

RECRUITING COACHES

Before you start the recruiting process with your association should ask some key questions.

1. Is the time commitment expected reasonable for most people?
2. Is the time of day reasonable for the coaches?
3. Does the association have safety/support mechanisms for the coach?
4. Do you have a philosophy in your association that fosters enthusiasm and a willingness to help?
5. Does the community know about your association programs and the benefits of the programs?
6. Have you as an association/mentor clearly outlined the expectations for the coaches?
7. Are you constantly trying to recruit new young coaches to maintain the system? What if the old guard suddenly leaves?
8. What is the past record of the association as far as support to coaches?
9. Have we explained the benefits to potential coaches to ensure that we get the best possible coaches available?

Who to Recruit

Quite often the obvious answer is parents, but are there groups or individuals beyond the parents that would be a potentially strong group of coaches.

Players – this group may have the greatest knowledge of your association. Midget or Juvenile aged players that have recently left the association or players playing college or university hockey locally are quite often very interested in giving back to the program. They typically have tremendous knowledge of the game, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and grow in the coaching position.

Service Groups – typically these groups are sponsors but may also have an interest in playing an on-ice role.

Oldtimer Teams/Recreational Teams – See if these teams would be interested in adopting a team where several of the players would share the coaching duties.