



Casey Jorgensen Elected to USA Hockey's Pacific District Board of Directors

Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA – KVHA News for 24 June, 2010 – Casey Jorgensen is a busy guy these days. Between his career as an attorney with William Kastner in downtown Seattle, his role as a dedicated husband and father, and his involvement with USA Hockey, tracking down Casey for an interview was a challenge. My reason for getting in touch with Casey was to congratulate him on his recent election to one of four USA Hockey Pacific District Director posts. Casey has been involved in local hockey for many years as a player, on-ice official, and more recently as legal counsel for USA Hockey.



I've known Casey and the Jorgensen family since Casey played hockey with my son Bob at SnoKing back in the late eighties. I also worked with Casey when he served as a linesman in the Western Hockey League and as a referee in the West Coast Hockey League. So, I was pleased to learn of his election to this important position representing our local hockey associations. Casey's older brother Ken Jorgensen played for the Seattle Breakers (83-84.) His younger brother Randy was an outstanding local hockey player but chose baseball as his sport and was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the 1993 amateur entry draft.

Casey replaces Bruce Urban of Arizona (formerly of Alaska) on the Pacific District Board of Directors. The Pacific District is one of twelve Districts established by USA Hockey and is composed of five (5) Affiliates which represent the States of Alaska, California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington; and one non-affiliated State: Hawaii.

KVHA Members will remember Casey Jorgensen as being the guest speaker at our KVHA Auction a couple of years ago. Here's the interview:

Question. Congratulations Casey on your recent election as USA Pacific District Director. You've been involved in almost every aspect of local hockey from your years in minor hockey at SnoKing AHA to your more recent involvement as Legal Counsel for USA Hockey. How do you feel about this new position with USA Hockey?

Answer. *"I've been on the Board of Directors with USA Hockey for 4 years and assisting on legal matters for 9 years, but I am looking forward to returning to working more on the "ice" part of the game. As the father of a young player and new hockey parent, I think I can bring a fresh look at issues at the grassroots level and the difficulties that our local associations face."*

Q. Do you have any personal hockey related goals or objectives you hope to achieve in your new role with USA Hockey?

A. *"Just to continue doing what I can for the sport. The sport and those involved gave me a lot of opportunities when I was younger and I know it has helped a lot of others. I think I can do a good job by continuing in a similar roll that I had as a referee – remaining neutral when something comes up but helping to decide issues that are the best thing for the game, not just for one area or one organization. This happens at the local level between associations as well as at the national level between areas of the country that have vastly different hockey programs and opportunities. We need to make sure what we are doing works for everyone, or is at least flexible enough to accommodate everyone."*

Q. What is your fondest memory as a hockey player at SnoKing AHA, oh so many years ago? Or, what do you remember most about minor hockey experience?

A. *"Any team you were involved with, Lew! I loved the game and it was obviously important for our whole family. I didn't have the playing talent of my brothers, but I was able to find my place as a referee and that brought a great number of opportunities and lifelong friendships."*

Q. You are married and a hockey parent. You work full time as an attorney for Williams Kastner and you serve as Legal Counsel for USA Hockey. Where do you find the time to do all this?

A. *"I make time, and lucky for me I have a very patient and supportive wife (Kelly). There is no doubt it is difficult to find time for everything but I have been very lucky that my family and my law firm support my efforts in the community and allow me to join my professional career with my passion for the game."*

Q. We, KVHA, are interested in growing our hockey program. We have an active "Learn to Play" program and a strong skills development program for all our hockey players. We have one of the finest ice facilities in the northwest. What advice do you have that will help us grow our program?

A. *"I think we always need to focus on the lower levels and how we keep them in the game. The retention level for players under the age of 9 is less than 50%. If we were able to hold onto more of those players, then the numbers at the upper levels would improve, and along with that we would see better competition at the upper levels, betterment of our top players and the success of our programs."*

Congratulations again on your election, Casey. And, thanks for taking time from your busy schedule for this interview. We look forward to working with you in the coming years.

Have a great week!

KVHA News Contact: Lew Sellers, Director of Communications
Kent Valley Hockey Association
6015 So. 240th Street
Kent, WA. 98032
(206) 914-9619 Cellular
Lew@KentValleyIceCentre.com