

**August 2010**

**Dear Friends of Shawano Hockey League:**

It is that time of year, where we fire up to chillers, build the ice in the Crawford Center and prepare for another Shawano Hockey season. Throughout the course of the season, thousands of guests visit the Crawford Center, either to play hockey games at various levels, to take advantage of the programs that the league offers or to enjoy public skating with family and friends. Our guests come from around the state for games and during Open Skate it's likely to meet guests from many other states.

We are proud to represent our area as we compete at other ice arenas. We are proud to offer a healthy, safe, supervised and smoke free outlet to the many guests who choose to spend free time in the winter with us. We continue to offer the programs we did last season, but are most excited about our High School team. For the first time ever, our co-op, co-ed High school team, consisting of skaters from Shawano, Pulaski, Bonduel and Clintonville, will be WIAA school sanctioned, allowing them to be recognized by their school for playing the sport they love. This has been a dream for the kids, one that is now a reality. We also firmly believe that we need to give back to the area that supports us. We do so by sponsoring charity drives during Open Skate. Last season we held drives to benefit the Humane Society, the Food Pantry, Shawano Medical Center & the Mayor's youth Advisory team (who were raising funds for life saving devices in a local school). All were hugely successful and already we have requests for charity drives this season.

As we prepare to open the doors to the community, we look to you to continue to support the many opportunities that we provide to the area. While we fundraise all year long, the high rent we pay to the County, simply to use the building, is a huge burden. Our league is 100% volunteer, so we rely on the community to help provide the additional funding that keeps the Crawford Center doors open. Over the past (2) years, guest surveys tell us that they choose to patronize businesses that support the hockey league programs. Guests notice the sign sponsors immediately upon sitting in the bleachers. Tournament books, which are given to every person who enters the arena during tournament play, also provide our guests with visual information regarding support. We have also updated our website, which will now allow visitors to see our advertisers before they even step in the Crawford Center. While you help us continue to keep this facility open, we hope that you too, enjoy the business from our visitors.

On behalf of all of the skaters who enjoy the Crawford Center, thank you for your continued support. By once again advertising your business for the 2010 – 2011 season, we remain able to continue to do the work that gives families a great outlet in the winter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

**Randy Robaidek – Shawano Hockey League President**  
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