

DISH FROM THE PITCH



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



OPENING DAY KICKOFF



photo credit: Andy McKee

by Aislinn Leonard

With a record 300 members, and rookies signing up in droves, the anticipation leading up to the Milwaukee Hurling Club's 18th season had Facebook and Twitter exploding with comments weeks before Opening Day. MHC member Joel Ingebrigstson posted, "It's like hurling Christmas," the day teams were announced.

As our weekend warriors rolled up to Brown Deer Park on Sunday, the soft, damp, green grass shone like a welcome mat after the long Wisconsin winter.

The youth squads took to the pitch first and did such a great job that the adult teams knew they'd have to kick butt in order to live up to the opening act. The sidelines started filling with brightly colored tents as

more families arrived for the festivities.

As tradition holds, all 300 members marched to the music of the bagpipes, played by James D'Amico, and followed the American flag carried by recent Marine Corps training graduate, Christian Neuenschwander.

Gathered at center field, all stood for an inspiring display of talent by the MHC Choir singing the National Anthem led by Cory Johnson. The 2013 club picture was taken, raffle winners were drawn, and a short memorial speech was given in memory of Donna Decker, a dearly loved and fundamental member of the MHC.

Before breaking away to continue the games, Dave Olson roared, "Everybody in!" and

players from age four to over 50 raised their hurleys and their voices to shout "UP THE MHC!"

We're on Instagram!



Follow us:

@milwaukee_hurling or
hashtag your pictures with
#MHC2013 and maybe you'll
see your picture in the Dish!

All Tools Sales Legion Blows Past McBob's Gael Winds

by Jack Harrold

McBob's Gael Winds squared off against the newly founded All Tool Sales Legion to begin the adult games of the Milwaukee Hurling Club's 18th season. True to their championship heritage, McBob's jumped out to an early lead of 1-1 (4) to 0-1 (1) by the end of the first quarter thanks to spectacular play by their veterans across the field.

But, the Gael Winds tempest died down in the second quarter as All Tool Sales found their groove. "I have never seen chemistry like this in the first game," Legionnaire Nick "Tater" Ruetz proclaimed.

Indeed, as the quarter ticked away, the physical play of All Tool Sales quickly climbed out of the scoring deficit and gained a solid lead going into the half.



photo credit: Colin Whitney

The second half started with the Gael Winds trailing, but they were determined not to be blown away. Amping up their defense and making spectacular moves towards the goal, McBob's fought hard, never giving up. Sadly, though, they seemed to have trouble transitioning from one end of the field to another and just were not able to convert.

Meanwhile, the All Tool Sales rookies showed themselves to be strong contributors, hurling like veterans. Rookie Ronnie Hanson managed to get his first ever point in his very first game. Although the Gale Winds' defense severely restricted scoring in the second half, All Tool's lead was enough to comfortably hang onto victory with a score of 5-12 (27) to 2-2 (10).









OPENING DAY				LEADERBOARD			
ALL TOOL	5-12	DEF	McBOB'S	2-02	ALL TOOL	1	0
SLIMS WEST	5-10	DEF	BURKE'S	3-12	BROCACH	1	0
BROCACH	3-14	DEF	COUNTY CLARE	3-04	IRISH PUB	1	0
IRISH PUB	4-13	DEF	TRINITY	5-06	SLIMS	1	0
					ALE HOUSE	0	0
					SHAMROCK CLUB	0	0
					SILVER SPRING HOUSE	0	0
					BURKE'S	0	1
					COUNTY CLARE	0	1
					McBOB'S	0	1
					TRINITY	0	1

Slim's Shockers Storm Burke's Irish Castle

by Jack Harrold



photo credit: Trish and Sarah Borzon

The second match of opening day saw the Slim McGinn's Shockers take on a Burke's Irish Castle squad representing one of our new sponsors. Both teams were pumped up after the opening ceremonies and took that energy to the field which resulted in some great first quarter action.

An early penalty on the Castle squad led to a quick point for Slims by Dan "Danny Mac" McAuliffe. Another point followed shortly after by the Shockers midfield, but Burke's wasn't going to let the Shockers run away with the early lead as

Joe "JB" Blanchar fired right back with a point for the Castle squad.

The Burke's halfbacks and midfielders also stepped up to help prevent more pointing from Slims and their efforts resulted in another Burke's point after some great stops by Shockers' keeper Dave "Chico" Monfrey.

The second quarter was a great defensive battle. The Shockers' defense was swarming to the ball and moved it up the lines which led to the first goal of the match by Steve "Jake" Jakubowski.

But John Lindstrom led a spirited defensive effort by

Burke's to limit the Shockers shots on goal and was aided by Christian Neuenschwander in a great display of team communication early in the season.

The second half got right back to the action with a tight battle and both teams hoped to take control of the match early.

The keepers from both squads made some great saves, but the game had clearly shifted to an offensive battle and relentless plays by both teams led to an amazing back and forth quarter. The highlight may have been Steve Taylor's beautiful overhead double off the free by Connor Kilp for the Burke's goal.

Towards the end of the game however, the Shocker's defense proved to be impenetrable and despite a Castle squad that never stopped working, the Slim McGinn's Shockers took the opening day victory.

The final score was Slim McGinn's 5-10 (25) to Burke's Irish Castle 2-6 (12), but in a great example of MHC sportsmanship the Burke's co-captain noted, "The game was hard fought, but we had fun." What a great way to sum up this exciting opening day.

Quotes From the Pitch

"I can't play, she's staring at me."
"Everybody STOP!"
"She's in my way."
"She took the ball away from me!"
"I'm dizzy."

-Ivan Wayne Baker IV (age 4)

“ Let us know what you've overheard! Tweet @Milw_Hurling or Facebook Milwaukee Hurling Club with your quotes from the pitch. Maybe you'll see it in the next Dish!

”

Faces From the Pitch by Connor Kilp

Nick Yanasak



Although Nick Yanasak, a rookie, has known about the club for a number of years through his friend Captain Connor Kilp of Burke's, he has finally had the time to join up.

Nick plays for Burke's Irish Castle, and during his debut game played hard. "It was a lot of fun, and I'm excited for the rest of the season," Nick mentioned following the game. Nick played the game at half back, and hopes to keep playing there.

While not at the pitch, Nick works as a manager at Planet Fitness in downtown Milwaukee, and when asked at which sponsor he would most likely be found, he promptly stated, "Irish Pub, it is pretty close to my work." Nick plays a myriad of other sports, including ping-pong and ultimate Frisbee.

Fun Fact: Nick is not Irish.

Brocach Bandits Scratch Past County Clare Cats

by Jack Harrold



photo credit: Hannah Fortier (age 7)

The penultimate match saw the Brocach Bandits face off against the County Clare Cats. Kicking into gear, an intense battle between the half lines broke out immediately. Several minutes into the game, Brocach managed to break the stalemate with a point. Later, Bandit Ian Doherty had a spectacular weak-side point from 40 yards out - while doing an Irish Dance kick!

Clare though, roared right back. Fluid shifting of the Brocach fullback line and spectacular play by Bandit Goalie Joel Travis held off the Cats' fierce attack of the bandit jugular. "You got Joel Travis at goal," commented one of the Cats' halfbacks, "now we have to work twice as hard to score."

Cat Defender Renee Anzivino was a special hindrance to the Bandits; clearly she has not missed a step while taking a few seasons off! Passing and teamwork opened up opportunities for Brocach. While some shots went wide, others hit the mark for both points and a goal putting the Bandits comfortably ahead at half time.

The third quarter witnessed a fulcrum shift in the game. County Clare tore down the field pressing the Bandit fullback line. Three times, Clare shot laser beams into the net; this included the first goal for third year player Chris Bauer. The tide was turning as the third quarter ended with only a four point interval.

The final quarter was do-or-die time for both teams. Though Clare had the momentum, Brocach was still ahead by a small margin. Though he had barely made it back for the game after attending his college graduation ceremony that morning, Bandit Halfback Andy "Butters" Goelz pressed the offense and ran down for a goal; reignited the Brocach side who maintained their lead to win 3-14 (23) to 3-4 (13).

Rebel Spirit No Match For Ninja Speed

by Rob Berrones

The Trinity Rebels faced off against the Irish Pub Ninjas in the final match of Opening Day 2013.

A trio of hot Trinity goals lit a fire for the Rebels and a fourth was scored before the quarter ended at 4-0 (12) to the Ninjas' 0-2 (2). Shannon Meller, Patrick Foley, and rookie Suzanne Beck were responsible for the Rebels' quick goals.

The Ninjas leapt out of the shadows and slashed the lead in the second quarter with stealthy play between the half lines. They demonstrated their speed, getting to the ball first and keeping it on the opposing side of the field the majority of the quarter. Irish Pub

tenacity sent the teams into the half tied at 14 each.

Coming out of the half, the battle for the lead was intense. It was a defensive struggle with neither team willing to give an inch.

The Irish Pub finally pulled ahead with a few points and an amazing bullet of a goal to the upper right corner of the net by Ninja co-captain Tony Gaar. The Ninjas finished the quarter with a 9 point lead.

The Rebels wouldn't surrender, as fullback and co-captain Ivan Baker had some amazing saves right in front of the net. He turned up the

intensity for Trinity's bid at a comeback.

With the Irish Pub's regular goalie out, veteran Brian Dake played a spectacular debut game in goal for the Pub. Trinity's offense would not be denied though, as the forwards rallied to within 4 points, but time ran out on their comeback attempt.

Final score Trinity Rebels 5-6 (21) Irish Pub Ninjas 4-13 (25).



photo credit: Kerry Leonard



Bobblehead Explosion: Little Hurlers Turn Out in Big Numbers

by Aislinn Leonard

Opening day began with a boom as a record 22 U7s stormed the pitch. With these kinds of numbers we had to split the group into two separate fields, little littles on one field and the bigger littles on a slightly

stretched pitch. The younger group worked on field position, ball awareness, passing, not picking up the ball with the hand, and making new friends.

Over on the big pitch, the kids worked on long ground hurls,

quick feet, and communication between teammates. Coach Ivan and Coach Todd couldn't believe how fast the game was moving and how much the veterans had improved.

They even got a visit from Operations Coordinator, Dave Olson. He came by in the third quarter to check on his littlest members and was blown away by the enthusiasm and skill level.

Exciting playmakers early in the game were teammates Laurel Zei and Melissa Heck sporting the Ritter Law Office green jerseys. Together they scored several goals each assisting and scoring on different plays. Bethany Fortier was a tiger tearing up the pitch and defending her zone all game long until with two minutes left she remembered she'd not applied sunscreen and took to the shady corner of the field until the whistle blew.

The MHC Baby Boom continues to feed our youth league with strong talent like Cooper Larsen, son of MHC legends Matt Larsen and Rachel Rohde. On his first day in pink playing for Shoreview Pediatrics, Cooper scored a goal and had several sweet assists.

After taking a break last season, Nolan Wozniak returned with fire in his feet. The opposing team could barely contain him. When marking Cooper, there were some very intense battles.

Meredith Hiese volunteered to play keeper and wowed the crowd with acrobatic stick and kick saves. It was a great start to the season and a fun day for all involved.



photo credit: Kerry Leonard

Faces From the Pitch

by Connor Kilp

John “Lindy” Lindstrom

John Lindstrom, known throughout the club as “Lindy,” has been with the club for over a decade (somewhere between 13 and 15 years).

He has played for most of the teams, and this year he can be seen wearing Burke’s Irish Castle’s purple. He has played every position throughout his years in the club, and he happily plays any position (excluding goalie).

To get ready for a game, he stretches, hydrates, and focuses on the opponent. Lindy first heard about the club from

Steve Gilson and Foxy, people he played indoor soccer with. When asked his favorite memory of the club he had two: meeting his wife, Rebecca Russell, and being on the first undefeated team his rookie year.

While away from the pitch, Lindy does “what any red-blooded male does: cooking and gardening.” Lindy’s favorite sponsor to go to is the Milwaukee Ale House in downtown Milwaukee. His favorite thing about Milwaukee is that it has all of the aspects of a large city, yet it is small enough that he runs into someone he knows every time he is out and about. Although Lindy isn’t currently playing any other sports, he does play soccer and hockey, and would love to try rugby, lacrosse, and competitive ballroom dancing.

Lindy is also one of our medical volunteers. Make sure you thank him (and all the other medical volunteers) for everything he does each week! Lindy says, “I really like sandwiches. Not as much as Ryan Brown does, but I really like sandwiches.”



Help Wanted

The Dish Needs You!

Send in photographs

Tweet us quotes from the pitch

U11 and U15 game reporters



**“She’s staring at me.
I don’t want to play with her.”**

Milwaukee Hurling, Staring Down Opponents Since 1996.

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!

midwest orthopedic

SPECIALTY HOSPITAL

Sports Medicine

Orthopedic Institute of Wisconsin



ADULT TEAM SPONSORS



YOUTH SPONSORS



THE RITTER LAW OFFICE, L.L.C.



Mystic Ireland

SUPPORT SPONSORS



Comfort Keepers

The Standard Tavern

ATHLETICO

SMART CHOICE MRI

SOCCER WORLD