

Hello, My name is Pat Jefferson, and I am running for the position of VP of Coach Development.

I have been playing hockey since my U13 days which seems like quite a while ago and it has been almost 50 years. I played my minor hockey in central BC starting out on a house team but moved up to a travel team when entering my second season. I was fortunate enough to be able to maintain a skillset that gave me the opportunity to play the rest of my minor hockey career in high level competition, moving up to as far as a taste of WHL. During that portion of my hockey career I was fortunate to have the guidance of many great coaches who made lasting impressions on me and laid the foundation of my coaching philosophy that I continue to build upon to this day.

I have continued to be active in hockey playing various levels of senior and recreational hockey and that has allowed me to formulate a vision of what I would like to be able to contribute back into the game and at what capacity. I have had the opportunity to coach at various levels in our association while introducing my grandson to the game, and that experience has given me an insight into the complexities of what is required to guide these young athletes through today's game.

I strongly believe that coaching is a constant learning curve in any sport, and as any team sport demands coaches have the ability to adapt to the everchanging landscape of any given day. There are many resources available to help deliver the best instruction possible to develop fundamentals and tactics, and I feel it is very important to be sure these resources are being utilized to maximize their benefit to the players, no matter what level they are at.

As coaches we have an obligation to help the players as much as possible wherever they are in their career, and that is both a privilege and a responsibility, as we are shaping the image of our players, teams, and our organization for anyone who shows an interest in what values we are prioritizing for our players. The foundations we emphasize for them are a reflection of what structure our organization is composed of. I feel that there is no higher importance in our association than developing our coaches, providing them with resources and training, and monitoring their progress and performance, so that the players under their direction have every opportunity for success, no matter what that may look like. I would like to think that if I were selected for this position, I would be able to continue moving our association in a positive direction with regards to ensuring our coaches are well supported, so that as a result, our association is well represented.

Thank you.