

Kent Valley Rainiers Enter National Rankings

Kent, WA 3 December, 2008 – Coming off an impressive performance in their Los Angeles weekend series, the Kent Valley Rainiers made their debut in the Pee Wee Tier 2 national rankings at number 9. The rankings, just released on Wednesday, are compiled by MyHockeyRankings.com and consider record, goal differential, and strength of schedule. The national ranking demonstrates the continued development of the Rainiers and the excellent programs being offered by Kent Valley Hockey Association. Joining Kent Valley in the rankings are fellow Pacific District competitors San Jose Jr. Sharks (#1) and California Wave (#5). The Rainiers are currently looking into matchups against these two perennial powerhouse programs.

Upon hearing of the national ranking, Head Coach Adam Kurtenbach commented: *"A national ranking is further recognition that our development program is working. Last year we were ranked #4 in British Columbia. That was the first time anyone can remember a team from Washington State being ranked in BC. We've carried that momentum into the Pee Wee division and scheduled games against teams that will challenge our players to raise their level of play. The team has really responded with impressive wins against PCAHA Tier 1 teams and top Pacific District competition. We will continue to raise our expectations and level of play through our structured practice model and scheduling tournaments and exhibitions against premier competition. This year we have planned 100 hours of practice ice to complement a 50 game schedule, thus achieving USA Hockey's recommended 2:1 practice to game ratio. Our structured practice model is unique in the Pacific Northwest and is the primary contributor to our players continued development and success."*

The Rainiers will play Chilliwack this weekend at Kent Valley Ice Centre. Come watch the #9 ranked team in the country put their exciting style of skating, creativity and puck movement on display on Saturday at 4:00 PM and Sunday at 11:50 AM.

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