



## ACHA **HOLIDAY** MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Holidays! It's that time of the season where we often reflect on the past year and think about how things went. During the quiet moments I was able to find, many thoughts of people, places, events and experiences easily came to mind from both a family and work standpoint. I am humbled to be in a position to work with such a large, diverse association full of passionate people that want what is best for their teams and student-athletes. I think we all realize that this is a difficult task sometimes, especially to please everyone. Our "teammates" like it when we are winning, and sometimes it becomes too easy to point fingers when we're not. In my book, as long as we continue to learn from yesterday and be better today, we are going in the right direction. When I think of the events this past year that have made the biggest impact on me, family vacation, annual meeting, national tournament, birthdays, reunions and most recently, attending the US Hockey of Fame inductions come to mind, I realized there is one general theme as to why they made such an impact on me – it's the not if someone won something, or award you get or recognition you receive...it's about the people. The people involved in my "impactful moments" created those memories. My 30<sup>th</sup> National Championship reunion was not about the scores, the MVP's, but about the friendships, how we helped each other, about the travel and bus rides and the time in locker room. The birthdays and vacation were about being with family who we often don't spend enough time connecting with in today's busy world, and the annual meeting and Hall of Fame event was about meeting new people, listening to their experiences which often is about people who are important to them! During this holiday season, I am thankful to work with wonderful, caring people and hope with your vision and cooperation, we will make the next decade the best ever for the ACHA! From my family to yours, Happy Holidays! ~ **Craig Barnett**



### HOLIDAY TOURNAMENTS



The Holiday season not only provides a festive time for families and friends to get together but also for many ACHA teams not don't necessarily get to see each other throughout the season. This is achieved when teams participate in the traditional Holiday Tournaments and Showcases.

We are thankful for the many conferences, sponsors, staff and volunteers that spend a lot of time planning and operating these tournaments to provide our student-athletes the opportunity to compete for a championship during the middle of the hockey season. Great competition, sportsmanship and hockey are seen by the many fans and family members that attend these holiday events.

Here is a *partial* list of some of the events that our ACHA teams participate in, congratulations to all the organizers!

- > Villanova College Hockey Showcase (Villanova, PA)
- > DVCHC Women's East Coast Showdown (Philadelphia, PA)
- > Stephen Russel Memorial Tournament (Raleigh, NC)
- > Beehive Showcase (Logan, UT)
- > NHL Winter Classic (Dallas, TX)
- > Route 66 Showcase (Springfield, MO)
- > Governor's Cup (Raleigh, NC)

## 2020 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The ACHA National Tournament returns to the Dallas metroplex area from **March 19 – 29, 2020**. The NHL Dallas Stars as well as the city of Frisco will co-host our event with games being played at the Stars practice facility Comerica Center, and Children's Health StarCenters in Plano and McKinney, TX.



### DIVISION DATES

Men's Division 1:	March 19 – 24, 2020
Men's Division 2:	March 20 – 24, 2020
Men's Division 3:	March 24 – 28, 2020
Women's Division 1:	March 25 – 29, 2020
Women's Division 2:	March 25 – 29, 2020

### TEAM HOTELS

The ACHA has partnered with HPN Global as the exclusive hotel partner for the 2020 National Tournament. An ACHA customized website has been developed which is much more user friendly than previous years. Teams that qualify for Nationals must utilize this website to stay at host partner hotels. On average we are seeing room rates less than they were last year due to the success of our new partners market share in the hotel industry. The ACHA will roll out this information to our teams in the coming weeks followed a few weeks later to the public.

### TEAM TRAVEL TO NATIONALS OPTION



Beginning on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 American Collegiate Hockey Association's National Tournament attendees will receive a **Discount on airfare** and **50% Bonus Rapid Reward** points from Southwest Airlines through our SWABIZ® account when traveling to and from Dallas. Purchase your tickets before March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to take advantage of the discounted rates. Book your flights to leave as early as March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and return no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Go to [www.SWABIZ.com](http://www.SWABIZ.com) and click "Flight" in the top right then click "Book a Flight" to book your travel!

- Enter Corporate ID: **99856610**.

Southwest Airlines offers:

- No baggage fees (first two bags)
- No change or cancellation fees
- Consistently ranked the "Best in Customer Service" by DOT

### Rapid Rewards Benefits



#### Unlimited reward seats.

Say Yes to reward seats on days ending in "y". That's Transfarency®.



#### No blackout dates.

No blackout dates means your choices and possibilities for travel are wide open.



#### Your points don't expire\*.

\*Points don't expire as long as you have flight-earning or partner-earning activity at least once every 24 months. Period.



#### Earning points is easy.

Rapid Rewards® makes it easy to earn points you can use for reward flights to go anywhere we fly. Not only will you earn points on flights, you can also earn points on everyday purchases with our partners.



## 2020 M2 & M3 REGIONAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION



### M2 REGIONALS:

West: Feb. 27 – 29, Boise, ID  
Central: Feb. 28 – March 1, Allendale, MI  
North East: Feb. 28 – March 1, Keene, NH  
South East: Feb. 28 – March 1, Lawrenceville, NJ

### M3 REGIONALS:

North: March 6 - 7, Grand Rapids, MI  
Pacific: March 6 - 7, Milwaukee, WI  
South: March 7 – 8, Wesley Chapel, FL  
Atlantic: March 7 – 8, Pittsburgh, PA

## M3 ALL-STAR CHALLENGE UPDATE

Final details for this spring's M3 All-Star Challenge will be announced shortly once everything is finalized. Here are some important facts you should know now:

**DATES:** April 17-19, 2020

**WHERE:** Prince William Ice Center, 5180 Dale Blvd, Woodbridge, VA 22193 (Fairfax area)

**TEAMS:** 8 Teams representing M3 conferences

**ASC DIRECTORS:** Sam Kelly (M3 Commissioner) and Dave Kurtz (Asst. Dir of Hockey Ops)

## RECRUITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHA MEMBERS



Sticking with the Holiday theme, the ACHA has been contacted by 2 Junior organizations regarding their upcoming Showcases. Both leagues have many alums currently playing in the ACHA and wish to share their information with our membership. Here are the details:

NA3HL Showcase  
December 15-17, 2019  
NSC Super Rink  
Blaine, MN

[www.na3hl.com/showcase](http://www.na3hl.com/showcase)

WSHL Showcase  
December 17-20, 2019  
LV Ice Center & Sobe Arena.  
Las Vegas, NV

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



## HOCKEY OPERATION REMINDERS & UPDATES

**ELIGIBILITY** – Spring Eligibility Forms are now available from your Divisional Commissioner and will be on the ACHA website shortly.  
**TEAM ROSTERS** – Just a reminder that under our agreement with USA Hockey, part of your dues covers 30 players and 4 coaches. If a team is over that number on their USA Hockey roster, they will be billed \$30 for each player/coach by USAH.  
**QUESTIONS???** – Please direct all questions to your respective Divisional Commissioners (contact info on ACHA website).

## ACHA IN THE NEWS



### THE ACHA WELCOMES ITS NEWEST PARTNER



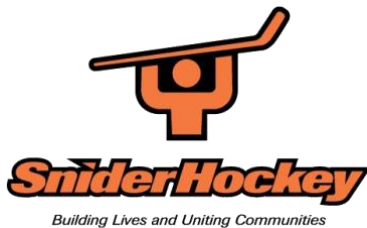
The American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) has announced that **Sparx Hockey** is the “Official Skate Sharpener of the ACHA.” Sparx Hockey is a developer and manufacturer of skate sharpening equipment and related accessories. Its’ flagship product, the Sparx Skate Sharpener, is an affordable, automated product that allows anyone, anywhere to easily sharpen hockey skates with pro-level accuracy. Sparx Skate Sharpeners are already being used by many ACHA teams as well as NCAA programs and 20+ NHL teams. Check out ACHA opportunities [here](#) and learn more about Sparx Hockey at [www.sparxhockey.com](http://www.sparxhockey.com)



### ACHA ACCEPTING HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) has extended its deadline to December 31, 2019 to receive nominations for the Hall of Fame Class of 2020. Last year, the ACHA inducted Mike Sargo and Dr. Al Murdoch giving us a team of 23 members enshrined in the Hall! Your point of contact is your Division Vice President for questions or for more information and the nomination form, please [CLICK HERE](#)

### DID YOU KNOW



The Snider Hockey Youth Foundation, a national acclaimed non-profit founded by one of sports biggest icons, the late Mr. Ed Snider, founder of the Philadelphia Flyers, uses the sport of hockey to educate and empower under-resourced youth of Philadelphia to prosper in the game of life. With over 19 travel hockey teams and 50+ limited travel teams, Snider Hockey currently has 22 alumni playing college hockey primarily on **ACHA teams!** Check out this recent article on NHL.com written by William Douglas - [CLICK HERE](#)

### “SAVE THE DATE” – ACHA ANNUAL MEETING

The ACHA Annual meeting dates are April 25 & 26, 2020 at the Naples Beach Hotel in Naples, FL. Details to follow.

### COMMISSIONERS CONTACT INFORMATION

**M1:** Commissioner **BRIAN MORAN** – [bmoran4@achahockey.org](mailto:bmoran4@achahockey.org)

**M2:** Commissioner **JON ECCLES** – [jeccles@achahockey.org](mailto:jeccles@achahockey.org)

**M3:** Commissioner **SAM KELLY** – [skelly@achahockey.org](mailto:skelly@achahockey.org)

Acting Commissioner / Regional Commissioner (South) **SARGE DAY** – [sarge@achahockey.org](mailto:sarge@achahockey.org)

**W1:** Commissioner **MOLLY MAHONEY** – [mmahoney@achahockey.org](mailto:mmahoney@achahockey.org)

**W2:** Commissioner **TAYLOR HADLEY** – [thadley@achahockey.org](mailto:thadley@achahockey.org)

[Click Here for Complete ACHA Board and Staff Contact List](#)

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

## SUPPORT OUR 2019-20 ACHA PARTNERS



**WARRIOR**

**WARRIOR HOCKEY** is the Preferred Hockey Stick and Equipment supplier of the ACHA.

Check out the Warrior / ACHA On-line store – [CLICK HERE](#)



**ARES SPORTSWEAR** is the Preferred Apparel supplier of the ACHA.

Check out their catalogue and contact info – [CLICK HERE](#)



**HOWIES HOCKEY TAPE** is our Preferred Hockey Tape and Accessories supplier.

Check out their products and Order Form – [CLICK HERE](#)



**BARON RINGS** has been the outfitting our championship teams for years and is one of the largest ring producers in North America.

Check out their website for more info – [CLICK HERE](#)



**SOUTHWEST AIRLINES** is the Preferred Airline of the ACHA and offers our membership discounted fares for our National Tournament. Check out details on ACHA website



**SPARX HOCKEY** is the Official Skate Sharpener of the ACHA. Check out their website for more info – [CLICK HERE](#)



**BUDGET CAR RENTAL** is our Preferred Car Rental Provider. Check out our Budget / ACHA website – [CLICK HERE](#)



**ACHATRAVEL.COM** was introduced this season in partnership with HPN Global, a worldwide leader in travel solutions, as our Preferred Travel Partner.

Check out the website and compare – [CLICK HERE](#)



**USA HOCKEY** is the National Governing Body (NGB) of organized ice hockey in the United States and has built a strong partnership with the ACHA over the past decade. The ACHA is the only non-NCAA college hockey affiliate of USA Hockey.

Check out their website – [CLICK HERE](#)



**AMERICAN HOCKEY COACHES ASSOCIATION (AHCA)** is the national organization for college hockey coaches designed to meet, discuss and support the growth of men's and women's hockey. The ACHA is a proud partner of the AHCA. Check out their website for more info – [CLICK HERE](#)