



Newsletter March 2010

Issue one

www.northlandstingrays.org.nz

2010 SEASON UNDERWAY

Welcome to the Stingrays Newsletter. Players are registered, teams formed and the coaches and managers have been chosen for the 2010 season. If you're new to the club, welcome! And to those returning players and the all important parents who make it all happen, good to see you back!

We have many changes this year, not the least of which is the rink extension which is behind schedule for completion but should be finished mid-year. We also have a new website, this newsletter and the Social Hockey/Rookie League that has just begun. All these things will take time to develop, but hopefully they will also strengthen the Stingrays club. So if there's a message in this newsletter, it is this: Bear with us, and feel free to offer your suggestions and/or help.

TEAMS FOR THIS SEASON

As the purpose of this newsletter is to inform as briefly as possible we won't repeat what is on the website. Full team details can be found there, but we have teams in the Under 18's, 16's, 14's and 12's.

It's worth noting here though that numbers are light in the younger grades. There may be all sorts of reasons for this, but the current economic climate is likely a factor, but so is general awareness of the club

in our community. We hope to address that by making ourselves more visible, and by running a low cost Rookie League to encourage new players to give our sport a go. You can find details on the website but we had our first game on Saturday March 6th and it was a great success. Enough kids came along to make up a couple of teams and they had a lot of fun. We need to get the word out about this, so if you can think of a way to do that we need your help. This is how we will keep the club healthy for the future.

UPCOMING AGM

It will soon be time to appoint committee members for 2010. Please give thought to putting your name forward. As with all clubs it's the parents who make it all work. We particularly need parents of younger players, as the future of the club lies with these kids and their interests need to be properly represented. It doesn't take a lot of time and your level of involvement needn't be overly demanding.

FRIDAY NIGHT FUN SKATING

Has started! This is an essential fundraising activity for the club and help is always needed from parent volunteers. There are currently four teams on the roster so you only have to give your time once a month. Without the money we make from this activity the club would not be able to function, so please get involved. Contact Carmen.

SKATING SKILLS

For new players this is essential to learn how to improve your skating with Wayne. Each Friday at 4.00pm for an hour. Get there early to put your skates on. Cost is included in membership for both Stingrays and Rookies.

NEW ZEALAND TEAM

A number of Stingrays players were selected from the trials last year and are currently training for the Oceania Championships. See the website for details.

RINK REPAIRS

Essential work was carried out on the rink during the break. Kevin Graham gave up a considerable amount of his time for this and he would like to thank all those who helped including Roger and Jake Ladd, Cam Graham, Geoff Garnham, Wayne Scott, and Damien Bath. Apologies if I have missed anybody out.

WORKING BEE

In a similar vein thanks to those who helped out with the recent working bee and also Sandy Ladd for her work on the new website.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

The aim is to get the newsletter out either bi-monthly or maybe once a month. If you would like to include something, either an article or opinion or simply would like to raise an issue please email stuartharrison@xtra.co.nz Photographs would be appreciated. Please remember the newsletter will be kept as brief as possible so any submissions may be edited and it may not always be possible to include everything. I will be relying on the information provided for content so if you don't submit, please don't complain about omissions. Thanks for reading, and here's hoping for a successful season.



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