



*Skating Strides Against Breast Cancer*  
**Women's Hockey East Association**  
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## **HOCKEY EAST SKATING STRIDES ENTERS 9<sup>th</sup> SEASON**

### ***Twenty Games on Tap for 2014-15, bringing awareness to Women's Hockey and Breast Cancer Initiatives***

WAKEFIELD, MA – Hockey East Commissioner Joe Bertagna has announced the Hockey East Skating Strides schedule for 2014-15. All twenty programs that compete in the conference will host a game on campus, bringing awareness to both women's hockey and breast cancer initiatives. Now in its 9<sup>th</sup> season, the Hockey East Skating Strides program has raised over \$275,000 for various breast cancer charities, while creating the opportunity for student-athletes to give back to the communities in which they study and play hockey.

"We are so proud of how all of our programs have joined together for this cause over the years," said Commissioner Joe Bertagna. "We expect another successful series of events, highlighted by the generosity of all the constituencies that make up Hockey East."

Since 2008, the Hockey East Skating Strides program has been proud to partner with the Friends of Mel Foundation. The funds raised through Skating Strides have helped support the FOM survivor conference – *"The Art of Living – Life Beyond Cancer"*. Friends of Mel also distributed funds raised at Skating Strides events throughout New England to several local grass roots charities, including, but not limited to, The Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing in Maine; Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Research Foundation in Rhode Island; The Ellie Fund in Massachusetts; Necessities Bags in Connecticut, and the Vermont Cancer Center.

"Over the years, I have watched the student-athletes come up with really creative ideas to raise funds for the Skating Strides Program. It took my breath away the first time I saw the UConn women's team skate on to the ice wearing hot pink hockey jerseys," said Pauline Alighieri, Executive Director of the Friends of Mel Foundation, Inc. "Their efforts have impacted the lives of thousands of cancer survivors. Our team at the Friends of Mel Foundation is proud and grateful to partner with this amazing organization."

Saturday, October 25	Niagara @ NOTRE DAME (7:05)
Friday, January 9	Boston College @ NORTHEASTERN (7:00) Dartmouth @ NEW HAMPSHIRE (7:30)
Friday, January 16	Boston College @ BOSTON UNIVERSITY (7:00) Northeastern @ VERMONT (7:05)
<b>Saturday, January 17</b>	<b>Boston College @ VERMONT (women's game) (2:00)</b>
<b>Sunday, January 18</b>	<b>Boston University @ NORTHEASTERN (women's game) (2:00)</b>
Friday, January 23	UMass @ MERRIMACK (7:00) Providence @ UMASS LOWELL (7:15)
<b>Saturday, January 24</b>	<b>QUINNIPIAC @ BOSTON COLLEGE (women's game) (2:00)</b> UConn @ BOSTON COLLEGE (7:00)
<b>Sunday, January 25</b>	<b>Vermont @ BOSTON UNIVERSITY (women's game) (3:00)</b>
Tuesday, January 27	Merrimack @ UCONN (7:05)
<b>Saturday, January 31</b>	<b>Boston University @ UCONN (women's game) (3:00)</b>
<b>Sunday, February 1</b>	<b>MAINE @ NEW HAMPSHIRE (women's game) (2:00)</b>
Friday, February 6	Notre Dame @ MAINE (7:00) Northeastern @ UMASS (7:00)
<b>Saturday, February 7</b>	<b>Vermont @ MAINE (women's game) (2:00)</b>
Friday, February 20	UMass @ PROVIDENCE (7:00)
<b>Saturday, February 21</b>	<b>Vermont @ PROVIDENCE (women's game) (2:00)</b>

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*Hockey East member institutions include Boston College ~ Boston University ~ University of Connecticut ~ University of Maine  
University of Massachusetts ~ University of Massachusetts Lowell ~ Merrimack College ~ University of New Hampshire  
Northeastern University ~ University of Notre Dame ~ Providence College ~ University of Vermont*