

Happy New Year to everyone in EHA.

Hopefully everyone enjoyed the holidays and were able to get some time to recharge their batteries. It was also a good time to get out and find a pond or backyard rink to skate on. There is nothing like getting out on a pond with some friends for a little pick up hockey or skating with your friends and family who don't get a chance to skate very often.

There seems to be a lot of excitement around skating and hockey recently. Of course there is the NHL's Winter Classic being shown on National TV January 1st and the CT Whale Hockey Fest coming up in February.

Additionally, however, I saw three articles in the Hartford Courant this week talking about pond hockey and outdoor skating. One talked about Fermi and South Windsor High School hockey teams playing at Simsbury Farms (outdoor rink) in Simsbury . It was a game the South Windsor coach had been wanting to do for a long time for the joy of playing outside and a chance to grow the game of hockey. Another article talked about the small rink set up in Bushnell Park in Hartford. My family and I saw firsthand how much fun kids, who may have been on skates for the first time, were having on the ice. It seemed like a great thing for Bob Crawford (owner of Champions Rink in Cromwell) and the City of Hartford to put together. There was also an article on ponds throughout Connecticut where people could go to skate and have fun.

My family and I found a couple of places to skate around Enfield too. There is a couple of small skating areas set up in Powder Hollow near the baseball fields. It looks like a liner was put down in a couple of places and filled in with water. The ice was a little rough on one rink, but the other one was nice and we played a little four on four with a couple of people who

were already there. Also, a good friend and former coach in EHA, Scott Gaidos met us at the Somersville Mill Pond. A good sized area had been cleared with a snowblower and we played some four on four and did a some one-on-ones for a couple of hours in the sunshine. We also heard of a rink set up in Southwest Park in Windsor Locks that people could enjoy. Nice job to the Towns of Enfield and Windsor Locks for setting their rinks up.

Not that we don't get enough hockey throughout the season, but there is something special about skating outside. It is also nice not to be on a schedule and to have some freedom to just skate, play with friends or work on some moves you don't get to try during practice. Another great thing is those backyard rinks. Ryan M on the Squirt team is excited to get on his and I'm sure there are a few others. Hopefully we'll see each other out on a pond or backyard rink somewhere. Just remember to get those skates sharpened before you come to practice.

Rob Vose - ICE CHIPS COORDINATOR



Rita, Brooke, Thomas, Krissie, Lindsay and Robert at Bushnell Park Rink in Hartford

INSIDE DECEMBER ISSUE

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SKATING WITH SANTA

On December 19th the Learn to Skate and the Instructional skaters got a visit from Santa. He went around to all the kids to see how they were enjoying hockey and to find out what they wanted for Christmas. Santa handed out some goodies to all the skaters and congratulates them on their hard work. Thanks to all who participated.



Santa thanks Colin M and Daigen D for helping out with the LTS (photo by Lorraine Votta)



Santa asks Ryan B what he wants for Christmas as his dad Dave looks on. (photo by Lorraine Votta)



Luke V and some other players get a picture with Santa on the ice. (photo by Lorraine Votta)

GAME REPORTS

Here is the section where we recap some of the action during the month and recognize the kids' effort and hard work. Parents on the travel teams have sent in some pictures from games that are included in this issue. If you have a write up or a picture you want to include send me an email at rvose@snet.net. Also at the end of this newsletter is an ICE CHIPS Game Report that will give you an idea of some of the information to record during a game. Fill out all or a part of it and send it in as an attachment. You can also fill out an ICE CHIPS report on-line at the EHA website (www.enfieldhockey.org) by selecting ICE CHIPS from the left side menu and then selecting "Online Form".

MITES

12/4/2010 Mites vs. South Windsor A

The Mite A team entered this morning's game against South Windsor with a 9-1 record and our rivals from down south on Route 5 gave us our most competitive game of the year.

The first period ended scoreless with So. Windsor out shooting Enfield 6 shots to 2 but the Eagles had the territorial edge and proved they could skate with South Windsor. The line

of Michael A, Tyler P and Kenny O'K fought extremely hard chasing down loose pucks and pressuring the South Windsor defense. The strong defensive play of Alex F, JC R, Wesley O and Dan B did an excellent good job containing the talented and speedy South Windsor forwards and Ryan G came up with clutch saves when called upon to keep our team in the game.

The defensive pace of the 1st period continued into the 2nd. The line of Remington F, Alex C and Mason F played great two way hockey pressuring the So Windsor defense with crisp passing and slowed down their offense with tough back checking thru the neutral zone, making it difficult for So Windsor to gain offensive momentum. However, with 1 minute left in the 2nd period the offensive drought ended when during a 5 on 3 Enfield power play, Hunter D took a Sam T pass and knocked it home for the first goal of the game.

The Eagles entering the 3rd period with a 1-0 lead but the defensive pace of the game changed and the offense began to open up. At the 9 minute mark of the third period South Windsor tied the game but a minute and half later Hunter D was there again on the rebound knocking home his 2nd goal of the game to give the Eagles a 2-1. However, we were only able to enjoy our lead for 3 minutes because with 4 minutes and 30 seconds left in the game South Windsor tied it up 2-2.

The pace and excitement intensified during the last minutes of the game and with 1:34 left, Enfield called a timeout. The Eagles regrouped for their final push of the game but with 53 seconds left, Enfield was called for a slashing penalty and had to play the final minute plus, one man down. But wait a minute, if the

penalty happened with 53 seconds left in the game how could Enfield play with one man down for over a minute? That's because the South Windsor Arena scorekeeper didn't start the clock after the puck was dropped on the face off. In spite of the extra time South Windsor had at the end of the game they couldn't penetrate the exceptional Eagle defensive unit of Hunter D, Sam T, Wes O and Alex F and the young Eagle mites kept their tie 2-2 and were initiated into the Enfield – South Windsor rivalry.

12/5/2010 Mites vs. Gr Brgport B (@ Shelton)

The mites traveled to Shelton for a 9:45 am match up with the Greater Bridgeport Mite B team (GBJHA). When we arrived at the rink the boys enjoyed the opportunity to watch some of the Bridgeport Sound Tigers practice.

Greater Bridgeport got off to a quick start scoring the first goal of the game when the Eagle defense couldn't clear the puck and GBJHA poked the puck past our goalie, Alex F. Kenny O'K's hard work finally paid off when he fired a shot from the slot beating the Gr Bridgeport goalie, scoring the Eagles first goal of the game and his 1st of the season. Later in the period Remmy F head manded a pass from our defensive zone to a streaking Alex C who broke over the center ice line alone on the goalie and beat him to give the Eagles their first lead of the game and the first period ended 2-1 Enfield.

However, our lead was short lived. During the second period, Greater Bridgeport popped in a pair of goals to retake the lead and the Mites entered the 3rd period trailing 3-2. This was only the second time in 12 games that the Eagles trailed while entering the 3rd period. The lines were reshuffled to increase our offensive threats but the Eagles couldn't beat

the GBpt goalie for most of the period. Half way thru the 3rd period Sam T broke in on a breakaway, deked the goalie to his forehead but shot just wide. To compound our problems with 2 and a half minutes left in the game we were called for a too many men on the ice penalty. The Eagles successfully killed the penalty and with 1:20 seconds left in the game we called a time out, pulled our goalie for an extra skater and sent out Tyler G, Sam T, Remmy F, Hunter, JC R and Dan B and with only 49 seconds in the game a Tyler G shot from the slot beat the GBJHA goalie.

We left Shelton with a tie and hope to get ahead of them in January when they travel to Enfield for a rematch.

Submitted by Mite A Head Coach - Rick Teel

SQUIRTS

12/5/10 Squirt A vs. Amherst Squirt A

We have been talking as a team about coming out skating hard right of the first face-off. Jamie S executed this to perfection as he took the puck from the opening face-off and skated hard into the offensive zone. He then curled and sent a nice pass to Ryan M who sent a hard wrist shot from the blue line, past the goalie only 25 seconds into the game.

Robert V kept the scoring going when he received a nice feed from Cam R out of the corner. Robert went across the slot, with patience, and went to his backhand to score top shelf. Meanwhile Amherst started to put a lot of pressure on the Enfield blueliners. One D pair of Jake S and Jake E were able to break up numerous 3 on 2s. And Cam R helped out with his relentless backchecking. It was clear,

however, that this game was going to come down to the wire.

Enfield's offense continued to create chances out of the corners and Connor J, who brought his A game on this day, worked the puck out of the corner to set up Robert for his second goal. The other D pair of Ben K and Nate R were able to not only handle the mounting pressure, but also were able to rush the puck and start the counterattack. Enfield's next goal came when Nate rushed the puck into the offensive zone and sent it deep into the corner. That's where Patric M went to work to gather the puck and feed it to Ryan M for his second goal. Robert then opened up the lead with his next two goals. First he crashed the net on a rebound from a Connor J shot. And then he completed Enfield's scoring when he received a breakout pass from Connor and deked the two defensemen and beat the goalie stickside. Amherst was able to bounce back to tie the game. Peyton E, who had the net for the whole game, played outstanding and the game ended in a well deserved 6-6 tie.



Jake S breaks up a two on one against Northwestern (photo by Christina Kaliff)

12/11/10 Squirts vs Northwestern B

A scenic, early morning ride out to The Gunnery in Washington brought the Enfield Squirts to face the Northwestern Ice Hawks Squirt B team. The captains of the week, Robert V and Ryan M

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led the Eagles onto the ice. The referees did not show and were replaced by an assistant coach of the Ice Hawks, who did a great job in their place. The Eagles worked well as a team and really controlled the corners. Ryan M got the Eagles on the scoreboard when he received a pass from Cam R and sent a hard shot into the net. Mike K did the hard work in the corner to get the pass to Cam. Ben K, asked to switch from his normal defensive position, got into the scoring on a nice bang, bang pass from Robert and Connor J. Enfield's defense of Nate R, Jake E and Jake S were called upon to play some iron man defense since the Eagles had a short bench without Jamie S and Patric M. They played aggressive and attacked all the loose pucks. Because of their inspired play they earned the Hard Hats of the week.

Cam R scored next for the Eagles when Ryan M returned the favor with a nice pass. Again Mike K started the play when he worked the puck into the zone and fed Ryan. Robert received a nice pass from the versatile Ben K and beat the tough Ice Hawks goalie, who made some spectacular saves throughout the game. Robert scored again later in the second period when he was sprung on a breakaway after a nice breakout play by Connor and Jake S.



Ryan M, Mike K, Nate R and Jake E keep the pressure on Northwestern (Photo by Christina Kaliff)

The Eagles have been working on their passing game in practice. It has been emphasized that when you give up the pass, you are usually on the receiving end of a pass or rebound back in a scoring situation. This has been demonstrated numerous times in previous games and it would again be shown in the Eagles next two goals. Ryan M brought the puck into the offensive zone and curled back to pass it to Nate R at the point. Nate took a hard shot, which was stopped, but the rebound came back to Ryan who just had to tap the puck in the open net. Next, Robert started a breakout with a pass to Ryan M and skated hard to catch up to the play. Ryan went around one defenseman and fed the puck back to Robert who shot the puck high into the net against the sliding goalie to complete his hat trick. Connor completed the scoring with a hard shot from the face-off dot after receiving a pass from Robert. Goalies, Alex J and Peyton E played solid in net and combined for the shutout and the game ended 8-0.

12/12/10 Squirts vs Northern Lights U-10 Silver

The Eagles hosted the No. Lights at ETR on an early Sunday morning. The game plan was to come out skating hard since the Northern Lights always come out ready to play. The Eagles were clicking on all cylinders and got on the scoreboard first when Ryan M used his patented hard wrist shot and scored top shelf on the Lights' goalie. The score remained 1-0 due to the good defensive tandems of Jake S, Jake E and Nate R, Ben K. The defense remained patient with the puck and used their improved rink vision to find their forwards. Peyton M was also on his game and kept the Lights off the board by playing aggressive in goal and getting in good position to cut off the shooting angles.

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Patric M puck handles up the ice with the No. Lights in pursuit (photo by Christine Juhasz)

Connor J got the scoring going again in the second period when he received a pass by Robert V who worked the puck out of the corner and sent it to the slot. Jamie S started the play when he stick-handled the puck into the zone and sent it in the corner for Robert. Connor took Robert's pass and one-timed it into the net for the goal. Robert then used his speed to get to the puck first in the offensive zone and skated around the net for the wrap-around goal. The Northern Lights put a lot of pressure on the Eagles defense. The aggressive back check of the forwards including Patric M, Ryan M and Cam R helped the defense keep the Lights off the board. Cam then helped on the offensive end when he got a pass from Ryan M and fired it into the net. The play started, however, when Mike K cycled the puck behind the net and drew two defenders to him. This allowed Cam and Ryan free reign in front of the net for the score. Meanwhile, Nate R demonstrated his offensive skills from his defensive position. He started numerous counterattacks to keep the puck down in the offensive zone. And Alex J made numerous sliding leg saves to stymie the No. Lights forwards. In the third period Ryan M put the game out of reach when he scored on a one,

two pass off the face-off from Cam R and Patric M. The Eagles went on to win 5-1.

12/15/10 Squirt A vs ECHO Squirt A

In a rare mid-week game the Eagles traveled to Bolton Ice Palace to take on the ECHO Squirt A Stars. Despite a long day at school the Eagles came ready to play and came out skating hard. The Eagles were going to have to play hard on the forecheck and backcheck. Cam R led the team with his hustle. Additionally the wingers, Patric M, Mike K and Ryan M worked hard in the offensive corners to control the game. Robert V got the Eagles on the board first with a end to end rush from behind his own net to score. Jake E and Jake S, along with their backcheckers were able to prevent most breakaways and Peyton E and Alex J were able to stop most of the pucks that got through. Mike K with his hustle was able to draw a penalty, which also helped the Eagles to control the game early. Robert then gathered a beautiful head man pass from Jake E, who has been playing with a lot more confidence. Robert then went wide on the defense to his backhand and shot back across the crease for the goal. The Stars came back hard and the first period ended with the score 2-2.



Cam R, Nate R, Ben K and Alex J create a wall in front of the ECHO Stars (photo by Christine Juhasz)

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The Eagles continued to work hard in the corners and control the game. Connor J continues to play smart hockey and use his speed to put pressure on the opponent. His tenacity paid off when he received a pass from Robert from behind the net and one-timed it into the net. The Stars again tied it up and the game went into the third tied 3-3.

In the third the action went up and down the ice. Nate R used his improving speed and aggressiveness to spring the counterattack from his defensive position. Also, blueliner Ben K used his deft stickhandling and heads-up play to slow the Stars offense and start the puck back up the ice. The Eagles passing got the Stars chasing, which resulted in many penalties. Despite the numerous penalties on the Stars, the Eagles did not retaliate and had a six to two advantage in the penalty tally. This discipline helped the Eagles keep the play in the offensive zone and were able to keep a lot of pressure on the Stars excellent goalie. Despite numerous chances including a one-timer by Connor J that just went wide the game ended in a tie 3-3.

PEE WEES

12/12/2010 Enfield vs Gr. Bridgeport Pee Wee B

The Pee Wee A team hosted the Greater Bridgeport B Team at ETR. Enfield showed their hustle early by getting into the corners and setting up the cycle. The line of Thomas V, Matt V and Will F exemplified this when they cycled the puck out of the corner and Matt fed Thomas in front of the net. Thomas was able to kick the puck up to his stick and fire it into the net. The Eagles had a bunch of chances in the first including a nice feed from Andrew C to Will F, who just missed the net wide on a one-timer.

Again the Eagles forecheck in the corners paid off when Joe P and Tyler Hughes attacked the puck and dug it out to Brody N. Brody wheeled out of the half-boards and wristed it back across the crease for the score. Andrew C who had been passing well all game received a nice pass from Mike K. Andrew then went around the net and deposited the puck top shelf in the net. Meanwhile Zack F made some nice saves on the River Hawks to keep the Eagles in front in the first period. Then Jake A came in and was immediately tested with 2 quick shots that he made nice saves on. It can be tough to come off the bench cold, but Jake showed his focus by getting right into the game and making some big saves.



Colin M scores on a breakaway (photo by Jim Roche)

Brody N continued his scoring ways on a nice one-two feed from Joey P and Colin M. The Eagles then had to kill a few penalties and the lineup of Brody N and Joey P up front and Mike K and Sam B on defense maintained the box and kept the River Hawks from scoring. Then with a 4 on 4 situation, Thomas V and Daigen D used their speed and passing to beat the GB goalie. The play was set up when Sam B and Brian M went D to D to start the quick counter attack. Thomas then returned the favor when he gave a quick give and go pass back to Daigen who was wide open for the goal. Colin M completed the scoring when he received a pass

from Andrew C and the Eagles went on to win 7-4.

12/18/10 Enfield vs Holy Name A

In a very evenly matched game the Eagles took on the Holy Name Stars at the Olympia. The Eagles put an emphasis on passing and teamwork today.

The game was an up and down contest and remained at zero for a while thanks to some outstanding goaltending by Jake A and Zack F. Holy Name scored first, but Enfield stayed strong and got it back when Matt V went top shelf off a feed from Thomas V and Will F. The Stars came right back, however, to make it 2-1. The Eagles maintained their composure, however, and continued to get many offensive chances. The line of Tyler H, Brody N and Joey P worked the triangle in the offensive zone and Tyler just missed a one-timer in front. The Eagles then evened it up when the line of Colin M, Daigen D and Andrew C worked it out of the zone with some nice passing on a well executed breakout. Andrew then took the puck wide around the defense and went high on the goalies stick side for the goal.

Holy Name continued to put a lot of pressure on the Eagles, but the defense of Sam B, Jared C, Vinnie B and Brian M played smart and used the body check to slow the opponent's rushes. They also kept the Stars off the board late in the third period when the Eagles were down to 3 defensemen.

Late in the game the Eagles got some fresh legs on the ice due to a fortuitous change by Coach Votta. Andrew C worked the puck out of the left corner and caught Thomas V fresh off the bench for the redirect that went 5-hole for the goal. The Eagles still had to focus because Holy

Name came with a six man rush in the closing minute. Sam B and Jared C limited any offensive chances by clearing the men out from the slot so the Eagles could hold on to win 3-2.



Thomas V scores the game winner on a pass from Andrew C as Will F draws the defense away (photo by Jim Roche)

GOTTA LOVE CT HOCKEY WITH SQUIRT As

On December 4th, the Enfield Squirt A Team was interviewed by the Gotta Love CT Hockey group during their game against the Avon Panthers at Avon Old Farms. Kids, Parents and Coaches all were interviewed and are shown on the video that can be found at www.gottalovecthockey.org. (Link: [Gotta Love CT Hockey](http://www.gottalovecthockey.org) or paste <http://www.gottalovecthockey.org/video-dec102.html> in your browser). The whole team got into the event with parents and siblings wearing EHA colors and showing how enthusiastic we are about Hockey in Enfield. Gotta Love CT Hockey is endorsed by CHC and does a great job promoting hockey and creates some fun videos of teams throughout CT.

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

EHA's Comedy Night January 29, 2011

Early Bird Price \$20 extended until 1/16/2010 -

After 1/16/2010 \$30 per person

For tickets contact:

Lorraine Votta (860)253-9890

Valerie Breda (860)623-3503

Rita Vose (860)749-5950

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

Enfield Squirt A Team Playing Opening Day @ Rentschler Field in the Whalers Hockey Fest



WHALERS HOCKEY FEST 2011
13 Days of Kick Ice Fun Outdoors!
FEBRUARY 9 - 21
Rentschler Field, East Hartford, CT

Enfield Eagles Squirt A vs. Whalers Squirt A1 **Wed. Feb. 9, 7:15-8:15pm**

The Squirt Team has to raise money to attend this event so please purchase tickets for any Whaler Hockey Fest event through the Squirt A team: Contact Rob or Rita Vose at rvose@snet.net or at **860-749-5950**

\$10.00 one day weekday pass (gen. admission)
\$15.00 one day weekend pass except for 2/19 (general admission)

\$35.00 for all event pass (reserved seating)

Click on this link for view of full schedule:

[The CT Whale :: Hockey Fest Schedule](http://www.ctwhale.com)

(www.ctwhale.com)



Mike K played some tough net vs Avon in front of the GOTTA LOVE CT HOCKEY cameras.



Rita Vose gets interviewed by Kristen Lebish for Gotta Love CT Hockey during the Squirt's game against Avon



Families of the Squirt A show their true colors for EHA at the Avon Game. (3 Photos by Christine Juhasz)



ICE CHIPS GAME REPORT

Location: _____

Date: _____

Enfield Team (See Note 1) _____

VS Opposing Team: _____

Final Score: Enfield _____ Opponent _____

Prior Meeting with same team game results if applicable: (W/L/T) Notes: _____

Enfield

Goals: (See Note 2)

#	Player Name	Period	Assists		#	Player	#	Player
			#	Player				
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Game Highlights: (Include Player Name and/or number) (See Notes 1 & 2)

If you have any Questions for EHA you would like to ask for Q&A section of ICE CHIPS please ask here:

Submitted By: _____ Phone #: _____ or Email _____

Notes:

- Learn to Skate (Coach: Fred P); Mite A (Coach Rick T); Squirt A (Coach Rob V); PeeWee A (Coach Bob F); Midget (Duane C)
- Only use first name and last initial. Also, I have names and numbers for each player (Mites, Squirts and Pee Wees) so if you only know the number then put that down. This section is optional.
- Game Highlights: Include any nice pass plays, defensive plays, goaltending plays or other team play highlights.
- Submit to Rob Vose via your coach or send to (rvose@snet.net)**
- Also use Online Ice Chips Submission form @ www.enfieldhockey.org