

The History of Juneau Douglas High School Hockey



**Prepared
By
Tom Rutecki and Tom Mayer
February 28, 2010**

High School Hockey in Juneau

How it Started

High school hockey in Juneau grew out of the persistence and hard work of individuals who had a dream of a competitive high school program. Five years later, the program is established and continues to grow.

It all started with what seemed like a simple request. In November, 2004, Tom Rutecki requested authorization from the Juneau Douglas Ice Association (JDIA) board of directors to petition Juneau Douglas High School (JDHS) to sanction a high school hockey team. Rutecki's rationale for forming a high school team was that it would serve as a comp team for JDIA. There were just not enough players to form a comp team for any one age group but there were enough high school-age players to make up one team.

Initially, the JDIA board did not endorse the concept of a high school team. There was concern over an inability to be competitive and for the safety of the players. Some labeled the idea of a high school team as preposterous. However, Lance Miller and John Krehlik became supporters of the idea of a JDHS hockey team and helped convince the JDIA board to support the formation of the team. By January, 2005, JDIA approved the request to form a high school hockey team, which would be funded by an outside booster club. Tom Rutecki, Lance Miller, and John Krehlik then formed an ad hoc High School Hockey Committee of JDIA.

During February and March of 2005 the ad hoc High School Hockey Committee attempted to meet with the JDHS Athletic Director (AD) and the Principal about establishing a hockey team for the 2005-2006 school year. The AD said her schedule would not allow for a meeting until April. With the high school offering no guidance on how to develop a program, the ad hoc committee continued to push for the hockey program. (See Appendix for more information)

Through research, the committee found out that the JDHS AD would be sending a list of 2005-06 activities to the Juneau School District in April. If hockey was going to be included on the list and recognized as a team for the 2005-2006 school year, the committee had to act fast. Ultimately, the committee met with Sandi Wagner, JDHS AD and Interim Principal Norman in an effort to seek their endorsement for the program.

In April, 2005, when Lance Miller was elected as President of the JDIA replacing Ken Collison, he initiated a petition drive that was signed by 460 Juneau residents showing support for a JDHS hockey program for the 2005-2006 school year. While the petition drive was under way, the ad hoc committee completed the development of a plan of operations as requested by the school district administration. (See Appendix for more information)

Despite overwhelming public support for the hockey team, the JDHS administration hockey program request was denied at the May 17, 2005 school board meeting. On May 19, 2005 the School Board President, Bill Peters notified Lance Miller

that the school district administration's decision not to endorse the hockey team could be appealed directly to the school district's superintendent (See Appendix for more information)

In response, Miller, Rutecki, and Krehlik submitted the following letter to the JSD superintendent on June 1, 2005:

June 1, 2005

Reasons the principal or the designee's decision should be modified or reversed:

Having only received a verbal "no" on our request of April 20th for a JDHS hockey team we cannot respond to specific concerns of the district, therefore these comments reflect what we believe are important issues for a 2005-06 start.

High School Hockey committee- JDIA

- 1) There will be a cohort of seniors who will only have one more year of opportunity to play high school hockey.*
- 2) High School hockey is an opportunity to integrate athletics and academics, which will not be possible if it is only a club sport.*
- 3) A large group of underclassmen will get another year of experience.*
- 4) For at risk students having a hockey team may help to keep them in school and create a sense of community.*
- 5) A petition asking interest in a JDHS hockey team was overwhelmingly supported by the community.*
- 6) There is momentum from the club and the community to see this program initiated now and will accelerate the development of the program. .*

Relief Sought:

We would like to have approval for a JDHS Hockey team for the 2005-06 school year.

In order to begin fundraising and initiation of administrative details we would like an answer by June 10th.

On June 9, 2005, Rutecki, Miller, and Krehlik met with Assistant Superintendent Bernie Sorensen and the Director of Student Services to ask the Superintendent to support the request for a JDHS hockey team and reverse the JDHS administrations denial. At the meeting, Ms. Sorensen who was acting for Superintendent Cowen approved JDIA's request to establish a JDHS hockey team for the 2005-2006 season. (See Appendix for more information)

Obtaining approval for the hockey program was just the first step to achieving the goal of having the team on the ice. Funds needed to be raised, ice time obtained, a coach had to be hired, equipment and uniforms procured, and a game schedule developed. Once again, the ad hoc High School Hockey committee stepped up and helped form the Blue Line club as the High School hockey program's booster club. The JDHS hockey/Blue Line Club was formed as a sub-committee of JDIA. (See Appendix for more information)

The Blue Line Club

The Blue Line Club (BLC) evolved from a small group of parents with potential JDHS hockey players that met at John Krehlik's home during the summer and early fall of 2005. The group included: John Krehlik, Marie Carlson, Fay Good, Joyce Vick, Lance Miller, Tom Rutecki, Carol Gamez, and Tom Ainsworth. There was a lot to do in a very short time.

First and foremost was developing a budget which Joyce Vick quickly agreed to do. At this point, it was unknown if games could even be scheduled as the High School hockey schedule is usually planned in February of each year. With the team having to front the cost of bringing teams to town, the group was hoping that the gate receipts from the games would help offset the cost of bringing the teams to Juneau. The group was also uncertain if ice time would be available at Treadwell Arena on Friday and Saturday evenings.

The BLC went straight to work and as a result of diligent planning, a lot of effort and the support of hockey fans throughout Juneau the first JDHS Crimson Bears hockey team hit the ice in December 2005 to face the Tri-Valley Viking Warriors in the first ever high school hockey game played at Treadwell Arena. The community support was overwhelming as the rink was packed with hundreds of avid hockey fans of all ages including many future Crimson Bear hockey players.

The First Team

<u>Freshmen</u>	<u>Sophomore</u>	<u>Juniors</u>	<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Coaching Staff</u>
Nolin Ainsworth	Colton Good	Nathan Hickok	Zach Krehlik	Steve Foster, Head Coach
Nick Waldo	Evan Wood	TJ Preston	Riley Hall	Luke Adams, Assistant Coach
John Carlson	Kacy Carlson	Trevor Lyden	Dane Harlamert	Andy Bullick, Assistant Coach
Josh Mayer	Andrew Ainsworth	James Gamez		Tom Rutecki, Assistant Coach
Sydney Perez	Brian Evans			
Chris Klawonn	Lars Hubbard			
Albert Svensson	Kelsey Preston			

Public Funds for JDHS Hockey

From 2005 to 2008 the JDHS hockey program was considered an outsourced sport; the hockey program received no public money for its operations. Outsourced sports are funded by non-profit organizations and an untold numbers of parents and many other volunteers. In support of that effort, the JDIA and the BLC conducted dozens of fund raisers from car washes to bake sales and everything in between in addition to game receipts and countless hours of volunteer time in an effort to fund the program.

Historically the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) had contributed \$185,000 to high school activities and athletics. The funding from the CBJ allowed the school district to cover the cost of the activities director, office staff, supplies, substitutes, insurance, and

also contributed to some of the coaches' and advisors' stipends. In addition, the funding provided by the CBJ assisted with travel costs for events taking place in Southeast for district funded (in-sourced) teams. The in-sourced sports were the original JDHS sports programs and included basketball, swim/dive, track, cross country, wrestling and volleyball. The outsourced sports were established after the in-sourced sports and included: football, soccer, baseball, softball, and hockey.

During 2007 a group was appointed by the mayor and school board to review the costs and revenues of for all high school sports as the new High School, Thunder Mountain was due to open in the fall of 2007.

The group appointed by the mayor and the school board was given the name "TEAM" which stood for "Together Exploring Activities Money". The TEAM received a report from an accountant that indicated the cost of high school sports in Juneau was about \$1.8 million annually. With the new sports programs expected at Thunder Mountain High, the report estimated that a full range of high school activity programs would cost approximately \$2.2 million on an annual basis.

In an effort to reduce the cost of activities to families and the community, TEAM recommended the district pay for half of the activities expenses and that the remainder should be divided between CBJ and the community. TEAM further recommended increases of \$365,000 from CBJ and \$775,000 from the school district. Ultimately, the CBJ Assembly added \$165,000 for 2008 and an additional \$200,000 for 2009. The school board approved \$365,000 more in 2008.

With an increase in funding for activities, the Juneau School District formed the Activities Advisory Committee (ACC) in June, 2008 to help determine what the priority allocations for the additional funding would be. As a result of many lengthy meetings and public hearings over the summer, the superintendent approved the recommendations of the ACC. Recommendations from the AAC included the elimination of student activity fees, establishing scholarships, paying for travel and per diem to state championship games. In addition, to bringing the "outsourced" teams "in" as district sponsored teams brought additional benefits to the program including the provision of insurance, coaching and officiating fees, and assistance for league travel.

When the ACC developed the original budget for activities, the hockey program was allocated about \$16,500 to help pay for ice time at Treadwell Arena for practices and games. Other activities benefited from the hockey program, as Assistant Coach and AAC member Tom Rutecki told the committee the CBJ had recently agreed to pay for ice time thus freeing up the hockey allocation for other activities.

Free Ice For JDHS Hockey

Back in 2005 while the team still had not been approved, Tom Rutecki spoke with the CBJ Director of Parks and Recreation to request free ice time for the team if it were approved by the school administration. Tom presented his case and argued that hockey should not have to pay to use a CBJ venue because no other JDHS team had to pay to use a city owned facility. The request was denied.

In 2007, after the team had been established for a couple of years, on behalf of the BLC, Tom Rutecki and Lance Miller petitioned the City for free ice time as no other JDHS team had to pay to use a city owned venue. The BLC presented its' request to the CBJ Assembly and they agreed to provide free ice to the JDHS hockey program for the 2007-2008 season and would consider sustained annual funding after one year. In the end, the CBJ provided \$16,700 worth of free ice time for practices, open gyms, and official games to the Crimson Bears hockey team during FY08. (See Appendix for more information)

With multiple city budget cuts coming, the BLC went to work yet again as Beth Chapman, Tom Mayer, and Tom Rutecki were back in assembly chambers for the Assembly Finance Committee meeting on May 10, 2008 to request continued free ice time. During the meeting, Assistant City Manager Kim Kiefer noted that with the cost of ice increasing, the dollar amount would need to be increased to ensure the team received the same number of hours on the ice.

During testimony at the meeting, Assembly members, Johan Dybdahl, Randy Wanamaker, Jeff Bush, and Merrill Sanford asked Assistant Coach Rutecki if the team had an adequate number of hours to be a competitive High School hockey team, and if not, they would increase the number of hours. Rutecki responded that if we receive the same number of hours that we did during the 2008 season, the teams need would be met. With another successful meeting with the Assembly complete, the BLC once again left assembly chambers with free ice on an annual basis from the CBJ.

Where we are and where we're going.....

Led by third year Head Coach Dave McKenna, the Crimson Bears hockey squad just completed its fifth season. Under Coach McKenna's guidance and leadership, the program joined the Mid-Alaska Conference in 2008, is playing more competitive teams, reached the conference playoffs in both the 2008-09 and 2009-10 seasons, and added a JV squad in 2008. The JV team played their first set of games while playing host to Monroe in December and traveling to Su Valley in January.

Assistant Coaches Tom Rutecki and Luke Adams have been with the program through the first five seasons and have provided the team with their years of hockey wisdom as well as the occasional wisecrack to help keep the program where it needs to be, competitive, educational, and fun. Assistant Coach Matt Boline joined the team in 2008 and brings his high energy and positive attitude to the program.

Looking towards the future, the Blue Line Club and its many volunteers continue to work hard to support the program. With the continued support of the school district, parents, coaches, Treadwell arena staff, and the avid Juneau hockey community, the team will continue to grow stronger and more competitive.

Get ready Juneau.....There's many years of great High School hockey to come.

JDHS Crimson Bear Hockey Statistics

	Wins	Loses	Ties	Goal	Assists	Total Points	PIM	Shots	Saves	Goals Against	Save %
2005-06	2	8	0	34	27	61	?	372	295	77	79.30%
2006-07	12	10	0	104	97	201	289	596	501	95	84.06%
2007-08	12	9	1	78	83	161	182	563	504	58	89.52%
2008-09	14	8	0	94	108	202	330	559	492	67	88.01%
2009-10	10	10	0	85	105	188	260	784	702	83	89.54%
Totals	50	45	1	395	420	813	1061	2874	2494	380	86.78%

Coaching Staff

2006-07

Steve Foster, Head Coach
 Luke Adams, Assistant Coach
 Andy Bullick, Assistant Coach
 Tom Rutecki, Assistant Coach

2007-08

Dave McKenna, Head Coach
 Luke Adams, Assistant Coach
 Andy Bullick, Assistant Coach
 Tom Rutecki, Assistant Coach

2008-09

Dave McKenna, Head Coach
 Luke Adams, Assistant Coach
 Matt Boline, Assistant Coach
 Tom Rutecki, Assistant Coach

2009-10

Dave McKenna, Head Coach
 Luke Adams, Assistant Coach
 Matt Boline, Assistant Coach
 Tom Rutecki, Assistant Coach

Roster by Year

2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-2010	
Nolin Ainsworth	Soph	Nolin Ainsworth	Junior	Nolin Ainsworth, Capt	Senior	Tod Baseden	Freshman
Colton Good	Junior	Colton Good	Senior	Jake Eames	Junior	Matthew Whistler	Junior
Jake Eames	Freshman	Jake Eames	Soph	John Kenyon	Junior	Dillon Tomaro	Freshman
Evan Wood	Junior	Evan Wood	Senior	Cole Carnahan	Soph	Ben Peyton	Junior
Nathan Hickok	Senior	Cole Carnahan	Freshman	Trever Held	Soph	John Kenyon	Senior
Nick Mow	Freshman	Trever Held	Freshman	Andreas Keller	Senior	Nick Rutecki	Senior
Robin Woodby	Freshman	Zander Hoke	Freshman	Nick Mow	Junior	Jake Eames	Senior
Kacy Carlson	Junior	Kacy Carlson, Capt	Senior	Eric Verrelli	Soph	Trever Held	Junior
Andrew Ainsworth	Junior	Andrew Ainsworth	Senior	Zane Chapman	Junior	Bill Holbrook	Soph
TJ Preston	Senior	Nick Mow	Soph	John Carlson	Senior	Zander Hoke	Junior
Trevor Lyden	Senior	Eric Verrelli	Freshman	Josh Mayer, Asst Capt	Senior	Nick Mow, Capt	Senior
Ian Nankervis	Senior	Zane Chapman	Soph	Robin Woodby	Junior	Christian Jacobsen	Soph
Zane Chapman	Freshman	John Carlson	Junior	Chris Budbill	Junior	Eric Verrelli	Junior
John Carlson	Soph	Josh Mayer, Asst Capt	Junior	Nick Rutecki	Junior	Zane Chapman, Capt	Senior
Josh Mayer, Asst Capt	Soph	Robin Woodby	Soph	Chris Klawonn, Capt	Senior	Zachary Bicknell	Soph
Christopher Budbill	Freshman	Christopher Budbill	Soph	Albert Svensson	Senior	Robin Woodby	Senior
Nick Rutecki	Freshman	Nick Rutecki	Soph	Garrett Cheeseman	Soph	Christopher Budbill	Senior
Logan Miller	Freshman	Logan Miller	Sophe	Matt Noreen	Soph	Taylor Lehnhart	Junior
Christopher Klawonn	Soph	Christopher Klawonn	Junior	Callie Conerton, Mgr		Cole Carnahan, Asst Capt	Junior
James Gamez, Capt	Senior	Albert Svensson	Junior	Lindsey Tomaro, Mgr		Garrett Cheeseman	Junior
Albert Svensson	Soph	Sam Post	Senior	Pauline Zheng, Mgr		Matt Noreen	Junior
Kelsey Preston	Junior	Garrett Cheeseman	Freshman			Lindsey Tomaro, Mgr	
Sam Post	Junior	Mathew Noreen	Freshman				
Alex Vick	Senior	Callie Conerton, Mgr					
Aaron Day, Mgr							
Erica Halsted, Mgr							

Results by Season

2005-06	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Tri-Valley	Loss	2	10
Tri-Valley	Loss	1	9
Delta Junction	Loss	4	11
Delta Junction	Loss	3	11
Nikiski	Win	12	4
Nikiski	Win	6	0
Houston	Loss	1	12
Houston	Loss	2	12
Hutchison	Loss	2	3
Hutchison	Loss	1	5

2006-2007	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Nikiski	Win	6	0
Homer	Loss	2	11
Delta Junction	Loss	3	5
Glennallen	Loss	5	10
Kenny Lake	Win	4	2
Kenny Lake	Win	8	1
Kenai	Win	8	1
Kenai	Win	8	1
Tri Valley	Loss	5	6
Tri Valley	Win	6	3
Su Valley	Loss	1	8
Su Valley	Win	5	0
Tri Valley	Loss	3	4
North Pole	Loss	2	7
Hutchison	Win	9	2
Hutchison	Win	7	1
Palmer	Loss	1	9
Palmer	Loss	1	6
Delta Junction	Win	6	2
Delta Junction	Win	6	5
Monroe	Loss	1	6
Monroe	Win	7	5

2007-2008	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Nikiski	Win	9	1
Nikiski	Win	5	0
Kenai	Loss	0	3
Homer	Loss	2	5
Delta Junction	Win	2	1
Glennallen	Win	6	2
Tri Valley	Loss	3	5
Tri Valley	Win	1	0
Colony	Loss	1	8
Colony	Loss	1	8
Tok	Win	7	1
Tok	Loss	3	4
Kenny Lake	Win	5	0
Kenny Lake	Loss	3	4
Su Valley	Win	9	1
Su Valley	Win	9	0
Homer	Win	3	1
Homer	Tie	2	2
Tri Valley	Win	2	0
West Valley	Loss	1	5
Lathrop	Loss	0	6
Monroe	Win	4	1
North Pole	Loss	8	0

2008-2009	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Colony	Loss	2	3
Colony	Win	5	1
Kenai	Win	3	2
Homer	Win	7	0
Tri Valley	Win	4	2
Glennallen	Win	4	3
Su Valley	Win	11	0
Su Valley	Win	10	0
Lathrop	Loss	0	8
Lathrop	Loss	1	7
Houston	Win	6	2
Houston	Win	5	4
Tok	Win	9	0
Tok	Loss	3	4
Homer	Win	7	0
Homer	Win	4	3
Monroe	Win	5	0
Monroe	Win	6	1
West Valley	Loss	2	5
North Pole	Loss	0	9
West Valley	Loss	0	5
North Pole	Loss	0	8

2009-2010	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Soldotna	Loss	1	2
Homer	Loss	3	4
Eagle River	Loss	5	6
Hutchison	Loss	1	2
North Pole	Loss	3	7
North Pole	Loss	2	7
Lathrop	Loss	1	4
Lathrop	Win	2	1
Houston	Loss	1	2
Houston	Win	4	1
Tok	Win	11	0
Tok	Win	10	0
Homer	Win	6	1
Homer	Win	2	1
Bartlett	Win	5	3
Bartlett	Win	6	2
West Valley	Loss	2	8
West Valley	Loss	4	8
Delta Junction	Win	3	2
Delta Junction	Win	6	2

2009-2010 JV	Result	JDHS	Opponent
Monroe	Loss	2	3
Monroe	Loss	0	4
Su Valley	Loss	1	3
Su Valley	Loss	2	4

Playoffs	Result	JDHS	Opponent
08-09 North Pole	Loss	0	8
09-10 West Valley	Loss	0	8

Appendix:

Ice Time Letters

March 5, 2007

To: CBJ Assembly

From: JDIA Blue Line Club

Re: Juneau Douglas High School Hockey

Ice Time Expenses

Dear CBJ Assembly,

Two years ago, several parents organized the first ever high school hockey team at Juneau Douglas High School (JDHS). This past season, the Crimson Bears have hosted 7 high school hockey teams from around the state. The JDHS hockey team not only represents the high school but also the Community of Juneau. The team serves Juneau as an ambassador of good will by hosting other high school hockey teams from areas of Alaska such as the Interior, Mat Su Valley, and Kenai Peninsula. The hospitality and good will extended to the visiting teams helps promote Juneau's Capital City status.

The team receives no financial support from the Juneau School District (JSD). Players and parents of players raise or contribute the money to fund the team. The budget for the 2006-07 season was \$120,000. This included the travel expenses for the visiting teams. In addition, the team is required to pay the City and Borough of Juneau to use Treadwell Arena for practices and games. The JDHS team currently pays \$120-\$150 per hour to use the ice at Treadwell Arena for practice (6 hours per week) and games (3 hours per game). This is the same rate paid by the general public to rent ice time. This past season, the JDHS hockey team paid the City \$16,700 for ice time.

The additional burden of facility use fees makes hockey participation more expensive and discourages participation by students whose families don't have the resources to contribute to these fees. To the best of our knowledge, no other JDHS team pays to use Community of Juneau venues to practice or hold competitions. The JDHS swim and dive team receives free pool time from the Glacier Swim Club (GSC). However, GSC pays a steeply reduced rate of about \$21 per hour for pool rental. The rental rate for the public is closer to \$90 per hour. JDHS soccer, football, baseball, softball, and track pay zero fees to use Adair Kennedy fields and track. The JDHS basketball and volleyball teams pay zero fees to use the JSD gyms. The JDHS hockey team is requesting the CBJ Assembly to waive the ice-time fee at Treadwell Arena.

The team is requesting that six hours of practice time during the week and three more hours of time for each of 14 games be allocated to the JDHS Hockey team free of charge from CBJ. Very little revenue will be foregone to CBJ's Department of Parks and Recreation by granting a waiver of the ice time fee to the JDHS hockey team because most of the practices take place at 0530 when there would be no other use of the ice.

The visitors from each team that comes to town for a weekend of high school hockey games from out of town bring in several thousand dollars for local businesses. In addition, the

relationships through the “Hockey Family” add to connecting Juneau to the rest of Alaska. This connection fosters good relations with other communities and helps alleviate the capital move issue by making Juneau a more integral part of the state by making the capital more accessible. Many of the hockey players and families have not ever been to Juneau. Without exception we hear that after visiting Juneau they leave with a very favorable impression.

The hockey team promotes active lifestyles for the players, encourages younger players to work hard to improve their game, and promotes the Capital City to communities around the state. This investment in the hockey team is not only an investment in the education of our youth but an investment in our Community.

Sincerely,

Lance Miller
JDIA President

Tom Rutecki
JDIA Chair of High School Hockey

**Juneau Douglas High School Hockey
Ice Time Expenses**

February 12, 2008

Attn: David Stone, Chair
Finance Committee:

The Blue Line Club (BLC), the fundraising organization for the Juneau-Douglas High School hockey team, would like to thank the Assembly for their support over the past season.

Without your support for ice time at Treadwell Arena, the program would be severely challenged from a fund raising standpoint as travel costs continue to plague high school sports throughout the state. The hockey program receives no financial support from the school district and relies solely on the community for business donations, and other fundraising activities.

As you may know, the hockey team recently completed its third season. While the team ended the season with a record of 12-9-1, the win/loss record is certainly not the only goal that is important to the program. The program strives to develop student athletes that represent Juneau in the respectful manner that the city of Juneau has come to expect from our athletes.

As ambassadors of goodwill, the program hosted high school hockey teams from around the state. For many of the visiting players, parents, and coaches, a trip to Juneau to play high school hockey represents their first visit to the Capital City. The hospitality and goodwill generated during these

visits continues to help promote Juneau's Capital city status. The statewide impact of these relationships is highlighted by the quote from the Homer High School Athletic Director, Chris Perk:

"Our team had a great experience down there. Thank you so much for making our visit such a memorable trip. Juneau really rolled out the Red Carpet for us! The trip to Juneau was one of the highlights of our high school program. The support you get from your community was unbelievable. Can you host us again next year? Scheduling is right around the corner, I think our teams match up really well. Let me know what you think."

During the assembly meetings held last spring, the decision was made to provide ice time to the JDHS hockey team as a way to even the playing field as all other High School sports utilize city facilities at no cost. All of the high school hockey players also participate the Juneau Douglas Ice Association (JDIA) youth hockey programs, which contribute significantly to the revenue at Treadwell Arena as JDIA pays the full hourly rental rate for all ice used by JDIA.

It is our understanding that providing ice time to the JDHS Hockey program was to continue into the future and was not a one time commitment to the hockey program. With this in mind, the BLC respectfully requests the assembly continue their support through the provision of ice time during the 2008-09 JDHS hockey season.

Thank you again for your support.

Tom Mayer
Blue Line Club
789-5628 Home
209-7409 Cell
465-5677 Work

To: Marc Matsil, Laurie Scandling, Rhonda Hickock, Glenn Gelbrich, Mark Choate, Jeff Bush, Bruce Bothello

From, Blue Line Club

RE: JDHS Hockey Ice Time

On July 21, 2009 the Blue Line Club (BLC) received an email from Treadwell Ice Arena manager Greg Smith stating "Last year I did not bill you for ice beyond the \$16,500. I should have and have been reminded that it will be required this year. So, if you want the blue line club to pick up the early ice, August-early October...that amounts to about \$1,500 for the upcoming season".

Since no other high school team* pays to use a CBJ venue whether technically managed by Parks and Recreation or Community Schools it is up to either CBJ or JSD to provide the ice for the team and not the BLC. BCJ assembly members unanimously agreed with the BLC and directed CBJ Parks and Recreation to provide free ice time to the JDHS hockey team.

During 2007 the BLC petitioned the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) for free ice time because no other JDHS team had to pay to use a CBJ or Juneau school District (JSD) owned venue. The BLC presented its' request to the CBJ Assembly and they agreed to provide free ice to the JDHS hockey program for the 2007-2009 season and would consider sustained annual funding after 1 year.

The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) provided \$16,700 free ice time for practices (official and open gyms) and games to the Juneau Douglas High School (JDHS) hockey team during FY08. During the May 10, 2008 Assembly Finance Committee (AFC) meeting the BLC was told that the JDHS team would continue to get free ice annually from CBJ. Assistant City Manager Kiefer commented that as the cost of ice time increase that dollar amount needs to be increase so JDHS can be given the same total number of hours every year. The AFC agreed with Ms. Kiefer. At the May 10 meeting assembly members Dybdahl, Wanamaker, Bush, and Sanford asked a BLC representative if JDHS had an adequate number of hours of ice to be a competitive high school hockey team. If not they would give us some more hours of ice. The BLC representative responded that as long as we received the same hours as during 2008 we would have our needs met.

Informal conversations with several Assembly members during early August, 2009 indicate that they strongly agree that the JDHS hockey team should not pay for ice time.

The Juneau School District Activities Advisory Committee (JSD/AAC) in an initial budget for the 08/09 school had \$16,770 budgeted for JDHS ice time. But when told that CBJ was providing the ice time the ACC allocated those funds otherwise. The JSD also provided \$25,000 for field use at the Dimond Park Field House (DPFH) during 08/09 for JDHS teams to use for open gyms and is budgeting \$10,000 for DPFH time during 09/10 for open gym's for JDHS and THMS teams. If all JDHS and TMHS teams get open gyms funded by JSD the JDHS hockey team should also get open gym ice paid for by JSD. Especially since JSD is not having to pay for practice and game ice time for the JDHS hockey team.

* The JDHS swim/dive team has its' pool time paid for by the Glacier Swim Club (GSC). In contrast to the hourly rate the general public must pay (\$105/hr), GSC enjoys a steeply discounted hourly rate (about \$22/hr) for pool rental time. The GSC wants to pay for the JDHS and TMHS pool time so it can train GSC swimmers at the same time and has turned down efforts to have the JSD consider paying for the high school swim teams pool time.

Email 1

Date: Fri, 18 Feb 2005 10:26:25 -0800 (PST)
From: Ken Collison <kcolliso@yahoo.com>
Subject: HS Team
To: Tom Rutecki <rutecki@gci.net>, Lance Miller <lmiller@jedc.org>

Got a call from Sandi this morning. She says she will not be able to see us for a number of weeks as she is dealing with a lot of "problems" right now. I have attached a copy of the letter I sent her. I have been carrying a copy of it around with me for a week to give you, but haven't seen you

Lance

Email 2

----- Original Message -----
From: Andrea and Mike Story
To: John Krehlik
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2005 7:05 AM
Subject: JDHS Hockey Team

Hi John,

At the Board meeting last night the Superintendent clarified the process to approve a new activity and who has the final responsibility. She said this is found in Board Policy 1420 or 1470.

The Activities Director makes a recommendation to the Principal. The Principal reviews it and then Administration at high school make an administrative recommendation to the Superintendent. The Superintendent has the final say and reports to the Board about what activities they have approved. If the group asking for the Activity does not agree with the Administrative recommendation to the Superintendent, an appeal can be made to the Superintendent.

The Superintendent says she has asked for a copy of the letter from the high school administration with the reasons why the hockey activity was denied. She stated since she has a son who plays hockey, if an Appeal was filed she would designate another Administrator in Central Office to hear the appeal in her place and make a recommendation to her.

As far as a timeline, usually May 5 is the deadline for activities. The Superintendent seemed to think an activity could still be approved for next year but that group has missed setting a schedule with other districts, which is usually done months before. But it sounded like she thought arrangements could still happen.

Hope that helps. I would recommend that any questions you have be asked to the Superintendent, cowanp@jsd.k12.ak.us

Andi Story

Email 3

From: Bill Peters [mailto:wmcpceters@acsalaska.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2005 2:09 AM

To: Lance Miller

Subject: Re: High School Hockey

Hey Lance,

It went okay at the board meeting. I basically inquired about the procedure for securing an additional activity for the high school. Peggy indicated that the letter was forth coming and that if a decision needed to be appealed, you could appeal to her directly. Typically the board does not weigh in on approving activities. Peggy did indicate (after I pushed) that you most likely could work this out and have an approved activity prior to the upcoming school year.

Please let me know what the letter states when it is received. I would like to follow this one...

Thanks Lance, let me know how I can continue to assist.

Bill

Disposition (completed by Superintendent Office):

maloney_linda <linda_maloney@jsd.k12.ak.us> 6/3/2005 2:15:29 PM

>>>

Hi John,

I've tentatively scheduled the hearing for the Step Two Complaint for Tuesday, June 7 at 3:00 pm in the Juneau School District Central Office Board Room. At the hearing you will have time to support your request to have hockey become a JDHS activity and JDHS will have time to support their denial of your request. After the hearing, the hearing officer will consider all information and make a decision. I would encourage you to take a look at the Juneau School Board Policy on Student Activities at:

<http://www.jsd.k12.ak.us/district/policies/1000/1430.html>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Linda Maloney

Email 4

[<ainsworth@acsalaska.net>](mailto:ainsworth@acsalaska.net) 7/7/2005 12:04:23 AM >>>

Nice HS press release. I must have misunderstood JDIA-JDHS relationship... I didn't think "The Juneau Douglas Ice Association (JDIA) will be required to cover all costs related to the activity." Unless this means JDHS hockey falls under the organization of JDIA? Maybe add Soldotna to FAI and ANC as other HS hockey city to inform.

Other news from the JDIA board meeting on 6/30...

1. By now Lance should have forwarded John the Fed Tax ID for JDIA.
2. JDIA accounting services are provided by Jennifer Shepland 586-4826). Michelle Kalke (member JDIA board - 723-3913) offered accounting services to the booster club at no charge. Michelle and Jeff Morehouse, JDIA treasurer, were invited to next booster club meeting.
3. Other funding sources mentioned were Scott Gomez Scholarships and NHL Youth Hockey Grants. These need further investigation.
4. People at JDIA board meeting offered the name "The Blue Liners" (or similar) as a suggestion for the booster club name. I like it.
5. JDIA board clarified that JDHS hockey is a non-voting sub committee of JDHS and is governed by the JDIA by laws, etc.

PROPOSAL

JUNEAU to Mid Alaska Conference

Juneau-Douglas High School would like to become part of the Mid Alaska Conference for hockey. In becoming part of the conference we would

- 1) Follow the conference bylaws
- 2) Like to have a full varsity schedule
- 3) Like to have 2 teams travel to Juneau each year. Juneau would travel to Fairbanks one time every year and Houston every other year.
 - Games in Juneau would be on Friday and Saturday nights. Away games in Fairbanks would take place on Wednesday through Saturday to minimize travel costs and reduce the amount of time out of school.
- 4) Juneau would provide the following:
 - 10 tickets from Fairbanks to Juneau for the Fairbanks schools. Ten tickets from Anchorage to Juneau for Houston for regular season varsity games.
 - Provide transportation from the airport to Treadwell Arena to drop off hockey gear in the visiting team's locker room. Provide a locker room at Treadwell arena where gear can be kept while in Juneau.
 - Group housing for the team (such as a gym or recreation center), however, if the Athletic Directors would like different housing arrangements such as housing out with Juneau families or other non-commercial lodging, Juneau will do it's best to accommodate. All teams will have a place to stay at no expense to them.
- 5) In return we would like:
 - To be group housed (such as a gym or recreation center) when our team travels to Fairbanks or the Houston.

If there are any questions or things that need clarification give Sandi Wagner a call 523-1580.

Press releases and Newspaper Articles

High School Ice Hockey approved as an organizational activity for 2005-2006 Juneau school year

Ice hockey has been approved as an activity at JDHS for the 2005-2006 school year by the Juneau School District. In order to minimize costs and make a smooth transition from club to interscholastic competition the team will not travel during the inaugural season and play only home games at the varsity level. Travel status for the 2006-2007 season will be reviewed during November, 2005. The Juneau Douglas Ice Association (JDIA) will be required to cover all costs related to the activity.

“We are excited to be approved as a High School activity” said Tom Rutecki, chair of the High School Hockey Committee for JDIA. “We see high school hockey as a natural compliment and progression to the youth hockey programs of the Juneau Douglas Ice Association” noted Lance Miller of JDIA. There are approximately 220 youth hockey players in the program from ages 5 to 18.

The popularity of Hockey is growing in Juneau and a High School team is a logical next step Rutecki said. In the Anchorage area during the 2003-2004 school year hockey was the third most popular boys sport in school by the number of participants after football and track and field and ahead of soccer and basketball. The growth in girls high school hockey has also been gaining momentum in the Anchorage area according to a 2005 ADN article. Rutecki also noted that the JDIA will be interested in talking to any teams who would want to travel to Juneau during the upcoming season.

The Juneau School District will be conducting a coach search at the end of the summer. The Alaska high school hockey season runs from mid-October until the first week of February.

Contact: Tom Rutecki, Juneau Douglas Ice Association High School Hockey Committee (c=321-0839, h=780-6176) or Lance Miller, JDIA (c=321-4470)

JDIA website = www.usahockey.com/juneaudouglasice/

JDHS takes to the ice

Juneau School District approves ice hockey as a varsity sport starting in winter

By TIM NICHOLS *JUNEAU EMPIRE*

In addition to wrestling and basketball, Juneau-Douglas High School students will have another sporting option starting this winter.

The Juneau School District approved ice hockey as an organizational activity on Tuesday. That means starting this October, fans can cheer on the Crimson Bears varsity ice hockey team at Treadwell Ice Arena.

Juneau Douglas Ice Association (JDIA) president Lance Miller said high school hockey was the next logical step for this emerging sport.

"It's more of just a natural progression," Miller said. "I think the reason for going into high school, we thought it'd be good because it brings it into the community rather than making it a club sport. ... I think in a town like Juneau, a high school team will elevate the level of interest and, yes, it was something that was kind of inevitable."

Though the new team will forgo club status and dive right into varsity competition, there will be several restrictions in the first year.

The team will play all of its games at Treadwell Ice Arena and will not be eligible for post-season play in its inaugural year. The Bears will not play any games on the road in its first season. According to the JDIA, travel status for the 2006-07 season will be reviewed this November.

Financially, the hockey program will be run similarly to football where an outside organization will provide the funding. The JDIA will cover all hockey-related costs.

"It'll be similar to football and soccer," said Tom Rutecki, the JDIA chairman of high school hockey. "The school district will pick the coach. The school district pays the coach, but the funding for that will come from the ice association. We do get a seat on the selection committee."



Michael Penn / Juneau Empire

► Home of the Bears: Juneau Douglas Ice Association Chairman of High School Hockey Tom Rutecki watches over a game of inline hockey at the Treadwell Ice Arena on Thursday. This October, Treadwell Ice Arena will become the home of the Juneau-Douglas High School ice hockey team in its inaugural season.

The new coach will be subject to the same guidelines as the rest of the JDHS athletic coaches. Candidates in the high school will be given first preference, then district-wide and then outside the area.

Since Treadwell Ice Arena opened in February of 2003, the rink quickly emerged as a popular destination for hockey players and figure skaters.

Miller said ice time is very difficult to secure and youth hockey has exploded in popularity since the introduction of the rink.

"It's growing to the extent that ice time is very difficult to get," Miller said. "Between the fall and spring seasons, there were about 240 youth skaters in the JDIA programs. It's grown tremendously."

Though hockey is a relatively new sport in Juneau, the youth teams have enjoyed a measure of success.

Juneau's Peewee team won the Yukon Amateur Hockey Association's Peewee Championship in March at Whitehorse.

Juneau will be the lone Southeast team to have a hockey program and must court other high school squads to play at Treadwell.

In the 2004-2005 season, there were 26 hockey programs in the state, half which participated at the 4A level. Juneau-Douglas is a Class 4A school.

According to Rutecki, the team will technically be referred to as a boys team although girls are encouraged to come out and play for the Bears.

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

Hutchison sweeps; impressed by Juneau
By BOB ELEY

Monday, January 30, 2006 - Sports Editor

Roger McKinnon has been coaching hockey for a long, long time, but he said he has never encountered what happened to his Hutchison High School Hawks on last weekend's trip to Juneau.

"What a class operation," McKinnon said upon his return to Fairbanks on Sunday afternoon. "Everything they do down there is first class and they bend over backward to treat you good."

The Hawks came away with a pair of victories over the Crimson Bears, 3-2 on Friday and 5-1 on Saturday, in front of sold-out crowds of 300 each night.

"They pack 'em in there like sardines and they go wild the whole game," McKinnon said of Crimson Bears fans. "But when the game's over they all want to come over and shake you hand."

"The only other place I've ever seen that kind of treatment was when we went to Healy earlier this year to play Tri-Valley," McKinnon added.

Sophomore Julie Aarhus, freshman Michael Walker and freshman Cody Newhouse accounted for the goals in Friday's 3-2 win, while freshman goaltender Will Bowman came away with 23 saves. Senior Lester Erhart and sophomore Tyler Bidwell picked up assists for the Hawks.

Walker, Erhart, sophomore Matt Cross, senior Garrett Barnette and Trendy Stack accounted for Hutchison's goals on Saturday, while Erhart, Bidwell, Newhouse and freshman Aaron Leslie picked up assists.

Bowman stopped 11 shots in completing the weekend sweep.

Juneau is in its first year of existence, but McKinnon said it won't be long before the Crimson Bears will be on an even level with the state's large schools.

"They've already got 200 kids in their program and in four years they're going to be a hockey powerhouse," he said.

Hutchison is scheduled to play at Delta Junction on Wednesday.

Sports Editor Bob Eley can be reached at beley@newsminer.com , sports@newsminer.com or 459-7581.

PUBLISHED: 3:49 PM on Wednesday, December 13, 2006

Building tradition in JDHS hockey Legacy on ice

By Tim Lyden
For the CCW

Our lives are filled with participating in and commemorating traditions. Millions of Americans celebrate traditions such as Super Bowl Sunday, the day after Thanksgiving shopping, or the Indianapolis 500 on Memorial Day weekend. Hundreds of Alaskans commemorate the day the Permanent Fund Dividends are deposited. Some traditions go back dozens or even hundreds of years.

For the most part, we inherit traditions. And as a legacy, we pass these traditions down from generation to generation. Rarely do we have the opportunity to participate in the inception of a tradition. Yet this has been happening the last few years on Douglas Island through the opening of the Treadwell Arena and the beginning of the Juneau-Douglas High School hockey program.



Courtesy photo

► The Juneau-Douglas High School Crimson Bears hockey team.

The vision born

The vision for an ice rink in Juneau could arguably be found in the minds and hearts of a number of residents. The first publicly conceived visions of an ice rink began over in Douglas not far from the home of the Treadwell Arena.

My wife and I sat on the Douglas Fourth of July Committee in 1998 and remember when Sandy Williams and Rich Poor first mentioned the concept of an ice arena in Douglas.

"We were looking for a project to commemorate the one hundred years of the Fourth of July parade in Douglas. Ideas were being thrown out about a park near the superintendent's house at the Treadwell Mine or some other lasting contribution to the community," Poor said. Meetings with the Parks and Recreation Department included discussion of an ice arena that led to its adoption as the committee's commemorative project.

The vision clarified

After its conception, the vision for the ice rink we now know as the Treadwell Arena quickly grew beyond a project of the Douglas Fourth of July Committee. Poor reports how Parks and Recreation Director Kim Kiefer and architect Wayne Jensen were instrumental in giving shape to

the rink with Jensen donating his time to provide a visual picture of the rink.

Funding resources for this vision also needed to quickly expand for the project to come to fruition. One-third of the funding came from private donations and other sources. The Denali Commission and the Rasmussen Foundation each provided around a half million dollars for the project. Foremost, the citizens of Juneau voted to extend the sales tax to fund the ice rink and other community projects.

Poor reported that the committee worked with the city on the allocation of city sales tax and general fund revenue.

The vision expanded

When the Treadwell Arena opened in February 2003, the Juneau Douglas Ice Association, a non-profit organization formed in 1999, was ready to provide skating lessons and youth hockey at the rink.

That winter the first youth hockey teams were organized.

Tom Rutecki, a JDHS hockey assistant coach, recalls when he proposed the expansion of youth hockey into a high school program.

"Basically, I was laughed at," he said about the first meeting in 2004 with JDIA. "No way", "We're not ready for it," he was told.

Eventually, after working together primarily with JDIA members Lance Miller and Dr. John Krehlik, a plan was adopted. "Then, we had to convince the high school," Rutecki said.

"Once we got the blessing of JDIA, then we went to the school...then we had to go to the school district".

By the end of July 2005, approval for a JDHS hockey program was granted with stipulations.

There would be no travel during the inaugural season. Then again, it was uncertain if there would be any competition.

"I didn't know if we could get any games", Rutecki recalled since team schedules are made in January.

Fortunately, things worked out. "I'm pretty active in youth soccer, so I made some calls around...Low and behold, we had 10 games scheduled."

This year, the JDHS hockey program has a full schedule of 21 games. It includes competition with smaller schools in communities scattered across Alaska.

Minnesota boasts that it is the state of hockey. Yet, the Crimson Bears schedule with games

against grassroot programs from Glennallen to Homer and from Su Valley to Tri-Valley boasts locations so diverse that it would make a cartographer cringe.

Rutecki sees this as a great opportunity.

"The kids are meeting a whole another group of kids," he said. He also thinks Juneau benefits as Alaska's capital city when it hosts 14 home hockey games.

"I think we are painting a great picture of the community," he said.

The vision shared

That picture of Juneau has been captured and shared in the comments of visiting teams. The Fairbanks Daily News Miner reported last January:

"Roger McKinnon has been coaching hockey for a long, long time, but he said he has never encountered what happened to his Hutchison High School Hawks on last weekend's trip to Juneau.

"What a class operation," McKinnon said upon his return to Fairbanks on Sunday afternoon. "Everything they do down there is first class and they bend over backward to treat you good... They pack 'em in there like sardines and they go wild the whole game," McKinnon said of Crimson Bears fans. "But when the game's over they all want to come over and shake your hand.""

The JDHS hockey program is a reflection of the community of Juneau. It is the JDHS hockey team in name. Yet, it is arguably the city of Juneau's hockey team.

The African proverb states, "It takes a village to raise a child." Moreover, it takes a community to support a sports team. When the Crimson Bears take the ice, they are representing the numerous businesses, individuals, and organizations that continue to provide time, funding, and resources so these youth can compete athletically.

In return, the JDHS hockey program gives back to the community by preserving its vision and by creating a tradition and a legacy for future generations.

The vision preserved

From pewees to geezers and from free-skaters to figure-eighters, there's not doubt that the Treadwell Arena has been an excellent addition and asset to our community.

A constant flow of teams and groups channel through the rink from early each morning until well past my bedtime.

Yet when the Crimson Bears take the ice in athletic competition, they create history: fulfilling one of the roles of sports in our society. Athletic competition chronicles our lives, our years, and

our generations from Super Bowl XL to the 24th Olympiad.

Sports programs create benchmarks, milestones, records, and the tradition and legacies of a community or a nation.

From the first game and win to the first conference and state championships, a history has begun that will preserve the vision for the rink, the team, and the community.

No matter what your level of skating participation or community support, from now on, the high school hockey seasons will chronicle the growth and maturity of skating and its vision in this community.

A new tradition, a new legacy on ice has begun through the vision of a number of individuals, the JDHS hockey team, and this community.

Legacy on Ice is a two-part article that describes the building of the Juneau Douglas High School Hockey tradition. Part One explores the vision, how it started, and what it has become. Part Two explores fulfilling the mission.

Muir helping hockey Bears perfect skating techniques

By Shaun T. Cox | *JUNEAU EMPIRE*

A chance encounter five years ago in Detroit with Juneau-Douglas assistant hockey coach Tom Rutecki and Kim Muir led to the Detroit Red Wings skate instructor's yearly trips to Juneau to work with the Crimson Bears hockey team.

In addition to teaching pro hockey players how to skate, Muir, a former U.S. Figure Skating Association competitor, owns her own business, Can't Skate, Can't Play.

"Tom Rutecki has family back where I'm from in the Detroit suburbs, and one summer about five years ago he was in town and saw my clinic," she said. "He asked if his son Nick could skate in it while they were in town, and he did. He suggested that I come up here. The next year, I hemmed and hawed about it, but the following year he really pressed the issue. He said, 'Look, we don't have anything like this, and I think it would be great for you to come here.'"

Muir returned last week for her third summer session in Juneau. She's nearing the third trimester of her second pregnancy, but even that can't slow her down.

"I'm almost 5-months pregnant right now..., " she said. "I'm still trying to feel like I'm not pregnant at all, I don't want to feel like I'm a hazard out there on the ice, nor do I want the sympathy, 'Oh, she's pregnant. She can't do stuff.'"

Muir came alone her first year, but has since brought NHL-hopeful hockey players along with her to help instruct the JDHS hockey team. Crimson Bears goalie Matt Noreen said the instructors and Muir have been a huge benefit.

"It's been really great. They all have really good backgrounds and they're really experienced," he said. "Kim, she's intimidating with how good of a skater she is. She's explosive with her skating. It's completely amazing. Playing against those skilled instructors really helped. They've all been working with Kim for a long time, and they've all played semi-pro and college hockey, so that's a pretty prestigious resume."

Jordan Black, a forward for the Port Huron Icehawks, said working with Muir has made him infinitely better on the ice.

"The big thing is the power skating," he said. "That's what (Kim's) forte is. Most of us have been skating with her since we were 7, 8 years old, and it's done wonders for us. Just the one year, coming here last year, we could see a big improvement with the high school kids. You can tell it's working. Their acceleration, crossovers and edge work is phenomenally better."

JDHS coach Dave McKenna said Muir's camps have had an immediate effect on the Bears' quality of play.

"And we are incredibly fortunate to have world-class instruction come right here to Juneau," he said. "In the hockey world, we live in somewhat of a void without exposure to a lot of competition. By bringing her personal experience and top-notch staff here, we make big strides in catching up to the rest of the state."



**Hockey Sweaters for the first two seasons
Designed by William Spear**