

## **Seventy-Five Players Participate in KVHA's Welcome Back "Meet & Greet"**

Kent, WA August 2, 2008 – Seventy-five Kent Valley Hockey Association (KVHA) players turned out at Kent Valley Ice Centre (KVIC) Saturday morning for a FREE 2-hour "Stick N' Puck" session and an opportunity to "Meet & Greet" Danny Lorenz, KVHA's new Hockey Director, and visit with KVHA coaches for the 2008/2009 season. An excited Les Grauer, KVHA Vice President and Coach, said; *"This is an awesome turnout. We need to do another one of these later this summer. This is very exciting!"*

Coaches supervising the throng of various sized players on the ice put out all eight hockey nets and organized four cross-ice games for the players. Coaches, players and observers appeared to be having a great time.

A coaches meeting took place at 11:30am where Danny Lorenz introduced himself to coaches and talked about the upcoming season. Lorenz asked coaches for assistance in contacting players from last season that had not yet registered. He referred to KVHA Management and Coaching Staff as a fraternity to help each other and share their unique talents and skills for the benefit of all KVHA players. Lorenz pledged to assist coaches both on and off the ice with their hockey programs.

Grauer and Lorenz discussed KVHA's philosophy regarding equality of ice time for players. They invited coaches to contact them if they had further questions regarding the subject. Grauer talked briefly about progress on a second sheet of ice at Kent Valley Ice Centre. He highlighted what he sees as a bright future for KVIC and KVHA as the Seattle Thunderbirds come to Kent and enthusiasm for hockey builds throughout the community. Grauer said he also expects the 2010 Winter Olympics to have a positive impact locally.

Rena Sullivan, KVHA's Registrar, spoke to coaches regarding the paperwork required for teams, coaches, and their assistants. Sullivan offered to assist as needed with building the team's documentation binders and making sure all the required paperwork is in order.

Lew Sellers, KVHA Director of Communications, spoke briefly about the successful 2007/2008 season. Sellers said; *"Last season was our best season ever financially. With the efficient sharing of practice ice and the funds raised through our annual auction, we came very close to closing the gap between income and expenses."* He encouraged teams to support the annual fund raising auction.

KVHA members can look forward to another association-wide event later this summer. In the mean time, KVHA Management welcomes members back for a bigger and better 2008/2009 hockey season.

All in all, it was a pretty exciting day at Kent Valley Ice Centre. Thanks to everyone, KVIC, KVHA, coaches, parents and players for participating.

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