



## OYHA Hockey Development Plan

By Shannon Bartlett

This document is a guide for the foundation for Hockey Development at OYHA. The ultimate goal from the time that I first stepped out onto the ice at OYHA several years ago was to push our players forward and improve Hockey Development season after season! I witnessed how things were run and organized I had to question what is the plan, who is leading the plan, is everyone on the same page and teaching the same things, how are things communicated, and more.

The main principles established here is a necessity for any organization and even beyond the sport of hockey.

- Create an environment for all kids to love the game of hockey – for them to have fun in a safe environment.
- Have a Common Driving Hockey Development Philosophy for long term hockey development!
- The Core of Hockey Development and its Principles is Coaching Development

**\*\* This is missed in many sports, but the key to player development and transformation of your program is to improve Coaching Development. This is a trickle-down effect of having strong knowledge and a plan for your coaches to reach 'the masses' of players that they will be coaching & developing!!**

- Create detailed development that Coaches can utilize for Players and Goalies – To have a common base of teaching for skills, systems, terminology and more.
- We are here to develop players and have them love the game. Developing players is that sometimes we have to sacrifice winning in order to teach and challenge our players to be the best they can be. We hope that all go onto to play in High School, college or even professionally!



## Hockey Development Philosophy:

1. Create a safe and fun environment for our players. We need to help our players enjoy and love the game.
2. Challenge each player based on their abilities and push them to the next level.
  - Players can have fun even being pushed in a competitive and challenging environment.
  - Heavy focus on power skating/skills & strengthening our goalies!
3. Hockey Development sometimes means you are willing to sacrifice winning games to give ALL kids opportunities in all situations.
  - HD is for **ALL** kids at OYHA and not just the highest skilled!
  - In practice we work with ALL players to develop them.
  - All coaches will roll lines & play ALL players & not 'shorten the bench'. How can a player development when they don't see the ice or when they are not challenged in critical situations. Also, what are you doing for the spirit of a player when they are treated like they have no worth compared to other teammates!
  - Puck control is key! We need to foster confidence in every player so they are not just throwing the puck away!
4. Changing Positions
  - Having kid's alternate positions that they play is extremely important for development.
  - They have to understand the roles and responsibilities of every single position.
  - This very important at the younger levels, but can continue through Peewees and Bantams.
  - You also prepare kids for situation that could arise during a game when other players could be out due to illness or injury. They could be called to play positions they may not be used to playing unless you prepare them!
  - This also includes goalies we may have to rotate a goalie position to several players on a team. This is great way for kids to try the position and also for an already full time goalie to improve their skating skills.



## Hockey Development Committee (HDC):

The OYHA Hockey Development Committee was created to oversee several main aspects of hockey at OYHA which include the following as well as many other tasks:

1. Responsible for all aspects of Hockey Development for our Coaches & Players
2. Selection of coaches
3. Tryout process and team selection
4. Involvement of any incidents at OYHA with other organizations, players, parents, and coaches.

## To oversee Hockey Development the HDC has the following plan in place:

Each level of hockey at OYHA has a level representative from the HDC.

- Learn to Play & Mites
- Squirt
- Peewee
- Bantam
- Girls

The HDC level representative is responsible for their levels:

- Coaching
- Hockey development – both coaches and players
- Player, parent, or coaching issues

Other responsibilities during the season:

- They will communicate with all families and coaches throughout the year check progress and if there are any concerns or issues.
- They will attend the first parent/player meetings held by each coach at their level to introduce themselves & layout expectations of the HDC to all.
- They attend occasional practices and games to see if practices are being utilized and to make sure Hockey Development plan of skills and systems is being implemented



## Coaching Development:

The absolute key to Hockey Development is making sure our Coaching Development is at its best!! You can have clinics, camps, guest coaches or other opportunities for kids, but the key is to have all of our coaches equipped with knowledge, skills and expectations to have the greatest impact on ALL of our players!!

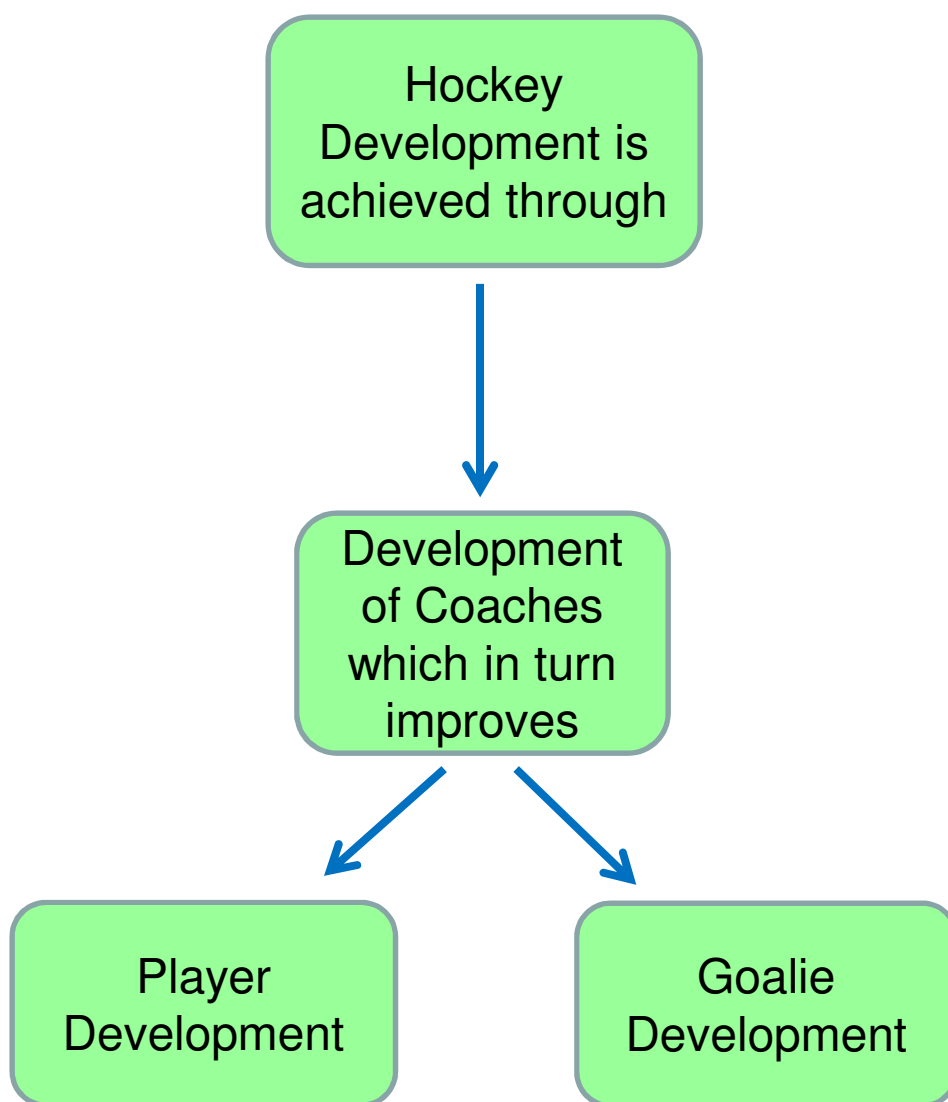
How does that happen?

**Equip Coaches with following and all that is represented in a 'Coaching Binder' that will be provided by the HDC:**

- Expectations – Give all coaches what OYHA expects of each of them . Provide OYHA philosophies, principles, expectations, guidelines, rules or anything else needed as a standard to follow.
- Development – Present OYHA expectations for development for each level they are coaching. Provide them with resources and knowledge for power skating techniques, all other fundamental skills which include shooting, passing, and stick handling. Then basic hockey concepts and systems that each should follow.
- Tools – coaching binders – that can include practice plans, established skills required for each level, websites, videos, documentation that will help them plan and progress throughout a season.
- OYHA Coaches Clinic – Oct. right after tryouts – provide off ice and on ice instruction to coaches specific to OYHA
- Every coach has to be prepared to teach kids and take on a team. You maybe an assistant coach one year, but in the future we may need you to take a head coaching role.
- Off ice development – Provide skills to teach and 'hockey sense' discussion points for chalk talk, video sessions or a physical walk through.

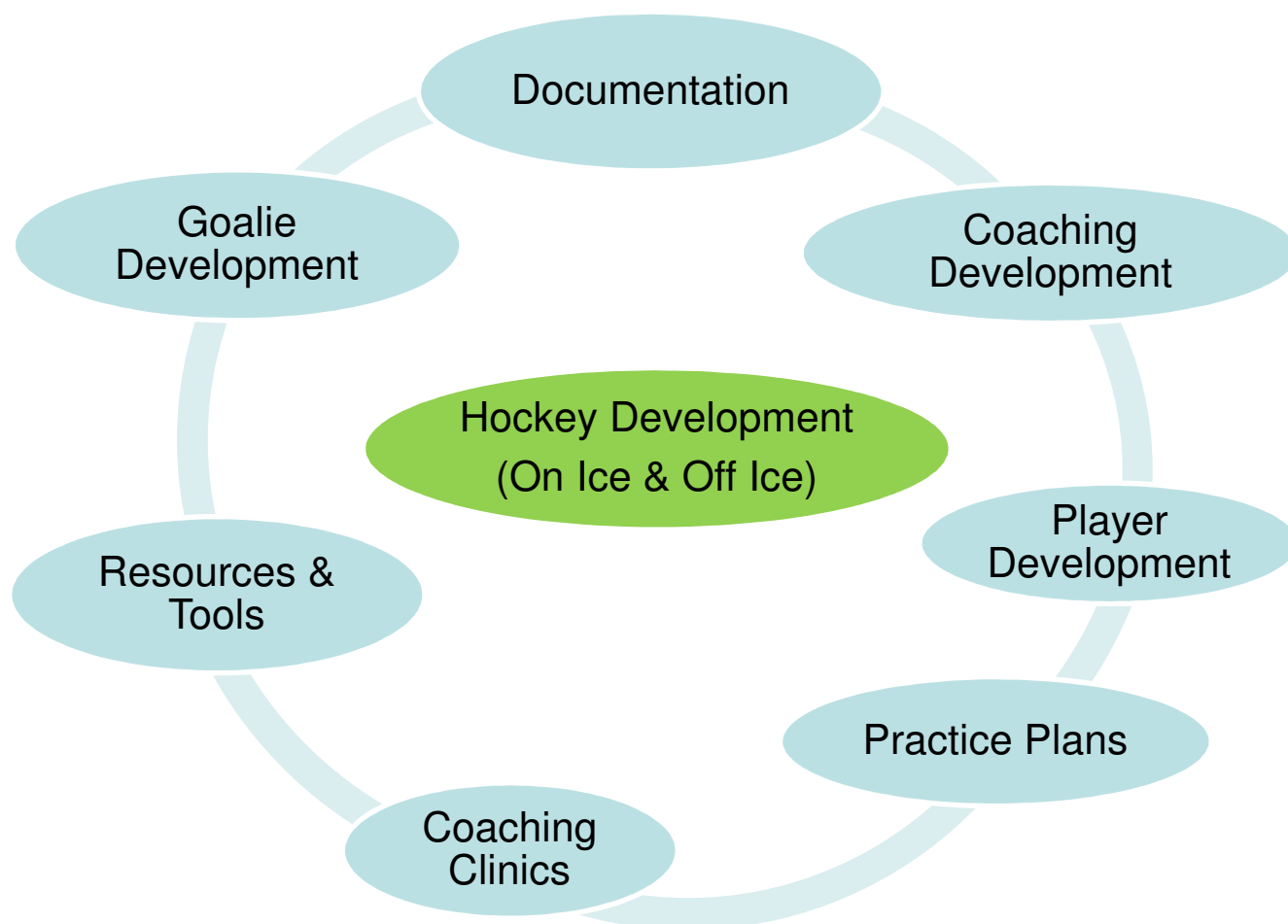


## Core of Hockey Development





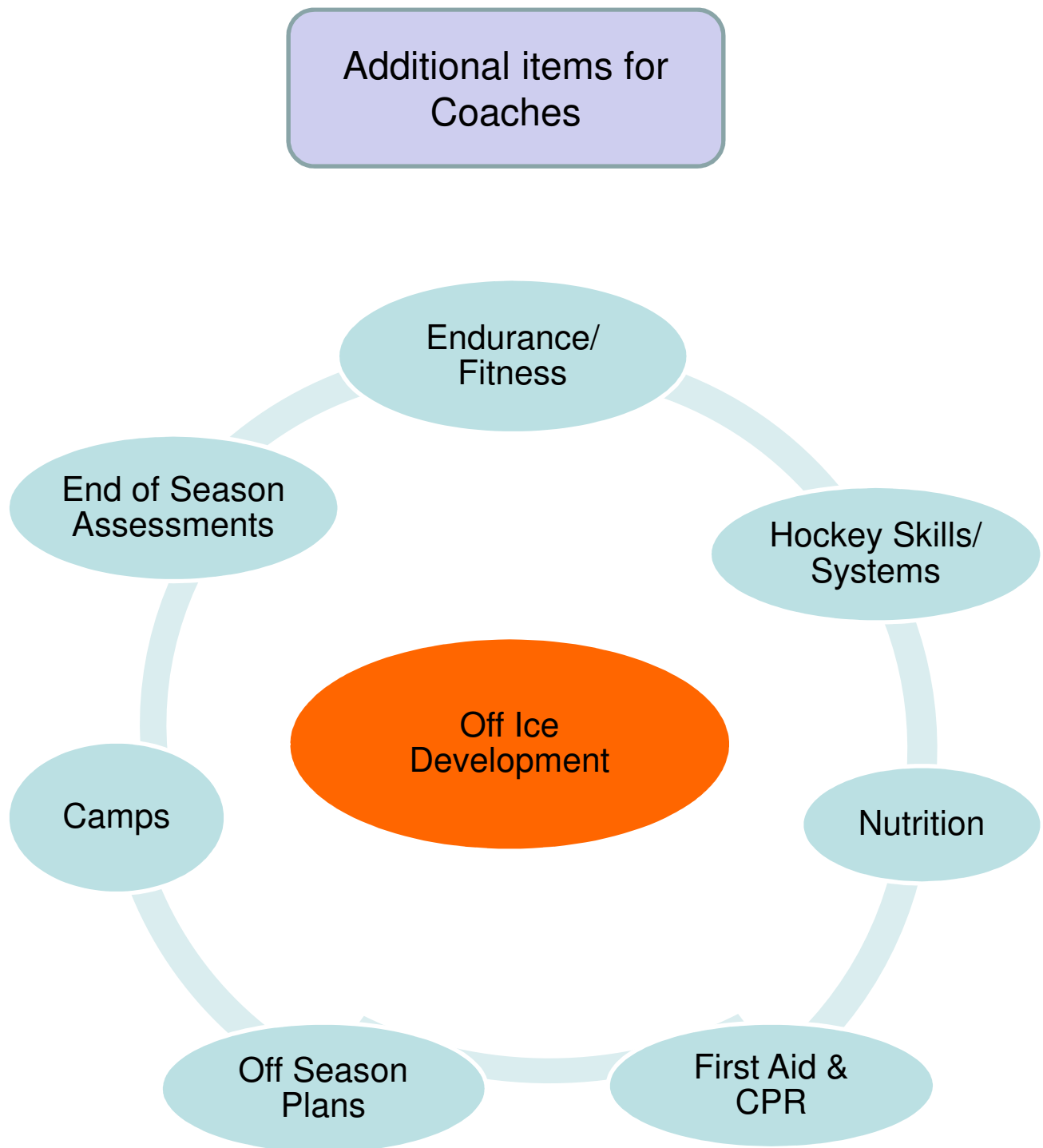
## Concepts of Hockey Development





## Aspects of Coaching









## Additional items for Coaches

