

Offside Skate

Official Newsletter for the South Carolina Stingrays Boosters Association



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. For those of you who were unable to attend the Holiday Party with our team, you missed a good one. In my opinion, this was one of the best holiday parties of all time. The food, catered by Mike Fields, was excellent. I'm not a big mac and cheese fan, but this dish was the best. Mike always does a great job for us and he and his crew are a wonderful group!

The singing performance by the rookies was one of the best in my history with the boosters. Colton Saucerman, took over the direction, and even provided a solo as part of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. It was so much fun and I think enjoyed by everyone. During the gift exchange, many of the gifts, went to the maximum of three exchanges. Our booster board did an excellent job of shopping for the boys this year.

I wish each and every one of you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year and as always, thank you for your support.

Nancy Sullivan, President

2016-2017

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Member Emeritus

Wayne Kasten



20 Questions with Steven Weinstein



1. What would you be doing if you didn't play hockey?

- Office job

2. Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter?

- No social media

3. Which do you prefer Tim Horton's, Dunkin Doughnuts, or Krispy Kreme?

- Hortons

4. If you could be any fictional character cartoon or human being, who would you be and why?

- Bruce lee. He was the total package.

5. Since playing pro hockey would be a bucket list item for so many, what is on a pro hockey player's bucket list?

- Making it to the NHL

6. In your teenage years who was your celebrity crush?

- Jennifer Lopez

7. What is your dream car?

- Jeep Wrangler with no doors

8. What book are you currently reading?

- None

9. Who is your hockey idol?

- Richard Park

10. What is your current favorite app?

- Barstool

11. What is your best hockey memory?

- Winning the RBC cup twice

12. What pre-game superstitions do you partake in?

- None

13. What is your favorite spot in Charleston?

- Moe's

14. Who is your roommate and what is his best and worst habit?

- Alex Gacek Best: all around great guy, Worst: n/a

15. What is your favorite way to unwind during the season to stay fresh?

- Head to the beach

16. Is there a reason you chose the number you wear?

- Wore 24 growing up but it's retired here so I flipped it.

17. In your opinion, who is the best dressed on the team?

- John Parker

18. What 3 words best describe you off the ice?

- Chill, funny, clean

19. What is your favorite song or band at the moment?

- Dirty heads, Oxygen



20. Biggest pet peeve?

- Feet on my pillow

Stats Monkey

A much better December from the Stingrays.

8-4-0-1 record for the month of December has come as the result of consistently good goaltending and improved scoring. The offensive found a groove for most of the month and averaged 3.9 goals per game. The defense was equally up to the challenge and held opponents to 2.76 goals per game. Team scoring has risen to 16th in the league at 3.14 goals per game. The team is now tied for 4th in goals allowed at 2.72 per game while the league leader is at 2.70. So there is a virtual tie at the top of the league between 5 teams for goals allowed but the 'Rays are the only South Division team in that mix. The Stingrays are 21st in the league for shots on goal per game at 29.83. The defense is still being stingy and is 2nd in the league at 27.69 shots allowed per game.

Top level special teams play still seems to elude this team. The power play has seen signs of life lately and has risen to 10th in the league to a 17.7% success rate. On the road PP units are 6th at 21.3% and while the home percentage is only at 14.3% it is an improvement over a team that had been in the single digits at home for most of the year. The once daunted penalty kill from seasons past of the Stingrays is 12th in the league at 84.4%. Still a good number but seeing as how the 'Rays have been shorthanded 109 times and only had 96 advantages the either the percentages need to rise or the ratio between PKs and PPs needs to flip for long term success.

Several players have started to hit their strides in December. Kelly Zajac has scored 21 (7G/14A) of his 35 points in December. His linemates Joe Devin and Derrick DeBlois have also had standout months. Since returning from injury DeBlois has 14 points (8G/6A) in just 9 games. Devin had 11 points (4G/7A) in December. Rob Flick has been the story in December. He



registered a point in 10 of 13 games including an OT winner in Greenville before Christmas. His 16 points (9G/7A) seemed to all be timely and often as a result of some tremendous individual efforts. Rookie Steve McParland is proving to be that diamond in the rough that Coach Warsofsky thought he was going to be. He is 6th in the league in rookie scoring with 25 points

(8G/17A) and 3rd on the team after an 11 point December (2G/9A). Fellow rookie Dylan Margonari had an 11 point December with 8G/2A. Defenseman Max Nicastro had a solid 10 points (1G/9A) including a 5 game point streak. Fellow Blueliner Steve Weinstein had an 8 point December with 1G/7A.

Weinstein leads the Stingrays with a +/- of +13 with McParland and Danny Federico following at +10.

Goaltending continued to be strong in December. Adam Carlson is 4th in the league with a 2.30 GAA and Parker Milner is 10th with a 2.56 GAA. Milner was the main beneficiary of the improved Stingrays offensive put out and had a 7-2 record in December. The injury to Carlson is unknown but he is on the 21 day IR as of the 28th. Look for Milner to carry much of the burden going forward until the coaching staff gets some confidence in Jordan Ruby who started the season in the SPHL but has yet to see action in the ECHL this year.

The Stingrays have still been very inconsistent but Stats Monkey is hopeful the 3 game win streak to end 2016 is a sign of things to come and wishes everyone a Happy New Year. See you at the rink.

Scrapbook Committee

The scrapbook committee has gotten off to a good start this season. In November, we started matting pictures of the guys. We now have over 3000 photos, which is an awesome start. If anyone has a good shot or some photos of the team including players and staff off the ice, please feel free to share them with us. We are always looking to make sure the books include everything while they are in Charleston. As for donations, the only things we need at the moment are photo safe adhesive and monetary donations for printing. I currently print them at Walmart if you prefer donating gift

cards. Please make sure to mark that the gift card is designated for the scrapbook committee if so.

We also plan on meeting again on the following dates if anyone wants to join: 1/7, 1/21, 2/4, 2/25 and 3/5. These may be subject to change depending on availability, but we will try to stick to these as close as possible. Dates were scheduled for when the team was away to accommodate for game days being so hectic in general. Anyone is welcome to join us; the more the merrier!

Check it out!



Just in case you have not made your way over to the Booster table this season, we would like to take this opportunity to show off our new swag! This season we have a new face working on fundraising. Angela Bradey, one of our new members at large, has helped collaborate with the other board members on new merchandise to help pay for all the things we do to support our team. Some of the new additions to the products we are selling are some amazing jewelry and ornaments. There are a few pictures of them here but you really should come see how beautiful they are. What better way to support the team, and surprise your loved ones than with jewelry this year? We have

also added players heads on sticks to the list of cool new items for our fans. These giant heads of your favorite players have been a big hit! Come by and show your support for your favorite players! There are new player faces coming periodically so make sure to check back at the table. There is something for everyone this season. We are now carrying a line of children hockey books as well as some cool Stingrays laces for your kids hockey skates. As in past years, we still carry the player buttons, cow bells and Stingrays Tervis tumblers. We hope you will come by and check out all the great things we have at our table this season and maybe test your luck with 50/50 tickets!



Road Pack



Greetings Stingrays fans! We have started making the road trips this season. Coach has requested more fruit this year. This means the most beneficial goods that can be donated are

water and Gatorade. I won't be putting as many prepackaged snacks on the bus, but gift cards to Sam's or Costco are always helpful. Coach has requested **no chips** on the bus this season so please try healthy options like Cliffbars or fruit-nut bars. If anyone has a recipe for protein brownies or a healthy baked snack, I'd love to have it. This season, anyone wanting to bake a healthy snack that can be individually packaged in a ziplock bag, should contact me to verify need during that bus trip. Thanks for all you do! So many of you donate items regularly and it helps the team so much!

Tess Hagan

Player Apartments

Many of the players arrive with nothing more than their gear and clothes. This makes it easier for them to move back and forth between the leagues. Each year the booster club provides the necessities for their apartments. While some things can be used year after year, many need to be replaced. Also, many of those reusable items wear out and need to be replaced. This year, much the same as last year, Donations are needed throughout the season.

Monetary donations are welcomed at <http://www.raysboosters.com/memberapp.html> or at the Booster table.

If you have anything you would like to donate, you can drop it off at the Stingrays office or call or text me at (843)270-2300.

Thanks!
Donna Gelwicks

Bandage Drive



The South Carolina Stingrays Booster Association (and the South Carolina Stingrays) will be collecting "**Child Themed Latex Free**" band-aids again to donate to MUSC Childrens Hospital Nurses. MUSC only

provides "adult" band-aids and not "Child Themed" band-aids. The children like to have cartoon, wild colors, and other fun patterns. There are bags for drop off at the Booster Club table and at the Stingrays table. If you would rather make monetary donations to the Booster Club or to me I will purchase bulk orders of fun kids band-aides. Thanks for donating!

— Ken Brenneman

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to welcome our newest members: Dustin Hesse and Lisa Mango, and Donna Lloyd! If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address please let me know. If you have renewed or joined us, I just need the patch for this year to give you your membership cards. I appreciate your patience.

Beth Bell 843-762-1274
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You can renew your membership online with Paypal! Visit <http://www.raysboosters.com/memberapp.html> Memberships can be renewed at the Booster table at all home games.
\$25 for a single membership
\$35 for a family membership.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Deborah Wells	V4	Dave Bell	V13	Nick Bligh (#23)	V16
Wolfe Brownstein	V10	Matthew Jones	V13	Onita Zucker	V19
Ryan Cabanting	V10	Russell Harley	V14	Lori Longhurst	V21
Tim Galunas	V11	Frank Lemacks	V14	Melissa Hutto	V23
John Parker (#6)	V11	Kelsey Weatherford	V15	Trevor Gillies (#51)	V30

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		7:05PM Home vs. Tulsa Oilers			7:05PM Home vs. Greenville Swamp Rabbits	5:00PM Away vs. Greenville Swamp Rabbits
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2:05PM Away vs. Atlanta Gladiators			7:30PM Away vs. Florida Everblades		7:30PM Away vs. Florida Everblades	7:00PM Away vs. Florida Everblades
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						7:05PM Away vs. Atlanta Gladiators
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
3:05PM Home vs. Greenville Swamp Rabbits		7:00PM Away vs. Greenville Swamp Rabbits			7:05PM Home vs. Florida Everblades	7:05PM Home vs. Florida Everblades
29	30	31				
3:05PM Home vs. Atlanta Gladiator						

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Just facts

1.

The Stanley Cup is far from perfect. It has over 20 engraving errors on it, including the misspelling of Boston as "Bqstqn," and the Toronto Maple Leafs as the "Leaes."

2.

The original Stanley Cup was only seven inches high.

3.

The Buffalo Sabres are the only team to have killed a live animal during a hockey game. In 1974, the team killed a bat during the game.

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"The Team That Supports The Team"

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updated website at
www.raysbooster.com