

Winter/Spring 2008 Schedule

We will **not** be playing on **Super Bowl Sunday, Easter Sunday** or **Memorial Day weekend**.

If you will not be able to make a game, please let [Marc](#) or [Josh](#) know as early as possible, so a sub can be notified.

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | 1/13/08 | 4:15 pm | Maple Leaf Pub |
| Sunday | 1/20/08 | 10:15 pm | Black Jacks |
| Sunday | 1/27/08 | 10:15 pm | Frankenstein's |
| Sunday | 2/10/08 | 7:15 pm | Gang Green |
| Sunday | 2/17/08 | 10:15 pm | Grateful Leafs |
| Sunday | 2/24/08 | 5:45 pm | Black Jacks |
| Sunday | 3/2/08 | 8:45 pm | Maple Leaf Pub |
| Sunday | 3/9/08 | 5:45 pm | Frankenstein's |
| Monday | 3/17/08 | 10:15 pm | Gang Green |
| Sunday | 3/30/08 | 5:45 pm | Grateful Leafs |
| Sunday | 4/6/08 | 8:45 pm | Enforcers |
| Sunday | 4/13/08 | 7:15 pm | Hornets |
| Sunday | 4/20/08 | 4:15 pm | Oil Kings |
| Monday | 4/28/08 | 9:45 pm | Rangers |
| Sunday | 5/4/08 | 8:45 pm | Buzzards |
| Sunday | 5/11/08 | 10:15 pm | Puckhaws |
| Sunday | 5/18/08 | | Playoffs Round 1 |
| Sunday | 6/1/08 | | Division Semi-Finals |
| Sunday | 6/8/08 | | Division Finals |
| Sunday | 6/15/08 | | Championship Sunday |

New Season Notes

Marc invited me to attend the captains' meeting Monday night and a couple of heavy discussions occurred.

First, we'll be starting this Sunday, January 13th. The schedule is still under review, but *preliminarily*, for the season, there are **six**-10:15 games, two of them on Monday nights. This may play into your decision as to whether to commit to playing for this season along with the next topic...

Second, there was a significant discussion regarding the level of players in the league. Though the "name-level" of the league is B/C, the talent level of the league used to be more of an upper C. However, in the past 2-3 seasons, the talent level has shifted to *almost* a solid B level. It was determined that this is a B-league now. Players from the Wednesday night A/B league may play, but no AA players may participate.

What this means is that everyone (in the league, not just this team) should determine whether they could handle playing at this level every game. If you look at our last 4 games, each team that we faced had *at least* 1 player who dominated play. This will not change. In addition, the Rangers & Hornets both have new goalies and will no longer be doormats. Don Ritchie (Enforcers) is now the weakest goalie in the league, but his team averages 6.5 goals-for per game, which likely means they'll win more than they'll lose. We don't mean any disrespect to all of you, we have some good players, but the other teams have that one dominant player that is winning them games (see: last season, playoff game, Enforcers, yellow helmet).

As for our team, we need to finalize our roster and submit it by *this Friday* (1/11). Unless they change when the final schedule comes out, consider the game times and your ability to make them, along with the level of play we'll be facing when deciding if you're ready to play this season. Tom Shea is out due to surgery and we lost Alexey last season. If everyone else comes back, we still have 15 skaters, so anyone we add will go to the sub list and only play when needed. Doc, this includes Jumbo. Lenny, I'm adding Ross to the sub list because even if we want him to play one game, he has to be on there.

The next discussion was less intense, but there were varying opinions. Ultimately, it was decided that the 6-team divisions would be realigned according to last regular season's rankings (as they will after every regular season henceforth). This should bring better overall balance to the league as last season, our division was stacked, while the other one was significantly weaker. Each team will play the teams in their own division 2x (10 games). After the division games, each team will play the opposite division teams 1x (6 games), therefore, the regular season has been increased to **16 games**.

The cost per player has only increased for the costs of the 2 extra games. It is now **\$250 per player**. If I remember right, we paid \$210 last season, but we also caught a break when they charged us the wrong amount (it should've been \$220)!

I've paid the team fee, so cash or check made to me works just fine.

Everyone must be USA Hockey registered if you aren't already.

Skate Texas is no longer playing; however, a new team will be taking their place.

That's all for the league notes. As soon as we get the final schedule, I'll pass it along.

Chuck, Ed, Tom N, Paul, Marc, Doug, Doc, Keith, Bob, Lyle, Joe, Nemoto, Dom, Ike,
Lenny,