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Ice Den Adds Mark Ciaccio To Coaching Staff Coyotes Skating Coach to Spearhead New Training Initiatives

Scottsdale, AZ -- Coyotes Ice, LLC and the Coyotes Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) are pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Ciaccio as the associations' Director of Hockey Training. Mark joins an already formidable Ice Den hockey staff which includes Jr. Coyotes Director Mike De Angelis, CAHA's Director of Youth Hockey Development Scott Gruber and CAHA's Assistant Youth Hockey Director Tommy Hess.

Mark is certainly no stranger to CAHA and the Ice Den. Over the years, he has served as CAHA's power skating coach for both its house and travel programs. He's also run many successful hockey camps and clinics at the Ice Den and often can be seen on the ice during Phoenix Coyotes practice sessions at the Scottsdale facility.



Mark Ciaccio

In his new role with CAHA, Mark's priority will be to enhance the skill level of CAHA players, at every age level. "We're thrilled to have someone of Mark's experience and professional caliber, join our program", said CAHA's Mike De Angelis. "He's very well respected by our players and the hockey community in general. We're looking forward to having him work with us on a daily basis."

As the Ice Den looks to begin construction on the much anticipated 3rd ice sheet and new off-ice training facility, the creation of new hockey skill and development programs (both youth and adult) become a greater priority. "It (skill development) has been a goal of ours for a number of years" said Coyotes Ice President, Mike O'Hearn. "However, a lack of ice availability has limited our capacity to provide these important layers of training. We're very close to solving this hurdle and the addition of Mark to our staff was a logical step in the continued evolution of our developmental programs."

In his role, Mark will increase his in-season power skating sessions with the house and travel teams. He will also be involved with travel tryouts as well as CAHA's Hot Dawg Hockey Camp and Jr. Coyotes Elite Hockey School this July. Mark will begin working immediately with Ice Den management on the creation of on and off ice team/group training initiatives as well as the development of private hockey programs for players seeking specialized instruction. The Ice Den will be unveiling these initiatives in the coming months.

In addition to his player development role, Mark will also serve as head coach for the Jr. Coyotes Peeewe '98 team for the 2011-2012 season. "This is a key birth year group for CAHA", said De Angelis. "They'll be competing in the AAA Super Series League against top, '98 talent in the country. This will prepare them for the rigors of the ultra-competitive Tier I Elite League which is only a couple years away. Adding a guy with Mark's credibility further strengthens an already impressive package. He provides another tremendous coach and role model for our players."



Ciaccio works with a group of Jr. Coyotes

Mark Ciaccio has a long and distinguished track record as a professional power skating coach for over 18 years. Teams and programs he has worked with include:

- Power Skating / Skill Development Coach Phoenix Coyotes (NHL) 2000-Current
- San Antonio Rampage (AHL) Current
- Springfield Falcons (AHL)
- Los Angeles Kings (NHL)
- Director Of Player Development USA Hockey Arizona District
- Fast Skate Sweden - Freddy Sjostrom Toronto Maple Leafs
- Selects Hockey- Howe Hockey
- Canadian Hockey Federation
- German National Hockey Federation
- Assabet Girls Hockey (over 30 National Championships)
- 14 years Robby Glantz Power Skating (Co-Founder)
- Former Head Coach NM Scorpions (WPHL, CHL)
- Many players from U.S. Women National and Olympic Hockey Teams
- Youth Hockey Skating Fundamentals Specialist.

For more information, please call the Ice Den at 480-473-5811 or visit their website at www.coyotesice.com