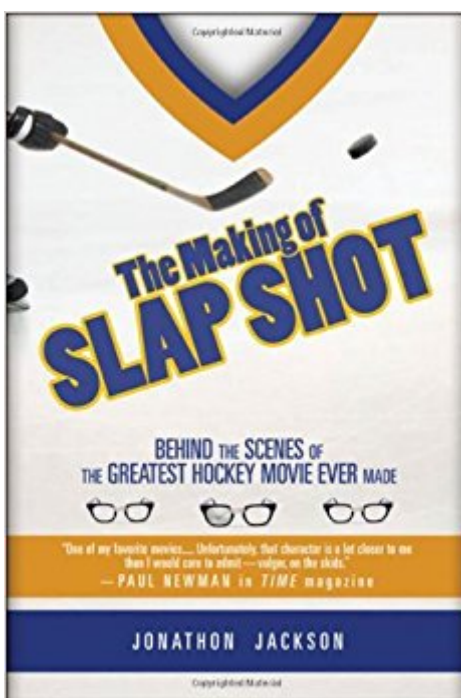


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# The Making Of Slap Shot: Behind The Scenes Of The Greatest Hockey Movie Ever Made



## Synopsis

How a movie about minor league hockey became a box office hit-and an international cult classicEven thirty-odd years after Slap Shot's release, diehard hockey fans can still recite scenes of dialogue by heart, making lines like "putting on the foil" just common argot for the devoted. Yet many may be surprised to learn that the true story behind the making of the film is as captivating as the film itself. In The Making of Slap Shot, veteran sports writer Jonathon Jackson lets fans not only relive just how the film was made, but brings to light surprising facts (i.e., Al Pacino was the first choice for the role of Reggie Dunlop; almost every scene-even the absurd and unbelievable ones-depicts a real life event). With access to those involved in the making of the film, he brings to life some of the magic behind the creation of memorable scenes and characters, especially the Charleston Chiefs, one of the most popular fictional sports teams in history.Based on interviews with over 50 cast members, production staff, and anyone of note involved in the film's creationDestined to be a collectible and keepsake (along with the jerseys, bobbleheads, and other paraphernalia associated with the film), The Making of Slapshot is a must for fans eager to learn even more about their favorite film.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

How a movie about minor league hockey became a box office hit—and an international cult classicEven thirty-odd years after Slap Shot's release, diehard hockey fans can still recite scenes of dialogue by heart, making lines like "putting on the foil" vernacular for the

devoted. Yet many may be surprised to learn that the true story behind the making of the film is as quirky as the film itself. In *The Making of Slap Shot*, veteran sports writer Jonathon Jackson lets fans relive how the film was made, and brings to light surprising facts; for instance, Al Pacino was a willing first choice for the role of Reggie Dunlop; and almost every scene—even the absurd and unbelievable ones—depicts a real-life event. Based on interviews with more than 50 cast members, production staff, and anyone of note involved in the film's creation, *The Making of Slap Shot* brings to life the magic behind the creation of memorable scenes and characters, especially the beloved Hanson brothers and player-coach Reggie Dunlop. Destined to be a collectible (along with the jerseys, bobbleheads, and other paraphernalia associated with the film), *The Making of Slap Shot* is a must-read for fans eager to learn even more about their favorite film.

The best hockey movie of all time *The Making of Slap Shot* reveals the improbable, hilarious, behind-the-scenes story about the crazy and wildly popular film *Slap Shot*—a story too real and too good not to be true. Personal interviews with cast members, production staff and others offer a rare inside view of the making of *Slap Shot*, including little-known facts, anecdotes from the set, and, best of all, a chance to get inside the locker room with the Charlestown Chiefs, one of the best known and most popular fictional sports teams in history. **Praise for *Slap Shot***  
#5 on Sports Illustrated's list of the Top 50 Greatest Sports Movies  
#1 on Maxim's list of the 100 Greatest Guy Movies Ever Made  
"hockey people adored [Paul Newman] for his performance in *Slap Shot*. That movie was such a boon to hockey, just as he made pool more glamorous, playing Fast Eddie Felsen in *The Hustler* and then in *The Color of Money*. If Paul Newman was connected, it must be good."  
—Frank Deford, Sports Illustrated  
"a great working-class story. A wonderful risky performance from Paul Newman—just a terrific film."  
—Gene Siskel, film critic  
"It's literally my favorite sports movie."  
—Barbara Morgan, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Austin Film Festival  
"...the best sports film of the past 50 years."  
—Dan Jenkins, *GQ*  
"When I coached juniors, that movie was playing on the bus every year."  
—Mike Babcock, Stanley Cup-winning coach of the Detroit Red Wings  
"George Roy Hill's direction and Nancy Dowd's script provide lusty entertainment, combining human touches with ample mayhem on the ice."  
—Bob Thomas, Associated Press  
"Violent, bloody and thoroughly revolting."  
—Rex Reed, film critic

Some people say that "Slap Shot" is the best hockey movie ever made. Pffft. Hockey fans will tell you that "Slap Shot" is the greatest movie of all time. And then will recite lines and lines of dialogue about the movie without prompting. It's taken more than 30 years, but Jonathon Jackson has come up with the full story about this classic in "The Making of Slap Shot." About time. "Slap Shot" was made in 1976 and released within the next year. It's the story of a minor league hockey team that's ready to go under, and turns into the toughest team in the Federal League in an effort to intimidate opponents. It works. The Charlestown Chiefs go on a memorable winning streak. The cast of the movie is topped by Paul Newman -- yes, that Paul Newman -- in one of his favorite film roles. He's the player-coach who knows he's close to the end of the road as a player and as a coach with this group. Reggie Dunlop isn't exactly a hero here, but he hits the right notes in bringing the character to life nicely as the center of the film. The supporting cast worked well under the direction of George Roy Hill. The script is the key to the movie, written by Nancy Dowd who had her brother tape-record the style of conversation on his hockey team. She gets the tone exactly right, as anyone who has been around a hockey team will tell you, and gets laughs everywhere. The book's author makes a great point that while toning down the vile language might have helped the box office quite a bit -- and we weren't used to such talk back then in our movies -- it did make it a better movie. Jackson talked to everyone he could find who was still around for this book -- he even exchanged e-mails and faxes with Newman before the actor's death. The list also does seem to include practically every living member of the cast and crew, the residents of Johnstown, Pa., where the movie was filmed, behind-the-scenes executives, and so on. It's certainly the complete version of how the movie came to be. There are a couple of drawbacks here, and one is obvious. You really have to like the movie, a lot, as the author does and as the participants of the movie do. Naturally, those who are less enthusiastic about "Slap Shot" probably would never pick up a book about this movie to begin with, so that's not much of an issue. In addition, many of the actors are linked to their character's names in interviews. It's difficult to tell everyone apart at times, particularly when it comes to obscure members of the team that might not even be called by name in the story. A reviewer on .com made a great point when suggesting that pictures would be a great idea, although just a full list of the cast would have helped too. "The Making of Slap Shot" ought to satisfy anyone's curiosity about this movie, especially if you ever brought a copy of it to play on a bus ride with a hockey team from Hartford to Buffalo. As I did. Every one on the bus knew every line, too.

Wow. What a fantastic book. Not only does the author go into great detail about the making of the movie, he also gets very involved in the back-stories of the Johnstown Jets and all the real

characters and situations of the movie. I picked this up expecting a basic book that didn't get into too much detail, but what I ended up reading was a fantastic retrospective on not only the making of the movie, but fantastic backgrounds on all the stories that led to the movie. I really appreciated the detail given on the city of Johnstown as well as the background stories of minor league hockey during the time. It was even cooler seeing my mom and dad quoted a few times! This is a great book to pick up not only for fans of Slap Shot, but also hockey fans who never seen the movie (do those people even exist?) I had a hard time putting this book down - I'm glad I bought it!

This book basically goes behind the scenes and behind the story of the greatest sports and hockey movie of all time (IMHO). For the most part, one of the anecdotes and language used is downright hilarious, but in other parts, some of the one-off background information makes the book seem long to anyone but the most hardcore movie buff. Any way you slice it though, if you're a fan of the movie, this should be required reading

He is a hockey player and a referee. As anyone looking at this review knows this movie was like the bible to hockey players. Reciting lines in the locker room, watching it a million times. This book helps tie it all together and relates some great stories into how the movie became what it was... including what actors were clambering to get into this film (Di Niro for instance wanting to be Reggie - can you imagine?). Buy it for the Hockey fan in your life they will LOVE IT!

A very good book, written in great detail, about a great subject. It loses its way a little towards the end, but all of the information about the actors and writer and the script's origination etc, will be great for starved fans of this iconic movie.

If you're a fan of the movie and Paul Newman you'll enjoy this book.

We were entertained by the movies and now by the book...the background stories are hilarious and make us realize even more what a small world the hockey world is. Also a good read for hockey fans who liked Bruce Boudreau's "Gabby".

very excellent!!!! perfect transaction!!!!

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The Making of Slap Shot: Behind the Scenes of the Greatest Hockey Movie Ever Made Hockey

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