

January 21, 2007

LASALLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Happy new year to all of our athletes, coaches, and volunteers in our LaSalle Spirit family! May all of our athletes improve at least a tiny bit in 2007, and our coaches receive their certification at long last.

Our Community Council meetings for 2007 will be the second Wednesday, every other month; therefore our next meeting is March 14th, unless otherwise notified. These meetings start at 7:00pm and finish no later than 9:00pm. They will be held at the Windsor Family Credit Union Community Room, at the Zehrs plaza on Malden Road, in LaSalle. **ALL** parents, coaches, and volunteers are encouraged to attend to participate and make our club even better. So please your calendars.

One item discussed at our January meeting was succession planning for the executive of our Community Council and our Sports Club. I will be retiring from my real job early in 2008, and Pat and I plan to do some traveling. We therefore need person(s) to step forward and get acquainted with our responsibilities. Elections for all positions of the Community Council will be on the block at our May meeting.

Thanks to our great group of dedicated coaches, I have noticed great improvement in the skills of our athletes since we started in October. The double-dribbling of our competitive group has been reduced and they are working together better as a team. Our most improved athlete overall at this point of the season is Pam Lyons, who is now sinking baskets on a regular basis.

I have confirmation that we have been accepted for the following basketball tournaments:

Saturday, February 24th This competitive tournament is in St. Thomas and I have been assured we will not have a game before 9:15am. I am suggesting we go up that morning, but that may change, based on the consensus of the group. I am looking for one, possibly two coaches to assist with this one.

Saturday, March 3rd This is the non-competitive half-court, 3 on 3 tournament in Guelph. We will be traveling there on Friday afternoon, and returning on Saturday evening. I am looking for two coaches to assist with this group.

Saturday, March 17th This is a competitive tournament in Aurora (north of Toronto). We will be traveling there Friday afternoon, and returning Saturday evening. I am looking for one more coach to assist.

We will **not** be entering the February 10th tournament in Mississauga as originally planned.

Our LaSalle Spirit Sports Club brochure, advertising what we have to offer athletes, is almost ready for print. We took some new team photos this past Monday night at practice, one of which I hope is suitable for the front cover. I am excited about this because it would be great to add a few more athletes to our family.

Saturday, May 12th This is the tentative date for the Provincial Games qualifier tournament in London. Please mark your calendar for this competitive tournament. More to follow on this one.

Consent forms will be sent out shortly for the confirmed tournaments. Please fill them out and return them to me as soon as possible.

We have been asked to participate in the NHL Old Timers hockey game again this year. The date is **Friday, February 16th** and our personnel will need to be there by 6:00pm. We will be responsible for selling the pucks for the puck toss, and cleaning up the pucks after they have been thrown on the ice. We will also be selling the programs and the 50/50 tickets. Coordinators Marie Mailloux and Bonnie McCourt are asking for your help as we will need about 20 adults to help out. Let us know ASAP if you can help. I am sure our athletes will want to help clean up the pucks off the ice. One athlete will be selected to drop the puck to start the game. Our club raised \$4,400 during the same event last year!

In preparation for this game, we need volunteers to tape the tickets to the pucks. So please don't be shy at practice the next couple Monday nights, and help to do this. For those who normally drop off their athletes and leave, we are asking for your help as well.

We are ordering new T-shirts for the athletes and coaches. If any parents would like one, please let Bonnie McCourt know your size. She will be researching the cost.

I encourage parents and support workers to speak with the athletes, and ask them what they think of our current program. We are always looking at ways of improving the quality of our practices.

See you at practice.

Jim Wright
Community Coordinator