

## Coaching Director Update - December 2010

I hope everything has been going well for you. Here are a few items for you.

1. Coach Certification - as a reminder ... all coaches (house and travel) must be at their required level by 31 December or have at least advanced one level this year. If they are not ... there are two options ... stop coaching ... or get a temporary card good for one year. Your association must enforce this rule as all associations are subject to a fine or disqualification of teams, if the association knowingly does not have their coaches legal. The Temporary Card Request form can be found on the MWAHA site under Forms

2. Level 2 Clinic Ames - our last Level 2 clinic is scheduled for next Sunday, 12 December, in Ames IA, this clinic was scheduled for any Level 1 coaches that must have their Level 2 by 31 December 2010.

3. ADM - I know most of you have been active in some way with the new ADM approach. I attended a USA Hockey 4 day ADM Symposium in Chicago last month. The speakers were all experts in their field, whether it was a Behavioral Scientist, NHL players with a U8 child, or an Olympic Trainer. There is no question that science, data and knowledgeable hockey experts agree we need to continue the new ADM direction. I plan to share this information with you in a future conference call or meeting. Briefly ... a child's growth curve, strength development and cognitive ability all suggest;

- skills gained in small area games and fun drills up through age 10 will have more impact on the child's future than what they can gain from playing full-ice games
- age 14 and above is the window in which players can excel to learn systems and team play

4. Coaching Education Program - I assume all of you are familiar with the changes for next year; must advance 1 level every year to Level 3, can only take one level each year, all coaches take an age specific on-line course each year. There will be new Level 1,2,3,4 Clinic materials so we will be adjusting how we conduct our clinics. My goal is that we double the number of clinics and definitely hold a Level 4 in the MWAHA. If an association wants to hold any level, including level 1, they will need to identify two instructors that will attend a USA Hockey Coaching Director workshop. Mark your calendars as I assume all Association Coaching and Education Director will be one of the two from your association. I hope to offer two dates to chose from, Sunday 21 August in Omaha and Sunday 28 August in Des Moines.

Thank you for your efforts, any questions, let me know.

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