



Play Ball!!

**NORTHWEST
HONKERS**



Semi-Pro Baseball Coming to Fall City

by Jocelyn Lawrence

The Northwest Honkers Baseball Club is proud to announce the partnership with Fall City and the community they are excited to now call home. The Northwest Honkers are a semi-pro baseball club that is a member of the Pacific International League (PIL) and is a mixture of college-age players to ex-professional ballplayers.

The Honkers were founded in 2010 by a group of former collegiate baseball players originally from the Seattle area. A simple passion for the game along with the urge to continue to compete at a high level drove the idea to put together the Honkers organization.

The Honkers are a team built with a culture that allows young baseball players to thrive and former collegiate players to continue their careers in baseball. The Honkers look forward each year to improving both on and off the field, as well as to continuing to competitively participate in the PIL.

The Honkers are now run by Martin and Jocelyn Lawrence. Martin was one of the original group of members that created the Honkers and has managed it with his wife the past five years. The Honkers are

going into their sixth season and are looking forward to making a run at taking their team back to the National Baseball Congress World Series in Wichita, Kansas.

In their five years of existence, the Honkers have been in search of a community to call their home. The Honkers are excited to have found that home right here in Fall City! The team will begin the 2015 summer season playing their 15–20 home games on the Fall City Community Park baseball field. The season runs from the end of May to the beginning of August, with the first official home game on Sunday, June 7.

The Northwest Honkers 5th Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, May 8, at the Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course. Come join us for a day of golfing, games, raffles, food, and awards. (See insert this issue.)

To learn more about the team, each individual player, a look at the Honkers full schedule and more information on the Golf Tournament visit our website at www.honkersbaseball.com. Don't forget to "friend" Northwest Honkers Baseball on Facebook.

HONK HONK!

HONKERS HOME GAME SCHEDULE: SUMMER 2015

Home games played at Fall City Community Park
(Full schedule available online: www.honkersbaseball.com)

Day	Date	Time	Team	Day	Date	Time	Team
Wed	June 3	TBD	Seattle Studs				
Sun	June 7	10:00 am	Kamloops Sun Devils	Sun	June 28	TBD (DH)	Home
Tue	June 9	5:30 pm	Everett Merchants	Wed	July 15	5:30 pm	Seattle Studs
Sun	June 14	1:00 pm	Burnaby Bulldogs (DH)	Thur	July 16	5:30 pm	Everett Merchants
Tue	June 16	5:30 pm	Snoq Valley Hurricanes	Thur	July 23	5:30 pm	San Francisco Seals
Thur	June 18	5:30 pm	North Sound Emeralds	Fri	July 24	5:30 pm	San Francisco Seals
Tue	June 23	5:30 pm	Snoq Valley Hurricanes	Sat	July 25	TBD	Home
Wed	June 24	5:30 pm	Highline Bears	Sun	July 26	10:00 am	(DH) confirm
Thur	June 25	TBD	Home/Away	Mon	July 27	5:30 pm	Highline Bears
Sat	June 27	TBD (DH)	Home	Tue	July 28	5:30 pm	Highline Bears

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH HONKERS BASEBALL

by Nancy Moore

The Northwest Honkers are a semi-pro baseball team run by Martin Lawrence (an active player) and his wife Jocelyn. Why “The Honkers,” you may ask? According to Jocelyn, Martin and a few friends were brainstorming ideas and they wanted a team name that would encompass the Northwest. The Canadian goose (whose nickname is “the honker”) came to mind, and thus the Northwest Honkers were born.

The Honkers are coached by manager David Sauter. David attended Seattle Lutheran High School, played community college ball at Pierce Community College, and finished his baseball career at Jamestown College with a degree in K–12 physical education. He stayed on at Jamestown as a coach for four years before returning back home to coach for FM Sports prior to becoming manager for the Honkers.

What does it mean to be a semi-pro team? The Honkers are a member of the Pacific International League and have no connection with any farm team or professional-level organization. The designation semi-professional is a bit fuzzy, but for the Honkers the term means that the roster encompasses collegiate, post-college, and ex-professional players, and all are unpaid.

Why do players play at this level? Many players come to the Honkers to improve their game by playing in

50 or more games over the summer, while others are seeking placement in a four-year university or to secure a professional contract. Last season, five players signed professional contracts.

While players are not paid, there are still expenses involved in semi-pro baseball: uniforms, equipment, travel to away games, etc. Where do the dollars come from? First, from the players who pay a fee for participating. The team’s major annual fundraiser for this season, “One Big Honkin’ Golf Tournament,” is scheduled May 8 at the Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course. In addition, they hold several car washes throughout the summer and have some merchandise for sale including “HONK HONK” bracelets. While there is no charge for attending a Honkers game, making it very family friendly, they do welcome donations from their fans on game day.

The summer 2015 home season opener is set for Saturday, June 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Fall City Park against the Kamloops Sundevils. Bring a chair and enjoy a morning, afternoon, or evening game throughout the season with music and popcorn! Go Honkers!! (See page at left for full schedule.)

For more information, go to HonkersBaseball.com.