



## Hall of Fame Rob Proffitt

Rob Proffitt, or Prof as he is known in the hockey circles, was born and raised in Sault Ste Marie, MI. He began playing hockey as a young boy and excelled from the beginning. Fate intervened at age 14 when he sustained a serious injury.

"I broke my neck while swimming. I didn't play hockey again for four years," Proffitt said. "I began working as a ref, and that experience helped me learn the game better. Looking back on it, I developed a good part of my coaching philosophy while working as a teenage ref."

1991 Proffitt came to Fairbanks to try out for the Gold Kings, playing with them until retiring in 1997. He began coaching youth hockey almost as soon as he arrived in the Interior.

1997 the Ice Dogs were formed as a Tier II Junior B WSHL team winning the Northern Division in their inaugural year. Proffitt served as the Head Coach and General Manager from 1997-2008. Proffitt has been the heart and soul of the Ice Dog program since its inception.

1991-1998 he coached Youth teams to include Gold King Bantam-Midget teams, Lathrop High School and Arctic Lions.

1997-2008 Head Coach of the Fairbanks Ice Dogs where he led the Ice Dogs to become the Tier II Junior A NAHL program of today. In 2001-02 the Ice Dogs were named the AWHL Organization of the Year under Proffitt's leadership.

2009-2014 he picked up youth coaching again serving in the Head and Assistant Coach positions with the Arctic Lions Squirts-Midget Tier I teams as well as West Valley High School.

2010 Fairbanks Hockey Hall of Fame Coach of the Year

Many coaches expect players to succeed in the classroom. Prof demands it. He also requires a certain level of behavior when his teams are in public. There isn't anyone in Fairbanks who does as much for the sport of hockey as Rob Proffitt. He has advocated for many youth players to advance their hockey careers and serves as a role model to many in Alaska hockey.

**Inducted September 10, 2022**