



Grandravine Special Program

Volume 2, Issue 1
November 20, 2004

TORNADO TIMES

Welcome New Players

On behalf of all the players, coaches and parents I want to welcome the new players to the Grandravine Tornados. At last count we had 13 newcomers. We encourage all the new parents to come out and participate with your sons or daughters. This includes coming to all the games as well.

You may think that your child is not able to participate in a game, but nothing could be further from the truth. Games in special hockey are set up such that everyone can participate. Coaches from both teams match their players with similar abilities. Even those that cannot skate well will be able to take their

shift on the ice. Just come out to one game and you will be amazed how well this works. What is important is that your child participate and feels that he or she is a part of their team.

I would like to take this opportunity to pass on a few things to our new members. While we do have some equipment available we cannot outfit the entire club. This equipment has been donated and we don't always have the items or sizes you need. If you have access to equipment for your child we encourage you supply your own. And remember to put their names on their equipment. This includes sweaters,

skates, sticks and especially team jackets. They all look alike.

Please be at the arena one half hour before the start of a game or practice. You will need the time to help your child with his or her equipment. And please stay at the arena with your child. If little emergencies come up you will be there to deal with them.

While on the subject of equipment please do not expect the coaches to do things like tie your kids' skates. While they do so gladly, it often keeps them from getting on the ice to

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Upcoming Events

There's a lot happening at Grandravine off the ice as well as on. First up is the Christmas party on Saturday December 18. Activities include a family skate between 11:00am and 12:00pm in place of the usual inter-squad game. Then at 1:30 the party

really gets started at Rexdale Bowlerama, 115 Rexdale Blvd. There will be food and bowling for everyone.

In February we have two events. First is our annual Valentine's Day dance on Saturday February 12 at La



Contessa Banquet Hall. This fantastic party, organized by Lisa Rizzuto, includes dinner

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Important Dates

- Christmas Party
Dec. 18, 04
- Valentine's Day
Dance
Feb. 12, 05
- St. Mike's Majors
Hockey Game
Feb. 13, 05
- SHI Annual Tournament
Mar. 31 - Apr. 2, 05
- Year-End Banquet
Apr. 15, 05

Upcoming Events

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dancing and loads of prizes. Be sure to tell you friends and family. It's great night out and a perfect way to help raise some money. Tickets are \$55 per person and \$25 per player. They will go on sale in early December.

The very next day, Sunday February 13, we go to St. Mike's Arena to see the Majors play the Sudbury Wolves at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$5 each and will go



on sale in December. You will need to pre-order them. Please see Michael Liotta. We will also be holding a 50/50 draw at St. Mike's arena that day. Anyone willing to help with the 50/50 please see Michael Liotta.

The annual SHI International Tournament will take place from March 31 to April 2, 2005 in Mississauga. More details to come later.



Surf on over to:

www.grandravinetornadoes.org

This is the website address of the Grandravine Special Program. Please use it to get the latest information and schedules.

Casino Rama

The popular Casino Rama trips continue thanks to the efforts of Mary Lou Elbe.

The remaining trips are:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 2004
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2005
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2005
 SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2005
 SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH, 2005
 SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, 2005

****LOCATION: DOWNSVIEW PLAZA****
 (Keele & Wilson)

North East Corner in front of the Dominion Store)

TIME: 5:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.

COST: \$20.00 per person

The \$20.00 will be donated to the Grandravine Special Hockey Program

(Must be 19 years of age or over, I.D. is

mandatory)

? In return: ?

You will have a wonderful time

Receive a coupon for \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 food voucher

Please contact:

Mary Lou Elbe

Telephone # 416-243-3262

E-mail: marylouelbe@yahoo.ca

Coaches Clinic

A coaches clinic was held on Monday November 1. The main speaker was Luci Liotta, who is an Autism support teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School. Her discussion focused on recognizing the needs and limitations of our players, and the strategies to use to deal with them.

Her ideas were well received especially

amongst some of our younger coaches who may have not had a lot of experience with special needs individuals.

The coaches also discussed practice and game strategies. They received copies of part of Tracy Tucker's thesis on Special Hockey. More copies are available for any coach that did not receive one

United Way



Contributions made to The United Way can be directed to any registered charity in Canada. To have your contribution directed to Grandravine Special Program, simply fill in section 4 of the United Way donor form with the following information:

Grandravine Special Program
 48 Mangrove Road
 Toronto, ON, M6L 2A3
 Charitable Reg. # 85830 5501 RR001

Refreshments

Thanks to the Parisien family, Pizza Pizza is supplying our players with free pizza every Saturday morning. This is the second year that we are receiving this and the players just love it. We are very grateful.

It sure hits the spot after a hard workout. Parents are welcome to have what is left after the players have had their share.

Our coffee table is open to everyone at the arena.



We just ask for a little contribution.

Also if you would like to contribute any baked items or cookies for the table it would be

most welcome. And if anyone would like to help with running the coffee table or the pizza please see Iris Batt.



TRIVIA?

1. Who scored the most goals in a Stanley Cup game and how many did he score?
2. Can you name the teams involved and the date?
3. What was the final score?

You can answer one or all of the questions. Send your answers to:

mliotta@grandravinetornadoes.org

Welcome New Players

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start practices on time. If you need help with equipment, ask one of the other parents. Most of them are eager to help.

Please make sure that skates are on tight enough. You can't skate properly with skates that are too loose.

Talk to your kid's coach. You know your child best. You can be of great help by

letting the coach know what your child is like. You know what frustrates him, or what excites him, or strategies that engage him. The coaches will appreciate it.

I know it can be difficult when you first join any organization. New place. New faces. But as you get to know people you become more comfortable. Grandravine is not just for the athletes. It is a great place for parents to network,

learn about programs, share experiences and find support. We've all been there.

And if you find that you can donate some of your time we always need volunteers. You can help with the pizza, with fundraising, with the coffee table. In terms of satisfaction I find that I always get more out of it than I put in.

So to all the new people, welcome to what we hope will be a long relationship.

Birthdays



Happy birthday to players celebrating upcoming birthdays.

Isaac Rousseau	Dec 7/85
Jared Krybus	Dec 17/84
Gary Cabral	Dec 23/86
Ryan Reid	Dec 24/84

Editor Needed

We are looking for someone to edit this newsletter. If you are familiar with Microsoft Publisher it would be helpful, but it is not essential. We would like to publish a newsletter 3 times per season. If you are interested please contact Michael Liotta.

Corrections

In the minutes of the Oct 23 parents meeting under UNITED WAY change "Choice C" to "Section 4".

Under 2006 TOURNAMENT delete "no additional participants will be accepted after that". Also change "450 pounds per week" to "205 pounds per week"

Grandravine Special Program

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Board of Directors

Joe Rizzto - President
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Silvia Rizzuto - Vice President
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Mary Lou Elbe

Grandravine Special Program is a registered charitable organization, run entirely by volunteers. It provides a hockey program for developmentally challenged individuals, male or female, of any age. It relies on the generosity of sponsors and donations to deliver this program. If you know of any company or individual that is able to help please contact:

Michael Liotta
416-621-2509

mliotta@grandravinetornadoes.org

We're on the Web
www.grandravinetornadoes.org



Grandravine Special Program
is a member of
Special Hockey International.

And Now a Word From Our Sponsors

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