

WRRRA Coaching Report

February 2020

Professional Development

Reminder that all coaches are required to complete professional development in order to maintain their coaching credentials on a five year cycle. There are opportunities offered through many sources such as NCCP, Ringette Canada, Ringette Ontario and the Region. Many of these are free or for a minimal charge and coaches are encouraged to take advantage of these courses as often as they can.

Coach Development has been assessed as an important priority for us to focus on by both the Western Region Board as well as Ringette Ontario. The Regions and Ringette Ontario are working to provide coach development opportunities throughout the province but we believe it needs to be a priority at the association level as well and association executives need to encourage their coaches to attend the opportunities that are being provided. These opportunities help all our bench staff and in turn our players to be the best they can be.

This season I reached out to all associations to ask who might be interested in hosting a PD clinic this season. There were a number of clinics options made available including:

Building a Practice Plan – How Best to Utilize your Ice

Goalies – Don't Forget them at Practice

Strategies and Tactics – Don't Forget your Timeout

Those are the Rules – Closing the Gap Between Coaches and Officials

Only 4 associations inquired about hosting a clinic and from these four that were interested we were able to arrange three clinics as well as a fourth during the University Challenge Cup over the Christmas Break. We had 32 participants attend over the four clinics and from all accounts the feedback was very good and the participants felt the clinics were quite worthwhile attending. However, with almost 140 teams in our Region and well over 300 coaches this is somewhat disappointing given that during the Association Meetings over the summer with the Region this was put forward by those in attendance as a focus point for the Region moving forward.

Both Western Region and Ringette Ontario will continue to provide as many Coach Development Opportunities as possible, but we need the help of all associations to make this a priority within their own organizations as well.

Coaches Qualified This Season

This season we hosted:

- two CI clinics in Western Region and had 51 coaches attend (67 last season)
- two CSI clinics in Western Region and had 42 coaches attend (27 last season)

Thanks to St. Marys, Guelph, Waterloo and London for hosting.

We also CI Certified 7 coaches to date this season as well (22 last season).

Bench Staff Code of Conduct

All bench staff are reminded that they have signed the Bench Staff Code of Conduct Agreement and we trust that bench staff will adhere to both the letter and spirit of this Code of Conduct. A number of bench staff have already been ejected and suspensions levied throughout the province including in our own Region this year, so I ask that coaches, managers and trainers try to represent their team, association and Western Region appropriately during all sanctioned events. To date six coaches have received at least a one game suspension due to their conduct on and off the ice.

I would also like to remind coaches that you are responsible for the conduct of your fans during all sanctioned events. I know this is difficult when you are on the bench but I hope that each coach within our Region has met with their parents to discuss the behaviour expected from all of them while at the arena both towards other fans and the officials and in addition if a situation should arise that they deal with these problems as quickly as possible to ensure there are not similar issues in the future.

Bench Staff Substitutions

For all sanctioned events (tournaments) teams that require a bench staff substitution must complete the applicable form. This is done online from the Ringette Ontario website. Once completing the form, Karla Xavier at the RO office will review for approval.

Sportsmanlike Conduct with respect to Scores

This season we have received several complaints about running up scores during tournament play. This situation is not fun for anyone and a team receives no competitive advantage to running goal differentials well into the double digits. Ringette Ontario and WRRL both have rules in place to limit the goal differential when determining standings and as such coaches should consider the ramifications of running scores up. This is considered by many to be poor sportsmanship and something everyone should consider when placed in this situation. We know the competition is not always equal and sometimes it is difficult to control player excitement, but we ask all coaches to consider the feelings of your opponents when such a situation comes about.

Interested in Getting Involved:

If you are interested in getting involved with helping to facilitate coaching clinics in our Region please let me know as we are always looking for interested and enthusiastic people to join the team.

Questions?

Don't hesitate to contact me at coachwrra@wrra.ca with any coaching related questions. Have a great season!

John Mezenberg

Western Region Coaching Coordinator