



# Team Culture and Dynamics Make Coaching a Challenging Job at All Age Levels

Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA – KVHA News for 15 December, 2010 – I’ve often wondered about how a hockey coach deals with team culture and the ups and downs of team dynamics. For example, take the Kent Valley’s U18 Midget Selects and their two games in Portland last weekend. They played fairly well on Saturday, even though they lost the game 5 to 4. They played the same team the following morning and lost the game 5 to 0. What happened overnight that caused the team’s offense not to show up for that Sunday game? Is it a flaw in team culture? I mean that was a long and expensive trip to just throw the Sunday game out the Zamboni gate without trying. How does a coach cope with that?

What about the Seattle Thunderbirds? They’re having trouble getting out of the starting blocks these days. It takes them all of first period to get their wings moving and then it’s often too late. The T-Bird coaches are doing everything they can think of to turn the first period blues around. Is there something amiss with team culture or team dynamics? Who knows? Certainly, the players can see what’s happening. What’s a coach to do?

I view teaching hockey skills as being the easiest part of a coach’s job. Many of our coaches have played hockey at all levels from minor hockey through the pros. They’ve played the game and most have coached for many years. But, the team’s cultural health is a tough one to master regardless of whether the players are 6 to 8 years old or teenagers. I’m glad that I am a casual observer and not a coach. Coaching can be very challenging.

## KVHA Weekend Scoreboard:

12/12	Loss	KVHA Mite Tornadoes	2	vs.	Seattle Jr. Mite Blades	3
12/05	Loss	Kent Squirt All Stars	2	vs.	SnoKing Squirt Minor Tier-II	9
12/11	Win	KVHA Squirt Tornadoes	8	vs.	Puget Sound Squirt Tomahawks	0
12/11	Loss	KVHA PeeWee Tornadoes	0	vs.	WWFHA Phoenix	3
12/11	Win	KVHA PeeWee Tier-II Selects	4	vs.	Puget Sound Tier-II Tomahawks	1
12/12	Win	KVHA PeeWee Tier-II Selects	4	vs.	Puget Sound Tier-II Tomahawks	1
	Idle	KVHA Bantam Tornadoes				
	Idle	KVHA Bantam Tier-II Selects				
12/10	Win	KVHA Bantam Tier-I Rainiers	7	vs.	Calgary Glenlake Hawks	2
12/11	Loss	KVHA Bantam Tier-I Rainiers	1	vs.	Cranbrook Bantam "AAA"	8
12/11	Win	KVHA Bantam Tier-I Rainiers	7	vs.	Kelowna Jr. Rockets Tier-II	5
12/12	Loss	KVHA Bantam Tier-I Rainiers	2	vs.	Spokane Bantam Tier-I	9
12/11	Win	KVHA Midget Tornadoes	3	vs.	Seattle Jr. Midget Blades	1
12/11	Loss	KVHA Midget Tornadoes	2	vs.	Oregon Hi School Travel Team	3
12/12	Loss	KVHA Midget Tornadoes	2	vs.	Oregon Hi School Travel Team	5
12/11	Loss	KVHA Midget Tier-II Selects	4	vs.	Portland Jr. Hawks Midget "AA"	5
12/12	Loss	KVHA Midget Tier-II Selects	0	vs.	Portland Jr. Hawks Midget "AA"	5

## Kent Valley Mite Tornadoes Fall to Seattle Jr. Blades 2 - 3

Lynnwood Ice Arena, Lynnwood, WA 12 December, 2010 – Seattle Jr’s Braeden LaCombe took advantage of a Kent Valley defensive breakdown in the closing minutes of Sunday’s game to score the winning goal in their NPSHL league game with the Kent Valley Mite Tornadoes. It was the Tornadoes first loss in league play this season.

Kent Valley’s two goals were scored in the second period. Lucas Majors scored off an assist from Quinton Gessner early in the second period to tie the game at 1 and 1. Majors’ goal was the first of his young hockey career. Zach Johnston scored an unassisted goal nearly

seven minutes later to boost the Tornadoes to a 2 to 1 lead. However, the third period belonged to Seattle Jr. as Keegan Minahan tied the game, his second goal of the game, with 4:11 remaining to play. Two minutes later Seattle Jr's Braeden LaCombe got the game winner.

The Tornadoes are now locked in a 3-way tie for second place in the NPSHL Mite Division with the Seattle Jr. Blades and the SnoKing Jr. T-Birds Grey at 23 points each. Seattle Jr. Admiral Red is all alone in first place with 24 points. The Seattle Jr. Blades will face the league-leading Seattle Jr. Admiral Red at Lynnwood next Sunday. The Tornadoes will face SnoKing Grey at 8:00am at Kent Valley Ice Centre next Saturday.

**Speculation:** There is potential for breaking up that second place tie next weekend as the top four leading teams are involved in playing each other. Can it get any tighter than this at the top? Yes it could! A win by the fifth place Seattle Jr. Eagles (22 points) next weekend when they play the ninth place Seattle Jr. Admiral Black team could move them into contention for first or second spot in league standings. Mathematically, a 5-way tie for first place is possible. We'll be watching this race closely. Go Tornadoes!

Below is the scoring summary:

<b>Kent Valley Tornadoes (2) vs. Seattle Jr. Blades (3)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Seattle Jr.	1	2:45	Keegan Minahan from Jeromy Leonard
Kent Valley	2	12:50	Lucas Majors from Quinton Gessner
Kent Valley	2	6:05	Zach Johnston (Unassisted)
Seattle Jr.	3	4:11	Keegan Minahan (Unassisted)
Seattle Jr.	3	2:11	Braeden LaCombe (Unassisted)
Kent Valley's Andrew Alonzo stopped 15 of 18 shots on goal for 83%.			
Seattle Jr's Bryce Whitney stopped 4 of 6 for 67%.			
Kent Valley had 2 minor penalties for 5 minutes.			
Seattle Jr. skated penalty free.			

## ***Kent Valley Squirt All Stars (2) SnoKing Squirt Minor (9)***

**Castle Ice Arena, Renton, WA 5 December, 2010** – Where did this Kent Valley Squirt "All Stars" team come from? A check of the names on the roster indicated that it was the Squirt Tornadoes incognito. The team name was changed to disguise their appearance in this exhibition game. Dylan Herzog got the only two goals for the "All Stars," both unassisted. The SnoKing Squirt Minor team hammered the "All Stars" with 6 goals in the opening period, 2 in the second and 1 in the third. SnoKing got 42 shots on the Kent Valley net while Kent Valley had 12 shots on the SnoKing net. The exhibition game provided an excellent training opportunity for the "All Stars."

## ***Kent Valley Squirt Tornadoes Blank Puget Sound Tomahawks 8 - 0***

**Story by J.R. Jenkins**

**Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA 11 December, 2010** – The KVHA Squirt Tornadoes beat the PSAHA Tomahawks 8-0 in NPSHL league action. The Tornadoes used a balanced scoring attack as 8 different players scored goals, and a total of 11 players put their number on the scoring sheet. Lexi Doner Jr., Dylan Herzog and Jesse Everson each scored a goal and an assist. Cade Kim scored his first goal of the season, and Brett Jenkins scored the first goal of his career. Jesper Miquel earned the shutout to run his season record to 5-0. The Tornadoes are now 9-0 in league play.

Play started tentatively, and Miquel had to be sharp early making the first big save of the game on a breakaway at the 2 minute mark. Jesper would only see 2 more shots on goal in

what would be a quiet day for the Tornado netminder. Lexi Doner Jr. was first to light the lamp, finding the back of the net after a nifty rush four minutes in. Brett Jenkins showed some growing confidence "skating out" as he chased down a puck sent in to the corner by defenceman Ben McQuage, gained possession and made straight for the crease. "I was just trying to center it", said Jenkins "but it went off of the goalie's skate and in!"

Danny Smith closed the scoring for the Tornadoes on a helper from Doner Jr. The Tornadoes dominated possession throughout most of the first and were able to fire 11 shots on goal.

The second period saw two scoring rushes from Dylan Herzog and Davis Fjeld. Herzog continues to display a great hunger for the puck and has earned the respect of the Tornado faithful for the abandon he displays on each scoring rush. Fjeld's goal came after some nice open ice skating demonstrating his increasing skills as a puck carrier and offensive threat. Everson and Jake Sordahl both earned assists on the goals. Shots were 8-1 Tornadoes in the period.

The third period was the most dominant for the Tornadoes, outshooting the Tomahawks 13-0. Jesse Everson, Kemper Terry, and Cade Kim scored the goals. Jesse continues to show a deceptive flair with the stick and Kemper – a fast, fluid skater – was rewarded for his typical hard work. Cade's goal came about as the Tomahawks attempted to mount a rush out of their own zone. As players bolted, it was Cade who found himself alone and in possession of the puck after Blake Britten held the line with his usual tough play. With only an out of position defenseman and the goaltender to beat, Cade decided to attack. With his trademark white gloves and efficient stride pumping, Cade carried the puck into the crease and beat the sprawling Tomahawk goaltender for his first goal of the year.

Tornado Team Manager JR Jenkins said, "Cade plays such a classy, selfless defense that I think everyone was excited to see him score."

The Tornadoes finish up the 2010 part of the NPSHL season with a visit to the Seattle Junior Bulldogs this Sunday, December 19th.

Below is the scoring summary:

<b>Kent Valley Tornadoes (8) vs. Puget Sound Tomahawks (0)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Kent Valley	1	4:50	Lexi Doner Jr. (Unassisted)
Kent Valley	1	9:00	Brett Jenkins (1 <sup>st</sup> Career Goal) from Ben McQuage
Kent Valley	1	13:10	Danny Smith from Lexi Doner Jr.
Kent Valley	2	9:37	Dylan Herzog from Jesse Everson
Kent Valley	2	11:18	Davis Fjeld from Jake Sordahl
Kent Valley	3	5:55	Jesse Everson from Dylan Herzog & Ben McQuage
Kent Valley	3	7:51	Kemper Terry (Unassisted)
Kent Valley	3	9:25	Caed Kim (1 <sup>st</sup> Goal of Year) from Blake Britten
Kent Valley's Jesper Miquel stopped 3 of 3 to earn the shutout. Puget Sound's Austin Lacy stopped 24 of 32 for 75%. Kent Valley skated penalty free. Puget Sound had 1 minor penalty for 2 minutes.			

## ***Kent Valley PeeWee Tornadoes (0) WWFHA Phoenix (3)***

**Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA 11 December, 2010** – Contrary to ancient mythology this Phoenix did not rise from the ashes. Instead, the WWFHA Phoenix hockey team skated onto Kent Valley ice and swept the wind out of the Tornadoes' game departing the ice an hour later soaring high with victory under their wings. Anna Stensland, the Phoenix goalie, earned a shutout as she turned away 6 shots in the first period, 6 in the second and 11 in

the third. Nora Keaney figured in all three Phoenix goals scoring two of them and assisting Frances "Woodard" Hooper on another.

Next up for the Tornadoes is an away game at Castle Ice against the SnoKing Blue team, currently in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the NPSHL PeeWee Division.

The scoring summary is below:

<b>Kent Valley Tornadoes (0) vs. WWFHA Phoenix (3)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Phoenix	1	10:07	Nora Keaney (Unassisted)
Phoenix	3	2:06	Frances "Woodard" Hooper from Nora Keaney
Phoenix	3	10:36	Nora Keaney (Unassisted)
Shots on goal were not recorded. Both teams skated penalty free.			

## ***Kent Valley PeeWee Tier-II Selects Defeat Puget Sound Tier-II Tomahawks 4 to 1 Saturday and 4 to 1 Sunday***

**Puget Sound Hockey Center, Tacoma, WA 12 December, 2010** – The scores may have been the same for these two weekend games. The two teams scored in the same sequence in both games with Puget Sound spoiling potential shutouts for Zadina and Hansen in the closing minutes of the third period in each game. However, that's where the similarities ended. Kent Valley went 0 for 7 on power plays in game one and 2 for 8 in game two. Puget Sound went 0 for 5 on power plays in game one and 1 for 5 in game two. Kent Valley had 27 shots on goal in game one and 50 shots on goal in game two. Puget Sound was almost even between the two games at 19 and 17 shots.

Check out the Kent Valley scoring on Saturday; Elliot Plourde with 2 goals, Nicky Pokrzywinski and JJ Blondin with a goal each. Pokrzywinski had 2 assists and Ian Doner earned an assist. Yet, these guys were hardly heard from on Sunday when Nick Van Halder scored 2 goals and Dylan Moriarty and Camden Ward each scored a goal. Assists went to Tom Speer, JJ Blondin, Calen Randall (2), Nick Van Halder, Nicky Pokrzywinski and Emily Atkins.

Look at the penalties; Dawson Myers had a Hat Trick in penalties on Saturday but played like an angel on Sunday. Pokrzywinski earned the penalty Hat Trick on Sunday yet the officials didn't see him on Saturday.

How about the power play? It was missing for the Selects Saturday (0 for 7) but showed up on Sunday (2 for 8). Almost makes you wonder if Coach Speer has two different teams. But, hey! Who cares? Two games and two wins! Way to go Selects.

Here are the scoring summaries:

<b>Game 1: Kent Valley Selects (4) vs. Puget Sound Tomahawks (1)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Kent Valley	1	10:15	Elliot Plourde from Nicky Pokrzywinski
Kent Valley	2	13:13	Nicky Pokrzywinski from Ian Doner
Kent Valley	2	11:55	Elliot Plourde from Nicky Pokrzywinski
Kent Valley	2	11:48	JJ Blondin (Unassisted)
Puget Sound	3	1:46	Nielson from Nauman
Kent Valley's Carson Zadina stopped 18 of 19 shots on goal for 95%. Puget Sound's Willy stopped 23 of 27 shots on goal for 85%. Kent Valley had 5 minor penalties and 1 major misconduct penalty for 20 minutes. Puget Sound had 7 minor penalties for 14 minutes.			

<b>Game 2: Kent Valley Selects (4) vs. Puget Sound Tomahawks (1)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Kent Valley	1	0:34	Dylan Moriarty from Tom Speer & JJ Blondin
Kent Valley	2	8:39	Nick Van Halder from Calen Randall (Power Play)
Kent Valley	2	8:23	Camden Ward from Nick Van Halder & Calen Randall
Kent Valley	2	5:26	Nick Van Halder from Nicky Pokrzywinski & Emily Atkins (Power Play)
Puget Sound	3	5:04	Nelson from Thompson
Kent Valley's Cam Hansen stopped 16 of 17 shots on goal for 94%. Puget Sound's Willy stopped 46 of 50 shots on goal for 92%. Kent Valley had 7 minor penalties for 14 minutes. Puget Sound had 10 minor penalties for 20 minutes.			

## ***Kent Valley Bantam Tier-I Rainiers Win Two and Lose Two in Trail B.C. Tournament***

**Trail/Rossland B.C., Canada 12 December, 2010** – The Rainiers played a tournament in Trail and Rossland, B.C., over the weekend. The tournament began on Friday as the Rainiers defeated the Calgary Glenlake Hawks 7 to 2. Saturday morning they faced a tough Bantam "AAA" team from Cranbrook, B.C. and lost 1 to 8. The Rainiers' third tournament game and second Saturday game went a little better than the prior game as the Rainiers beat a strong Kelowna Jr. Rockets Tier-II team by a score of 7 to 5. Sunday's game was against the Spokane Bantam Tier-I team. The Rainiers lost 2 to 9.

Below is a summary of tournament scoring:

<b>Kent Valley Rainiers Tournament Scoring Summary</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>Player Name</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Assists</b>	<b>PIM</b>
3	Kyle Hoffman	0	1	16
4	Steven Mather	0	2	8
5	Billy Gardner	0	0	8
10	Liam O'Kelley	0	1	16
15	Rylan Cratsenberg	4	0	4
16	Jack Speer	0	2	0
21	Rylan Parmenter	1	2	8
23	Andrew Lee	4	0	0
27	Bryce Ebert	4	0	2
44	Rory Bock	1	0	6
51	Faaiz Jappie	0	1	0
88	Jesse Howland	0	0	0
97	Luke VanSchaack	3	2	0

## ***Kent Valley Midget Tornados Get Back to Winning with 3-1 Victory over Seattle Jr. Blades***

**Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA 11 December, 2010** – The Kent Valley Midget Tornados bounced back from last week's loss to the Kitsap Outlaws with a nice 3 to 1 win over the Seattle Jr. Blades. The Tornados are now tied for first place in the NPSHL with the Kitsap Outlaws.

Tommy Peebles led off the scoring midway through the first period for the Tornadoes with an assist from Brendan Laik. Peebles scored again late in the second period off an assist from Paul Pinkoske. Seattle Jr's Kevin Morris scored shortly thereafter to get his team on the score board. Morris was assisted by Patrick Parnell. Zac Cadiente got the insurance goal with just 3:57 remaining to play.

Kent Valley's Joshua Severeid turned in a 92% performance for his team. Seattle Jr's Alexander Zarutskie also played well in goal stopping 29 of 32 shots for 91%.

Next up for the Midget Tornadoes is a game Sunday at Olympic View Arena against the Seattle Jr. Eagles. The Eagles are in third place in the NPSHL just 4 points behind the Tornadoes. The Eagles only loss this season was at the hands of the Tornadoes (1 to 4) on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Eagles had a 4-4 tie with the Kitsap Outlaws on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Sunday's game should be a good one.

Below is the scoring summary:

<b>Kent Valley Tornadoes (3) vs. Seattle Jr. Blades (1)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Kent Valley	1	7:34	Tommy Peebles from Brendan Laik
Kent Valley	2	1:56	Tommy Peebles from Paul Pinkoske
Seattle Jr.	2	1:13	Kevin Morris from Patrick Parnell
Kent Valley	3	3:57	Zac Cadiente (Unassisted)
Kent Valley's Joshua Severeid stopped 12 of 13 shots on goal for 92%. Seattle Jr's Alexander Zarutskie stopped 29 of 32 shots on goal for 91%. Kent Valley had 8 minor penalties for 16 minutes. Seattle Jr. had 5 minor penalties for 10 minutes.			

## ***Midget Tornadoes Stumble in Vancouver***

**Mountain View Arena, Vancouver, WA 12 December, 2010** – The Kent Valley Midget Tornadoes played the Seattle Jr. Blades at Kent Valley Ice Centre on Saturday morning, packed their hockey bags and traveled directly to Vancouver, Washington, for a Saturday evening (7:20pm) game against the Oregon High School Travel Team. They lost that Saturday evening game by a score of 2 to 3.

So, one might think a good night's rest would have the Tornadoes ready to take on the high school boys from Oregon on Sunday morning. Nope! A 7:15am Sunday morning game didn't give the Tornadoes a lot of rest. The Tornadoes lost the early morning game by a score of 2 to 5. Frustration manifested itself in the penalty column with the Tornadoes taking 16 minutes in minor penalties, 2 5-minute majors for 10 minutes, 2 10-minute misconduct penalties and 1 game misconduct penalty for a total of 56 minutes.

Scoring details were not available. The score sheets were pretty much unreadable.

## ***Kent Valley Midget U18 Tier-II Selects Drop Two Exhibition Games to Portland JR. Hawks Midget AA***

**Kent Valley Ice Centre, Kent, WA 12 December, 2010** – Mountain View Ice Arena in Vancouver, Washington, was not kind to Kent Valley teams this past weekend. Our Midget Tornadoes lost two games there to the Oregon High School Travel Team and the Midget U18 Selects lost both of their games to the Portland Jr. Hawks Midget AA team. The Selects were solidly into their game on Saturday and even led the game for seven minutes during the third period. The Selects scored four unanswered goals to take a two goal lead only to lose it in the second half of the third period as Portland scored three unanswered goals of their own. Portland's winning goal was scored with 16.6 seconds remaining to play.



Sunday's game was very disappointing for the Selects when compared with their Saturday performance. The Selects' offense disappeared overnight as the scoring leaders were unable to score and the Selects went down in defeat by a score 5 to 0. Guys! What's going on? Where's your consistency?

Sundays' score sheet had an incomplete scoring column, didn't include any Kent Valley scoring, and shots on goal were not recorded. As a result we're only showing the scoring summary for Saturday's game. Grumble, grumble, groan!

Below is the scoring summary:

<b>Game 1: Kent Valley Selects (4) vs. Portland Jr. Hawks (5)</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Portland	1	7:24	Austin Givens from Tucker Spooner (Power Play)
Portland	1	0:02	Austin Fodrea from Trevor Shott
Kent Valley	2	13:50	Damon Hanson (Shorthanded & Unassisted)
Kent Valley	2	11:50	Ryan Kaluza from Caleb Bromley & Damon Hanson
Kent Valley	3	14:34	Michael Anderson from Taylor Birkeland
Kent Valley	3	11:44	Damon Hanson (Unassisted)
Portland	3	9:30	Kade King from Austin Fodrea & Zane Everson
Portland	3	8:41	Tucker Spooner from Austin Givens & Eric Spence (Power Play)
Portland	3	0:17	Trevor Shott from Kade King & Austin Fodrea (Power Play)
Kent Valley's Troy Turpin was in goal – Shots were not recorded. Portland's Christopher Pritchard was in goal – Shots were not recorded. Kent Valley had 7 minor penalties for 14 minutes. Portland had 4 minor penalties for 8 minutes.			

## **Quote of the Day**

*"No excuses, but the prospects of playing in the NHL did not look great, and the lure of playing in Europe presented a rosier picture. I had my chances, but at 5' 9", the larger ice surfaces in Europe would provide a better alternative."*

**Glen Goodall, Seattle Breakers 1984/85 & Seattle Thunderbirds 1985/1990, NHL, AHL, IHL, ECHL and Europe (a quote from his biography.)**

See you at the rink!

**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](mailto:Lew@KentValleyIceCentre.com)