

K.B. Willett Ice Arena

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEVENS POINT, Wis. (April 6, 2009) -- The City of Stevens Point and the Stevens Point Parks and Recreation Department are excited to announce a partnership with the new Central Wisconsin Saints Junior B Hockey Team. The Central Wisconsin Saints Junior B Hockey team is a proud member of United States Hockey sanctioned Great Lake Junior Hockey League. All home games will be played at the K. B. Willett Arena.

The Great Lakes Junior Hockey League consists of 9 teams. The teams are from Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. Teams include the Motor City Chiefs, Michigan Ice Dogs, Michigan Mountain Cats, Tri-City Ice Hawks, Illinois Danville Inferno, Chicago Jr. Huskies, Illinois Frontenac's, Pleasant Prairie Rampage and the Central Wisconsin Saints.

The Saints are thrilled to be able to offer players from throughout the United States and Canada the opportunity to advance their careers to their highest potential. As part of the GLJHL, the Saints play a 44 game schedule as well as participate in league playoffs with the goal to compete for USA Hockey National Championship. The Saints home rink is the Willett Ice Arena, which is also home to the NCAA Division III University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point team. The Saints will practice at the NHLPA Ice Arena, which was funded in part by a \$150,000 donation from the National Hockey League Players Association.

The Saints Program is dedicated to the development of players to advance their careers athletically as well as scholastically. With that in mind, players currently in High School will have the opportunity to take classes at Stevens Point Area High School (SPASH) or Pacelli Catholic High School. Our players also enjoy the opportunity to enroll in courses at the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point, Mid- State Technical College or at North Central Technical College. Scholastic success and off-ice development are crucial elements of the Saints Program that will help our players successfully prepare for the transition to college hockey.

The Central Wisconsin Saints Hockey team is dedicated to providing a competitive environment for some of the top players at the U-20 level to improve their skills and showcase their abilities to NAHL, USHL, and NCAA college hockey programs. In conjunction with the Central Wisconsin Saints Hockey Association, the Junior B club is

dedicated to developing players to reach their highest abilities.

The City of Stevens Point is 150 miles due north of Madison Wisconsin and is a hot bed for hockey for hockey in the State of Wisconsin. It's an hour and half from the city of Green Bay, which is home to the Green Bay Gamblers Junior Hockey team of the United States Junior Hockey League and St. Norbert's Division 3 hockey team. The State of Wisconsin has many Division 3 programs and is also Home to the Wisconsin Badgers.

We are close to Chicago, St Paul/Minneapolis, Madison, Milwaukee, Eau-Claire, La Crosse, Green Bay, home of Green Bay Packers, and Wausau. We have an easy access to Stevens Point with all the major highway systems connecting Central Wisconsin.

Joseph Zuniga and George Helbach are the founders of Central Wisconsin Saints Youth Hockey Association Inc. The organization has been in existence since 2000 and has youth programs for Mites, Squirts, Pee Wee, Bantams and Midgets.

One of our priorities is to find host families for our players from out of town who will make the team for the 2009-2010 season. The host family will receive \$250.00 a month for room and board. The player will be responsible for the cost of his meals. Try-outs for the team will be held on June 20-21, 2009 and those chosen for the team will begin their season September 1, 2009. Players will be arriving in town on Labor Day Weekend to move in with their host families.

If you are interested in hosting a young man for the Junior B Hockey program, or have questions please call or E-mail Diane Zuniga at 343-8997 (dzuniga@g2a.net).

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