



Coach in Chief Report Winter 2010

The fall coach development program that works with coaches at the local levels went very well again this year with over 600 coaches (coaching 8,000 players) attending clinics all across the state. Gary Gregus did an outstanding job once again scheduling and assigning instructors to over 25 clinic locations. The program expanded with a third offering of "Teaching Advanced Skills". The feedback from the local associations was excellent and clearly demonstrates value to our membership.

Steve Carroll ran several clinics to help teach goaltending fundamentals to coaches. This is the first year we have done these clinics and hopefully we can expand the number of locations next fall.

We developed a training video so that we can better train more instructors about how to run these clinics. Gary Gregus, Dick Emahiser, and Jim Herbert did the bulk of the clinics again this year with an assist from me on a couple clinics. More instructors are needed to meet demand. Gary will be working to put a plan into place to recruit a couple more instructors.

We are in the planning stages of adding a fourth curriculum item: "Introduction to Body Contact". We are going to roll this program out in the spring of 2011 to rising squirts, and rising pee wees. This program will be offered each spring after the winter season.

We are just completing two new video offerings that will be hosted on the website. The first one is an inside look at coaching pee wees/U12 and the second one is an inside look at coaching squirts/U10. The videos are just over one hour long and focus on the communication and teaching styles of the coaches. These videos are very important models of how to coach these levels. They will be used in the fall with a Minnesota Hockey development pilot program to educate coaches on best practices for these levels.

The Monthly Newsletter "Thoughts from the Bench" is sent to 43,000 email addresses each month. In December over 33% were opened in the first day. The January issue was the 60th in the series.

The USA Hockey Coaches newsletter called "Inside the Game" rolled out in December 2009 with the second issue in mid January. I am co- editing/writing this publication with Keith Blasé from Flexxcoach. It is sent to 60,000 coaches nationwide and at least one mention of our website occurs in each issue.

Championship Productions shot two videos with me over the summer and they are selling well across the country. Minnesota Hockey receives a royalty on the sales originating from our website link.

Hal Tearse
Coach in Chief