update

Grant writing – Kelly Lambrecht is leading this effort. Several association members have stepped forward to help with research, filling out grant forms, and gathering information.

City of Stacy – The Stacy City Council has passed a resolution stating that they will enter into a long-term lease with NBAHA for the arena.

Architect/engineering selection process – The arena committee is currently pursuing firms to consult on the architect/engineering of the arena.

Contractors – Steve Randal of Graphic Homes has offered to be the general contractor at no cost as his contribution to the project. He will seek competitive quotes and in-kind contributions for all aspects of the construction.

Financing – Now that the land lease agreement is in place with the City of Stacy, the financing group can be formed.

## Youth Hockey Night

The North Branch High School boys' hockey program has declared a North Branch Vikings Youth Hockey Night on Saturday, February 2nd at 8 p.m. for their game against Moose Lake at Chisago Lakes Arena.

Free admission for all NBAHA youth hockey players wearing their hockey jersey to the game!

## Letter's of Support from Skater's needed!

The Arena Capital Committee is pursuing grants to help cover the cost of building an arena. One of the items we have found is needed in the grant application process is letters of support from our skaters. It is very important for the grant makers to hear from the kids themselves why being in hockey is important to them and how building an arena in our area will help change their lives.

We need letters of support from skaters at all levels of play. They can be handwritten. Pictures for the younger Mites are welcome as well. Talk to your skaters as they work on their letters and have them keep in mind some of the reasons they are involved in hockey and the benefits they receive from being involved. We have been told that saying that we need more ice hours or that we need a rink closer to home won't earn us grant dollars. Instead, we really need the kids to think about how this can change their lives and what the benefits of having an arena in our area will be.

We will be collecting letters of support at the Spaghetti Dinner in February. You can also give them to one of the following Arena Capital Committee members at a practice or game: Kelly Hambrecht, Lisa Isaacson, Kelly Byrkit, Tamara Hink, Kristi White or Mark Shepherd. Or, mail them to:  
NBAHA  
Attention: Arena Capital Committee  
PO 541  
North Branch, MN 55056.

## Chuck-a-Puck at Boys High School games

NBAHA will be conducting Chuck-A-Puck at the North Branch Boys Varsity hockey home games at the Chisago Lakes Arena. Proceeds from Chuck-A-Puck will be split between the association and the High School. We have been asked again this year to run the clock, penalty box, announce, and keep the books for the home games.

This will be used as a team fundraiser and our ½ of the Chuck-a-Puck proceeds and the payment from the high school for helping at the game will go into a team's account. The following teams have agreed to cover the games below.

Day	Date	Time	Team in Charge
Saturday	1/26/08	8:00 PM	D Mite
Thursday	1/31/08	7:00 PM	A Mite
Saturday	2/2/08	8:00 PM	C Mite
Saturday	2/9/08	12:00 PM	B Mite
Tuesday	2/14/08	5:00 PM	C Mite

Please contact Lisa Isaacson at 612-807-4609 or [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com) if you have any questions.



### Chili Cook-off Contest Volunteers Needed!

Part of the North Branch Area Chamber of Commerce Winter Fest celebration includes a Chili cook-off. NBAHA has entered this contest for several years and have secured an entry again this year. The event is February 9 from 11 am to 2 pm at Central Park. We need volunteers to setup starting at 10:30 and serve chili from 11 to 2 pm. Each adult or traveling skater that helps will receive 1 service credit for each 2 hours worked. Contact Lisa Isaacson at 612-807-4609 or [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com) to volunteer.

### 3rd Installments Due January 31st

The 3<sup>rd</sup> installments/ice bills for all players will be due on January 31. Statements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> installment are in the mail.

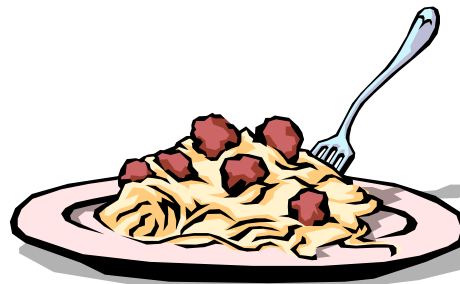
## Spaghetti Dinner – February 15

### Team Craft & Bake Sale

NBAHA will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser with a bake and craft sale on February 15 from 5:00-8:00 at the American Legion in North Branch. 5 and under free, 12 and under \$3, Adults \$5, Family Meal Deal (Families of 5 or more \$20). All proceeds from the Spaghetti Dinner will go to the Arena Fund.

The bake and craft sale is an opportunity for teams to raise money to offset expenses. Each team is encouraged to bring baked goods and/or other craft items to sell at the dinner. Proceeds from the bake sale go directly to that team. Items at the bake sale need to be labeled with your team (i.e. B Mite, B1 Pee Wee, etc) and priced.

In an effort to make the Spaghetti Dinner a success, and profitable for the association, we are soliciting donations from businesses for items such as sauce, meatballs, noodles, plates, etc. Each adult or traveling skater who volunteers to help will receive 1 service credit per 2 hour shift worked. If you or anyone you know is willing to make a donation, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Jen Fairbanks at 651-674-0813 or [fundraising@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:fundraising@northbranchhockey.com).



### S.K.A.T.E.

The S.K.A.T.E. program recognizes hockey players for their academic achievements. To qualify, players must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average (or equivalent) through the playing season and a copy of their report card will be required. Players will receive a certificate and a small gift for qualifying in the S.K.A.T.E. program. (<http://www.skatetoachieve.com>)

Lena Shephard is organizing the program for us this year. She will provide information to the team managers soon. Questions can be directed to Lena at (651) 674-0635 or (651) 208-6423 or [lshepherd7@hotmail.com](mailto:lshepherd7@hotmail.com).

## Nominating Committee

Now that our season is well underway, we are looking ahead to next year's board positions that will be voted on at the annual membership meeting in March. For the 2008-09 season, there will be two officer positions, President and secretary, up for election. All director positions are up for election each year. The director positions include: coaching, ice director, building and maintenance, registrar, fundraising, publicity and mite director.

The nominating committee (Lynda Chilstrom, Tim Cashill, Jen Fairbanks and Craig Moline) will be searching for interested and dedicated association members that are willing to fill these positions and do the work necessary to keep the association moving forward. If you or someone you know is interested in running for a board or officer position, please contact Lynda Chilstrom at [secretary@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:secretary@northbranchhockey.com) or call her at 651-674-4693.



## District 10 Tournament Volunteers Needed

NBAHA will be in charge of running one rink at Anoka Arena during the District 10 Tournament on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. We will need a total of 10 people to work from approximately 7:30 am to 8:30 pm. The day will be split into a morning and afternoon shifts with 5 people working each shift. We will be in charge of announcing, keeping scorebook, running clock and penalty box.

If you are still in need of service hours for this season, this will be a good way to fulfill them. 3 service credits will be awarded to each adult volunteer for each shift worked. If you already have your service credits completed, but are able to help that would be very much appreciated. This is a commitment that we as an association must fulfill.

Contact Jeff Henderson at [president@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:president@northbranchhockey.com) or 651-674-2440 to volunteer.

## Winter Learn to Skate



NBAHA is currently running the winter Learn to Skate sessions at the outdoor hockey rink south of the high school.

The remaining lessons will be held Saturdays, January 26<sup>th</sup>, and February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. We are running 2 sessions each Saturday, 9:00 – 10:00 am and 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

Thank you to the volunteers who have been helping with the session. Coaches and traveling team hockey players are needed to assist with the sessions. Volunteers must wear skates and a helmet when on the ice. We also need 2 adult volunteers for each session to help with checking in skaters and answering questions and helping with refreshments. Each volunteer will receive 2 service credits for each day they help.

Contact Lisa Isaacson at 612-807-4609 or [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com) to volunteer.

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## Donating Through United Way Charitable Giving

If your employer participates in the United Way charitable giving program, you can designate the funds you donate to NBAHA. You simply need to supply the organization's name, and mailing address, which is NBAHA, PO Box 541, North Branch, MN 55056.

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## Board Needs Feedback on St. Francis/North Branch Co-op

The board is seeking feedback from skaters and families that were a part of the St. Francis Co-op. Over the next few months, the board will make a decision on whether to continue to co-op with St. Francis for another year, look into another association for a potential co-op opportunity, or to not co-op at all. Please provide feedback about your experience this year. The board wants to make the best decision for the association as a whole, and can only do this if you provide information about your experience. You can contact a board member at one of the numbers listed on the back flap of the newsletter or by e-mailing [board@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:board@northbranchhockey.com).

## Team Reporters

Team reporters and photographers are needed to record the excitement of the hockey season! Reporters and photographers are needed for the North Branch Mite teams as well as the SFNB traveling teams. If you are interested in writing articles or taking pictures for your team, please contact Lisa Isaacson at 612-807-469 or at [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com).



## Mite Corner

### A Mites

Watching the A Mites this season has reminded all of the parents why we play sports, because they are FUN! The kids have had a great season so far. It's not easy to measure how much our kids improved, but we did improve dramatically. Congratulations to our kids for having so much fun while improving and special thanks to the parents who all did a fantastic job supporting the kids and the coaches.

### B Mites

It's amazing how these little hockey players have improved over a one year time period. They went from just being able to stay on their skates and struggling to get on and off the ice last year to this year...stickhandling, passing and doing a great job getting back on sides when needed to. We have a few new first year skaters that have also done great.

Our team has faired excellent against other Class A associations and have surprised many big school teams that consisted mostly of 2nd and 3rd graders. It's really something to see when our front line goes for a face off and they are all a head shorter than their opponents. Pretty amazing results for first graders and one kindergartener!

One of the reasons for the improvement has been off-season hockey with our team playing in the spring and some playing a level up in the fall on another North Branch team. It was very exciting to see 3 to 4 other North Branch teams join on for the fall league. Hopefully we will have even more teams this off season.

Spring League – [www.showcasehockey.com](http://www.showcasehockey.com)

Hockey Camps – [www.letsplayhockey.com/camps.html](http://www.letsplayhockey.com/camps.html)

Thank you coaches, Chris, Don, Jess and Rob for the wonderful job you have done with the team!

### C Mites

The C Mites have been working very hard this season. They have learned how to change lines on the fly and are learning more rules of the hockey game. They are gearing up for their final games and will be participating in the Mora C Mite Jamboree and a Sauk Rapids Mite Jamboree in February and March. Good luck at the Jamborees!! Thanks also to the tremendous coaches who did a great job with the skaters.

### D Mites

North Branch and St. Francis combined to make a D Mite team this year. The kids have worked together very well and have had an awesome season! The team has been very competitive with the other associations we've played so far. The boys are looking forward to the remaining games and to the Sauk Rapids tournament in the beginning of March.

## Mite Questions

Any Mite level questions can be directed to the Mite Director, Craig Moline at 651-248-6302.



## U12 Team Update

The St. Francis/North Branch U12 Girls are having a good season. They have come a long way! We have a deep bench with 17 players and it sure comes in handy when we have a few missing from games. We are proud of our girls, they play good aggressive hockey and protect their goalie well. Nobody was sure how the team would come together with the merging of associations, but I can tell you first hand, we are united! The girls have done so well getting along with one another and making sure that nobody is left out. I for one am very proud of how our girls portray themselves on and off the ice.

## SFNB B1 Pee wee Team Update

The B1 Pee wee team is a co-op team made up of 7 North Branch skaters and 8 St. Francis skaters. The coaches are Jim Patten, Mike Zentner, Joel Chilstrom and Chris Salitros. The highlight of the season so far is placing 2nd at the Rum River Tournament in Cambridge early in the season. The team also participated in a tournament in Duluth in early January and will participate in a final tournament in early February in Chisago. Currently our district record is 2-11, with 3 games left to play. The team has worked hard together and have had fun getting to know each other (so have the parents).



## SFNB B1 Bantam Team Update

This year's team has a lot of talent and each of the players has the ability to make great contributions to the game. We have 16 players, 2 goalies and 14 skaters, 10 NB and 6 SF players.

Many of them were also on the fall league team together which won the year end tournament for the Showcase Super B division.

The players have had a lot of fun so far and while they had a bit of a rocky start to the season, (1-5-1), they are battling back in an effort to make a strong finish. Their current league record is 5-7-2, with an overall record including tournaments of 14-11-2.

They are participating in five tournaments this year. We have already been in four of the five which were Duluth, Inver Grove Heights, Bemidji and Two Harbors. They won the championship in both the Inver Grove and Two Harbors tournaments against good teams. Inver Grove was against the home town team of Inver Grove and Two Harbors was against the team from Hopkins. Our last tournament will be in La Crescent the second week of February

They have had the opportunity to see many teams this year that they wouldn't normally get to play. One of the teams at the Bemidji tournament was from Winnipeg. Winnipeg has a custom of exchanging gifts with the opposing team when they come to the USA. They gave each of our players and the two coaches on the bench a "Winnipeg" lapel pin. Our players gave each player on the Winnipeg team a very nice "USA/Canada" puck which Todd Miska created. (they looked great!)

We are looking forward to seeing these players continue in the game of hockey.



## NBAHA Charitable Gambling Locations

Below is a list of our charitable gambling locations. Please take the time to support the businesses that support our association.

### **Border Bar & Grill**

367 Bench Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084  
(651) 465-1011

### **JJ's Bowl and Lounge**

6427 Ash Street, North Branch, MN 55056  
(651) 674-8371

### **Pizza Pub**

6407 Main Street, North Branch, MN 55056  
(651) 674-1777

### **Tortilla's**

13229 Saint Croix Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045  
(651) 257-8770

### **Wild River Bar & Grill**

37505 Fire Lane, Almelund, MN 55002  
(651) 583-3346



# RAFFLE



## North Branch Rotary Fundraiser Great Opportunity for Family or Business Gatherings

1 Wild Suite & 16 Tickets including \$1,000<sup>.00</sup> in  
Catering

March 30, 2008  
Colorado Avalanche Game

Drawing is March 21, 2008  
**120 Tickets at \$50.00 Per Ticket**

Call for Ticket Information  
Jack Juve 651-334-6076  
Jim Jorgenson 612-801-3068  
North Branch Rotary Fundraiser

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Fax To: (651) 674-8632

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

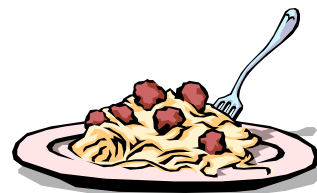
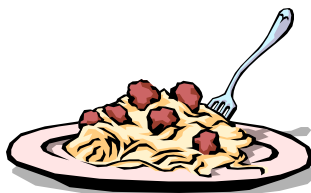
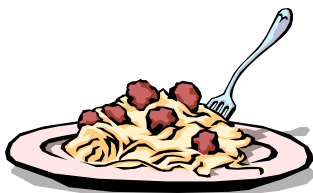
# North Branch Area Hockey Association

## SPAGHETTI DINNER Craft and Bake Sale

Friday, February 15, 2007  
American Legion in North Branch  
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (or until gone)

5 and under free  
\$3 Kids 12 & Under  
\$5 Adults  
\$20.00 Family Meal Deal (Families of 5 or more)

Dinner proceeds benefit the NBAHA Multi-Purpose Arena Fund. Bake sale proceeds benefit individual NBAHA teams to offset tournament fees and/or other team expenses.



## Team Fundraiser

Your team can bring baked goods or craft items to sell at the spaghetti dinner. All items need to have a label with your team name. Please price your item. Items can be dropped off at the Legion between 4-5pm on Friday, February 15 or contact Jen Fairbanks and you can drop them off with her.

Your team will receive proceeds from the bake sale to be used for purposes benefiting the entire team (i.e. end of year party, tournament costs, etc.)

Please contact Jen Fairbanks 651-674-0813 if you'd like to participate or have questions. **MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED TO HELP IN ORDER TO MAKE THE DINNER A SUCCESS!**

Association Contact Information				
NBAHA	PO 541, North Branch	MN 55056	651-674-4152	www.northbranchhockey.com
Gambling Manager	Kris Dennis		651-274-0870	gamblingmanager@northbranchhockey.com
NBAHA Board Members				
President	Jeff Henderson		651-674-2440	president@northbranchhockey.com
Vice President	Tim Cashill		651-408-1055	vicepresident@northbranchhockey.com
Treasurer	Paige Lee		651-674-6298	treasurer@northbranchhockey.com
Secretary	Lynda Chilstrom		651-674-4693	secretary@northbranchhockey.com
Building & Maintenance	Don Osland		651-237-0635	buildingandmaintenance@northbranchhockey.com
Coaching Director	Ben Fairbanks		651-674-5958	coaching@northbranchhockey.com
Fundraising	Jen Fairbanks		651-674-0813	fundraising@northbranchhockey.com
Ice Director	Tom Garin		651-277-0160	icedirector@northbranchhockey.com
Publicity	Lisa Isaacson		612-807-4609	publicity@northbranchhockey.com
Registrar	Kristi White		651-674-1854	registrar@northbranchhockey.com
Mite Director	Craig Moline		651-248-6302	mitedirector@northbranchhockey.com

**Learn to Skate - 2/2, 2/9**  
Volunteers needed for this event!!!!

**Youth Hockey Night - 2/2**

**Chili Cook-off - 2/9**  
Volunteers needed for this event!!!!

**Spaghetti Dinner - 2/15**  
Volunteers needed for this event!!!!

**District Tournament - 2/24**  
Volunteers needed for this event!!!!

**North Branch Area Hockey Association**  
**PO 541**  
**North Branch, MN 55056**