



# RAW STEEL

## Monthly Newsletter



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As 2009 draws to a close, I'd like to reflect on some Raw Steel (RS) accomplishments we've made this past year.

First, I'd like to thank all RS

players and families for their enthusiastic support and their belief in the vision of what Raw Steel Hockey can become.

The success of our 2009 inaugural season Squirt and PeeWee teams is attributed to the hard work of our coaches Jim Sanders and the late Dr. Richard Yamamoto. These two coaches stood by me in building Raw Steel and placing our club name in the annuals by winning the gold medal in the WIHA Championships for the PeeWee A and Bantam AA division. Not only did our two "OG" teams step up and establish a reputation for RS in club hockey, but the same two teams competed in the South Bay High School Division and claimed victory in both Junior Varsity and Varsity. What a fabulous conclusion to our inaugural season!

Today, Raw Steel Hockey has grown from 2 to 6 teams. We have 2 corporate sponsors that fully support our vision and have partnered with us. We have our own website. We have our own SWAG. We have a home rink that welcomed us. We have dedicated volunteer managers and coaches, and we have great players and families who share the core values of RS. Most important is we have held true to our culture and have not actively recruited players from other teams or clubs. Everyone in RS is here because they want to be here. We are not just a hockey club but a hockey family sharing and celebrating our children's love for the sport.

With such a vibrant beginning, next year will be a challenge to see what we can achieve that takes us over and above what we have already accomplished. Having said that, I challenge each RS team to continue to play at the top of their game, to uphold our core values, and to bring home the gold!

In closing, I'd like to dedicate this upcoming season to Coach Richard. In his memory, each Raw Steel player will display the initials "RY" on the back of their helmet. This small gesture will ensure that the memory of Coach Richard will remain part of us each time we raise our helmets in victory.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and have a successful 2010 season. ~Coach Tony

*In Loving Memory*

# RY

Players are reminded to be ready to skate at the start of practice. There are still too many skaters showing up late or are not dressed when practice begins.



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## Player of the Month



Name: Preston

Team: Squirt Select

Preston has never missed a practice. He strives to be a team player and not a puck hog. He plays on 3 hockey teams is a straight A student and always gets all of his homework done. He also practices viola and patiently helps his little sister with her Kindergarten homework.

For player of the month, Preston will receive a free RS SWAG t-shirt. Congratulations Preston!

## Team Name

In order to differentiate RS teams registered in the same division at the same tournament, the following naming convention is hereby set forth. Raw Steel managers are reminded to register their team name preceded with the word "TOUR".

- Squirt - Tour Raw Steel Select
- PeeWee #1 - Tour Raw Steel 96' (OG)
- PeeWee #2 - Tour Raw Steel Select
- Bantam - Tour Raw Steel 94' (OG)
- Midget #1 - Tour Raw Steel 92'
- Midget #2 - Tour Raw Steel Select

"OG" is special recognition for the original RS inaugural season teams.

## Pride in a Uniform

As a former US Coast Guard Aviator, there was a certain sense of pride I had when I put on my uniform. Whether it was a flight suit or my dress blues, when I was in uniform, I stood tall. I can't help but feel



the same way when I see our teams all decked out in our RS jerseys. There is the same sense of pride I have in seeing this and it makes me stand tall when I am amongst our players. We're a class act and we should look the part. I don't know about you but I can't wait to complete our uniforms with the new custom pant because whether we win or lose, we'll sure look good at it! 🍌

## Our Sponsors

- Tour Hockey  
[www.tourhockey.com](http://www.tourhockey.com)
- Labeda Wheels  
[www.labeda.com](http://www.labeda.com)
- RS Swag Design  
[www.rawsteelhockey.org](http://www.rawsteelhockey.org)

