

The SnapShot

South Shore Women's Hockey

Martin Resigns as Registrar

Al Martin has resigned as Women's Registrar. Former Sub Registrar, Valerie Hamton, will take his place. Martin will continue to assist with USA Hockey coaching clinics.

Martin had been under heavy criticism from representatives of several women's teams. Most complained of his failure to return telephone calls and process paperwork.

"He has done a lot for women's hockey. I think we should be thankful for that."

Registrar Val Hamton on Al Martin's resignation.

Hamton conceded that there have been

administrative difficulties but empathized with Martin's position.

"He has done a lot for women's hockey," she said. "I think we should be thankful for that." Hamton said the paperwork involved with being registrar can be overwhelming. She said Martin was, "running on all cylinders and it came to a point where things just shut down."

It was the "shut down" that caused the fray about Martin within the league. Some teams are concerned that their IMRs--that is their team insurance--may not have been forwarded to USA Hockey. That would leave those players uninsured. USA Hockey sends an insurance card in the mail verifying coverage.

Another difficulty involves team rosters. Player's games count only when the roster has been received by USA Hockey. Each player needs ten games in order to participate in the State Tournament. But Hamton felt these problems could be overcome.

"I talked to Al and I'll be getting a lot of his paperwork," Hamton said. If Hamton does get the needed papers she will forward them to USA Hockey.

League Meeting Date Change

The next league meeting will be on December 12 at 6:45PM at the Canton rink. A state meeting will be immediately following. State Guide books and rule books will be available.

New Registrar Will Keep Lines Open

Val Hamton, the new Women's Registrar, said she hopes to keep the lines of communication open between herself and the teams. She said she has a fax that is on 24 hours a day and an answering machine. She also promises to hear complaints and to do her best to help with problems.

Hamton has served in various administrative capacities for the league for several years. She confesses to being almost compulsively organized. When she makes the league schedule, for example, she charts out preferred rinks, times and other variables on a graph. She then methodically calculates the schedule by using a complex rotation system. It is her organizational skills which she hopes will help her succeed as Registrar.

There will be some immediate changes as a result of Hamton becoming Registrar. She will enforce the "old" waiver rule. Former Registrar, Al Martin, made the process simple by just having the player's current team write a letter saying the player has no financial obligation. Now players will have to fill out a form, get financial clearance from their old team and have the new team sign the paperwork as well.

"That's a perfect example of how Al tried to make things easier for people," Hamton said. But some team managers complained that the process made it too easy for players to join a new club without paying back money owed the old team. "It's not true but they blamed that on Al."

Though being Women's Registrar is seen as a prestigious position, Hamton said it is really just doing a lot of work for free. "It's just a volunteer job, she said. "Plus you have to put lot of time into it." She doesn't see herself as the type of personality to become so self-impressed that she would stop hearing team complaints. "If I get like that just slap me across the head," she joked.

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Round Champions

Springfield is the official winner of the **Silver Division**. In the last addition of the *SnapShot* there was some question as to how the team moved from eight to twelve points in one week. The answer was simple. The team played a make-up game during the week.

Team manager **Gail Wickstrum** said **Springfield** was not interested in moving up to the **Gold Division**, however. The league made a decision that the team moving up and the team moving down had to agree to move in order for there to be a swap.

The **Gold Division** championship for last round will be decided at the next league meeting. **Carl Gray's Assabet A's** fell one point behind **Canton**. His team forfeited to **Mass Bay** when he failed to come up with enough players for a make-up game. **Gray** felt his team should not be penalized since it was **Mass Bay** that asked for the change.

The league is considering giving him a tie for the game. If they do he will tie **Canton** for total points in the round. Since **Assabet** beat **Canton** head-to-head his team will win the round. As a result of the controversy the league is no longer allowing teams to reschedule games.

State Tournament

Registrar **Val Hamton** and Director **Maggie Pate** are working on two State Tournaments. **Hamton** said teams need to contact her whether or not they intend to participate. **Hamton** said she needs to book rinks very soon and cannot calculate the number of hours needed unless all the teams contact her.

One will be a **National** bound tournament and the other a state tournament with no obligation to participate in the **Nationals**. However, this year **Hamton** said the **National** bound tournament winner will be obligated to go to the **Nationals**. She promises severe consequences if the **National** bound state champion opts out of going to the **National** Tournament.

Last year **Hobomock** won the State Tournament. Former coach **Jim Wagner** had his team play in the States even though he knew he would lose the majority of his talent to the **Pacific Rim Games** which were played around the same time as the **National** Tournament.

Wagner decided not to go to the **Nationals** with a short roster. **Hobomock** paid no consequence for the action. This year the pre-Olympic games and the **Nationals** are being held on different weekends.

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Designed to give a "SnapShot" of South Shore Women's Hockey.

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Coaching clinics

Head coaches must have their intermediate patch by December 31. (The rule will be strictly enforced at the state tournament.) The last dates for getting the patch are as follows:

Associate:	December 10-U-Mass Boston
Intermediate:	December 17-U-Mass Boston
Hockey Dynamics:	December 19-U-Mass Boston

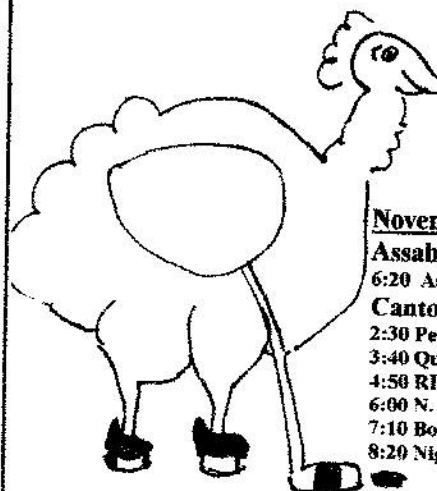
In order to receive an intermediate patch coaches must attend the hockey dynamics program as well as the intermediate coach seminar.

Players Need Teams

If you are looking for players Registrar **Val Hamton** asks that you contact her as soon as possible. Many players are calling and looking for teams. Some are even practicing with teams that do not have room for them to play in games.

Nick Cardinale is looking for a goaltender for his Bronze Division team. Anyone interested can contact him at 508-562-3146.

Women's Registrar
Val Hamton
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November 26 Schedule

Assabet Rink:
6:20 Assabet V. Needham
Canton Rink
2:30 Peewees
3:40 Quincy V. Spring
4:58 RI. S V. Night. B.
6:00 N. Shore V. Stoneh.
7:10 Bos Shrls V. Storm
8:20 Night C V. S. Shore