



Ice Hockey WA

(Trading name of the Western Australian Ice Hockey Association Inc)

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1 June 2012

Dear Coaches,

Welcome to the first Coaches Update for 2012. For those of you that don't know me, my name is Jo Frankenberger and in May I was recently elected to be the State Coaching Coordinator for 2012. The 'baton' was passed on from Stan Scott who has undertaken the role for a number of years. Stan has moved on to focus his energies on the new Perth Thunder team, good luck with that Stan and thanks for all your great work to date including running a number of level one coaches courses over the years. There is a tremendous amount happening at the moment including State team preparations and the season being in full swing.

My aim in this role is to improve communications between the coaches group and put in place a program that better recognises the work coaches do and better supports them in their volunteering efforts. There is a large shortage of coaches in the State, across all rinks and all clubs and I hope that by implementing such changes WA will achieve better success in drawing in new coaches and retaining existing coaches. Historically not much consideration has been given to this and I believe this needs to change to continue the good work already done but more importantly to take hockey to the 'next level' in the State.

The second part of the coordinator's role involves putting in place structures which contribute to developing hockey in the State. As a part of this I will be looking at ways to improve the current structure of the league, which I hope all our coaches will have some input into.

So what is happening at the moment?

- While I hope to make the rounds to each and every one of you I would appreciate it if all coaches could contact me via email or phone to let me know what you are working on, if you have any ideas you want considered and what kinds of challenges you've come up against.
- A coach's budget for 2012/2013 is currently being prepared. Within this budget there will be a provision for coach development and hopefully a higher provision for State team coaches. We are aiming for State teams to have a Head Coach and Assistant Coach and to have their costs covered with respect to travel to National Championships. At the moment only the Team Manager and Coach is subsidised. The rationale behind this is that State teams benefit from having the extra assistance and spreading the workload between two coaches offers far greater support. Coaches with the full workload are often subject to being burned out which isn't good for anyone.
- Feedback from State team coaches to date has requested training jerseys for State teams as well as a formalised selection policy. These items are to be progressed going forward.



- The level one coaches' course was held earlier on in the year. Thanks to Stan Scott for organising and facilitating this course. All exams have been marked and sent to IHA for verification. Coaches who pass their exam will receive a certificate and IHA level 1 card. Thanks to all who attended and please remember that it is a requirement to log coaching hours to maintain your accreditation. These IHA forms should be available from the WAIHA website.
- Atom (under 10's) games are once again being organised after a successful trial in 2011. The cross ice games focus on participation, fun and have been organised to give our smallest and youngest hockey players the opportunity to learn the game through play. While a formal structure for the Atom program has not yet been developed WAIHA is looking for a sub-committee to help put this together. I would also like to acknowledge Randy Salmond, Darin Bryce and the small team of coaches and volunteers for their initial work to get this program up and running in 2012.

Upcoming Events:

- McCrae Jamboree to be held this long weekend (June). Just 6 WA players registered for this hockey camp which is a notch up from the 3 last year. Next year I will be putting in a budget for 3 coaches (ideally one from each club) to attend. WA needs coaches involved at the 'grass roots level' to attend these camps and bring back information to further develop our local programs.
- IHA are running a girls development camp in Canberra from 6-8th July. Your club secretary and Presidents have been sent this information with a request to pass it on to all female players eligible to attend. The sessions will include skills, games, and coaching from the national women's team coach as well as IHA's technical skating director. Coaches are welcomed to attend and interest should be registered as early as possible with the State.
- There will be a Level 2 coaching course over east in 2012, please stay posted for more information. If anyone is interested in attending the course, please let me know. The course is for active coaches already holding a level 1 accreditation (for 2 year minimum). Due to the cost of the course Coaches will be required to put up a bond. Successful completion of the course will result in full subsidy by the Association.
- At the end of the season there will be an awards dinner and it would be good to see all coaches attend as you will be formally recognised. State team coaches will also be recognised for your work done over the year in preparing teams for National Championships.
- While January 2013 sounds like a long way off...consider it notice in advance that WA coaches will be sought to attend IHA development camps for peewee, midget and bantam age groups. If you are interested please let me know.
- May 2013 the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) holds its annual awards dinner for coaches. I will be seeking nominations for outstanding coaches who will receive a commendation certificate and a further nomination for coach of the year.

Thanks for taking the time to read this update and please call me if you wish to discuss any items.

Regards,

Jo

State Coaching Coordinator/Director

