

Coach in Chief Report Safety Committee Report April 2011

In regards to coaching, since the last meeting I have been working on collecting video clips at the Bantam and Pee Wee levels to be used at some point as an educational piece for coaches, referees, players and parents. This is a project that is more involved than past pieces and hopefully will be completed by the end of the summer for use next fall.

The local association clinics concluded in late January this year and we had another terrific year with participation of over 500 coaches on ice with us. This is a great model that we are considering for expansion into each district.

The Newsletter continues with monthly distribution. The next issue will be month 75.

The feedback from the proposed checking delay in pee wees is consistent in saying that coaches need to be better at teaching skills. This is a topic that should be addressed and I have submitted a proposal to President Margenau and the Pee Wee Checking sub committee for their consideration.

From the safety committee:

The committee consisting of Barry Ford, Dr Michael Stuart, Aynsley Smith, Dr. Edmund Chute, David Krause, Eric Olson and Hal Tearse (Chair) is in favor of the rule proposal to delay body checking until Bantams. One committee member feels that at this time on pee wee C warrants consideration for no check pee wees.

The data from the injury project has not been completed at this date however the preliminary results are very similar to the past two seasons. I will present a year end report at the June meeting.

The committee is actively engaged in working on educational pieces to be used nationwide. We are looking at rebranding a terrific video from Canada "Think First" that deals with the concussions issues. USAH is also involved with this project.

The issue of concussion in athletes is reaching a crescendo so it is likely that change is forthcoming. The question is we going to be part of the solution or wait until some other entity legislates it?

Hal Tearse
Coach in Chief
Chair Safety Committee