



**Annual Report**  
**01 March 2007 - 29 February 2008**



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*IHA Member State Associations & Territories*



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## *Executive Summary*

This Annual Report publication by Ice Hockey Australia covers the activities, finances and statistics for Ice Hockey Australia's financial year from the 01 March 2007 to 29 February 2008. In 2005, Ice Hockey Australia's financial year was changed to cover the period from the 01<sup>st</sup> March to the last day in February to better reflect actual season figures for ease of reporting and alleviating the need for accruals.

Ice Hockey Australia, as a responsible national sporting federation, must continually keep an eye to the future and continuously look at ways to improve the sport and game of ice hockey. The 2007 season saw the introduction and further development of a number of strategies and programs. This largely a credit to the Board and Directors of these portfolios.

Financially, Ice Hockey Australia is in its best financial position ever. The 2007 Financial Audit showed an income of \$593,631 against an expenditure of \$548,410 and a balance of \$45,221 and a net asset of \$271,863. The continued close management of IHA's finances will ensure financial stability to the sport for future programs and added benefits to all IHA members. Our thanks and appreciation to IHA's Treasurer, Kevin Brown, who was instrumental in ensuring professional budget management and his many hours of work to strict control of costs, application and allocation. A comparative analysis of performance against the 2007 budget is presented in the report's financial section on page – 11 of this document.

The Australian Ice Hockey League, National Championships and National Teams are the flagships of our sport. Ice hockey enthusiasts are provided the opportunity to see Australia's best players exhibit their skills in over 100 AIHL games and six National Championship competitions. Many of these players represent Australia at the International Ice Hockey Federation's (IIHF) World Championships.

The 2008 season will be a banner year for Australian Ice Hockey, as the sport will be celebrating 100 years of ice hockey in Australia. The highlight of these celebrations will see Australia hosting the IIHF 2008 Senior World Division II Group B Championship in Newcastle, NSW, with the intent to winning a gold medal and promotion to Division I for the first time in Australian ice hockey history. During the event, a Centennial Dinner will be held with over 200 guests present to celebrate this historic centenary and also honour the dinner's special guests "The Australian 1960 Squaw Valley Winter Olympic Team". A formidable committee team has been formed to plan, manage and co-ordinate these historic events.

Over 150 players and 20 coaches & instructors annually participate at Ice Hockey Australia's Player Skills Development Camps. The camps include players aged 18 & Under, 15 & Under and 13 & Under and are conducted at Ice Hockey Australia's Training Centers - the Hunter Ice Skating Stadium in Newcastle, NSW and the Myuna Bay Rec & Sport Centre at Myuna Bay, NSW. The program continues to gain strength with many players returning for a third and fourth time. The program would not enjoy this success if it was not for the dedication of coaches and instructors who make themselves available each year. Ice Hockey Australia is extremely appreciative for their contribution and efforts.

The development of players requires knowledgeable and skilled coaches. In January 2008, Ice Hockey Australia conducted an intensive Level II Coaching Seminar with eighteen (18) coaches of mixed gender and eight (8) presenters participating. Ice Hockey Australia thanks the New South Wales Recreation & Sport Presenters and Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Level III Presenters for their time and contribution to the seminar.

During the seminar a panel of ten (10) Level III coaches evaluated and marked exams from the Level III Seminar held in January 2007. This further added to bolstering the enthusiasm and motivation amongst the Level II and Level III coaches.

Ice Hockey Australia's Officiating Development Program also continues to expand. Ice Hockey Australia's exchange program continues with Ice Hockey Australia's Tasman neighbors, the New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation. IHA's Referee-in-Chief and two on-ice officials have been nominated to the International Ice Hockey Federation's World Championship's on-ice official's team.

*Message from the President*

On behalf of Ice Hockey Australia, I would like to congratulate everyone on another terrific season of ice hockey. Ice Hockey Australia continues to have an outstanding record of achievement in both domestic programming and international competition. We strive to be the best in both areas while ensuring that our participants have an enjoyable experience.

Congratulations to Mr John Wilson, an active and long standing member of IHA, for his nomination to IHA's Life Membership Family. This is a fitting recognition for John who has been an active and valued member of Ice Hockey Australia and Ice Hockey New South Wales. Through John's unselfish and sustained efforts, he has continuously contributed to the sport of ice hockey for the betterment of all ice hockey members, especially the young juniors in Blacktown and area. His most notable achievements include the formation of the Blacktown Flyers Ice Hockey Club, including the founder and major sponsor of the West Sydney Ice Dogs. John served as President of the New South Wales Ice Hockey Association, was a recipient of Life Membership with the New South Wales Ice Hockey Association, and in 2000, was awarded the Australian Sports Medal for 'Long Standing Service to Australian Ice Hockey.'



Ice Hockey Australia relies heavily on the countless number of volunteers spread throughout the country to help make this game so successful and to continue providing opportunities for participants of all ages. The amount of hours these volunteers devote to the game of ice hockey is indicative of their love for the sport. The IHA Board and Directors extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed to growing the sport across Australia.

The Australian Ice Hockey League (AIHL), National Championships and National Team Programs are the flagship of our sport. Ice hockey enthusiasts are provided the opportunity to see Australia's best players exhibit their skills in over 100 AIHL games and six IHA National Championships annually. Ice Hockey Australia is extremely grateful to the Australian Ice Hockey League Board, Team Owners and their sponsors, licensees and funding partners for their dedication to the ongoing management and performance of the League. The League provides the highest level of competition in the sport and serves as the development base for IHA's national team players and coaches to hone their skills for international competition. Ice Hockey Australia's success at the World Championships is heavily dependant on the League.

IHA, as a "Partner for Progress" IIHF Member Country, continues to be an active participant at IIHF's World Development Camps in Vierumäki, Finland. In turn, the participants and IHA work closely with its Member State Associations and Territories to ensure the progress for the development in coaching, on-ice officials and players continue and are improved from season to season.

The sport of ice hockey is steadily growing and gaining the recognition as being a major-minor Australian sport. The comprehensive programs and addition of more ice rinks, particularly in Victoria and Western Australia, will see the sport and Ice Hockey Australia advance to even greater levels of success.

As an organisation, Ice Hockey Australia strives to be the best sporting organisation possible. The emphasis continues to be on producing great people and helping to teach good values to everyone involved in the game of ice hockey. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all Ice Hockey Australia members and the many volunteers for their devoted participation, service and cooperation. Of course, I would also like to extend our gratitude to the Australian Olympic Council, the Australian Sports Commission, the International Ice Hockey Federation and all ice hockey sponsors for their ongoing support.

Don Rurak  
President

*IHA Executive, Board & Directors*

**Executive**

**Don Rurak – President**



IHA Life Member and Delegate to the IIHF  
 Resident of Adelaide, South Australia  
 Retired from the Mining, Oil & Gas Industry in 2005  
 Actively involved in the sport since 1960  
 Served in capacities with IHA, IHSA and IHA National Teams

**Clive Connelly - Vice President**



IHA Life Member  
 Resident of Melbourne, Victoria  
 Office Manager for a Vehicle Transport Company  
 Actively involved in the sport since 1972  
 Served in capacities with IHA, IHV and IHA National Teams

**Norm McLeod - Secretary**



IHA Life Member  
 Resident of Sydney, New South Wales  
 Rink Management & Consultant  
 Actively involved in the sport since 1959  
 Served in capacities with IHA, IHNSW and IHA National Teams

**Kevin Brown - Treasurer**



IHA Life Member  
 Resident of Second Valley, South Australia  
 Owner/Manager in Viticulture, Aquaculture and the Hospitality Industry  
 Actively involved in the sport since 1964  
 Founder & current President of Old-timers Ice Hockey Australia Network  
 Served in capacities with IHA, IHSA and IHA National Teams

**Board Members ~ State Delegates & Executive**



Ian Byers  
 IHACT  
 Delegate



Tim McMahon  
 IHNSW  
 Delegate



Jim Dee  
 IHQ  
 Delegate



Grant Harding  
 IHSA  
 Delegate



Martin Jones  
 IHV  
 Delegate



Dave Minson  
 IHWA  
 Delegate

**Program Portfolio Directors**



Allan Wishewan  
 Referee-in-Chief



Elgin Luke  
 Coaching



Simon Holmes  
 Development



Dr Rob Reid  
 Chief Medical  
 Officer



Dawn Watt  
 Women's  
 Program



Rick Williams  
 Marketing &  
 Promotions

### *Award Honours Scroll*

#### **Patron Award**

Mr. L Richard Kohler - Consul General of Canada  
The Honourable Jim Lloyd MP - Former Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads  
Bill Daly - Vice Commissioner, National Hockey League

#### **Life Member Award Recipients**

The Board of Ice Hockey Australia may confer Life Membership upon any person who is nominated by a Member State Association and who has rendered distinguished service to Ice Hockey and where such service is deemed to have assisted the advancement of Ice Hockey in Australia.

|      |                              |      |                      |
|------|------------------------------|------|----------------------|
| 1953 | Sidney Hort (VIC)            | 2001 | Allan Adamson (VIC)  |
| 1962 | Sydney Tange (NSW)           |      | Kevin Brown (SA)     |
| 1964 | Ken Kennedy (NSW)            | 2002 | Des Peterson (ACT)   |
| 1966 | Russell Carson (VIC)         | 2003 | Don Rurak (SA)       |
| 1968 | Stan Gray (VIC)              | 2004 | Clive Connelly (VIC) |
| 1976 | Raymond Sullivan (VIC)       | 2005 | Dave Minson (WA)     |
| 1980 | John Purcell (VIC)           | 2006 | Norm McLeod (NSW)    |
| 1984 | Phillip Ginsberg OAM (NSW)   |      | Don Reddish (VIC)    |
| 1985 | Robert Blackburn (VIC)       | 2007 | John Wilson (NSW)    |
| 1992 | John McCrae-Williamson (VIC) |      |                      |
| 1994 | Maxwell J McKowen (ACT)      |      |                      |
| 1996 | Anthony Martyr Sr. (QLD)     |      |                      |
| 1998 | Charles Grandy (VIC)         |      |                      |
| 2000 | Sub Majsay (NSW)             |      |                      |

1960 Squaw Valley Olympic Team - Rob Reid, Noel McLoughlin, Ben Acton, Russel Jones, Ken Wellman, Ron Amess, Peter Parrott, Dave Cunningham, Ivo Vesley, Noel Derrick, Vic Ekberg, Basil Hansen, Clive Hitch, Rob Dewhurst,  
Deceased Team Members:  
John Nicholas, John Thomas, Zednik (Steve)Tikal, Ken Pawsey, Bud McEachern, Russ Carson

#### **“Coach of the Year” Award Recipients**

The Board of Ice Hockey Australia may confer the “Coach of the Year” award upon a coach who as nominated by their Member State Association in recognition of their many hours of contribution to Australian ice hockey, and in particular, their contribution as an active coach to the sport of ice hockey in their state.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2004 | Rocky Padjen (ACT) [Year of inception] |
| 2005 | No Nominee                             |
| 2006 | Tamra Jones (SA) & Simon Holmes (VIC)  |
| 2007 | Steve Austin (NSW)                     |

#### **“Official of the Year” Award Recipients**

The Board of Ice Hockey Australia may confer the “On-ice Official of the Year” award upon a on-ice official who is nominated by a Member State Association in recognition of their many hours of contribution to Australian ice hockey, and in particular, the mentoring and development of all Ice Hockey Australia on-ice officials.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2004 | Allan Wishewan (ACT) [Year of inception] |
| 2005 | Chris Mason (ACT)                        |
| 2006 | Darren Epps (WA)                         |
| 2007 | Ivan Manco (NSW)                         |



### **S.M. and H.C. HUDSON "Sportsman of the Year Award" Recipients**

The Board of Ice Hockey Australia may confer the "On-ice Official of the Year Award" upon an on-ice official who is nominated by a Member State Association in recognition of their unselfish and sustained efforts to further the cause of ice hockey in Australia and who has rendered a minimum of ten years of unbroken service to ice hockey in Australia.

|                                   |                            |                              |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1964 Ken Kennedy (NSW)            | 1975 Ray Dewhurst (NSW)    | 1989 Bob Blackburn (VIC)     |
| 1965 Russ Carson (VIC)            | Jack Wallis (QLD)          | 1990 Des Peterson (ACT)      |
| 1966 John McCrae-Williamson (VIC) | 1976 Stan Gray (VIC)       | 1994 Geoff Brown (SA)        |
| 1967 Syd Tange (NSW)              | 1978 John Purcell (VIC)    | 1999 William Magiliand (NSW) |
| 1968 D. Parker (VIC)              | 1979 Kurt DeFris (VIC)     | 2003 Glen Foll (SA)          |
| 1969 Harry Cameron (NSW)          | 1981 Philip Ginsberg (NSW) | 2004 Shirley Rurak (SA)      |
| 1970 Sid Hort (VIC)               | 1983 Sandi Logan (NSW)     | Tony Martyr Jr. (QLD)        |
| 1971 Ray Philpot (NSW)            | 1985 Frank Gladwell (VIC)  | 2006 James Bremner (WA)      |
| 1972 Noel Derrick (VIC)           | 1987 Ray Sullivan (VIC)    | 2007 No Nominee              |

*Our Strategic Focus*

**Vision:** "to be a highly recognised alternative sport for Australian youth"

**Mission Statement:** "to be recognised as a major-minor sport in Australia"

**Goal:** "to continue effectively managing and promoting the sport of ice hockey by implementing quality programs and maximising awareness and recognition of ice hockey in Australia through the assistance of national and international sporting governing organisations, sponsors and the general public."

Ice Hockey Australia's 2002 - 2006 Business Management & Strategic Plan was reviewed by the Board and Directors to ensure our objectives and key result areas remain in line with Ice Hockey Australia's strategic focus. The reviewed Plan provides information on the framework and strategies for the sport of ice hockey for the period from the 01<sup>st</sup> March 2007 to the 28th February 2011.

Ice Hockey Australia has an exciting and challenging task to realise the true potential of the sport in Australia and is immensely proud of their successes. The changes in Ice Hockey Australia's Business Management and Strategic Plan will build on our achievements to provide Australian Ice Hockey members and provide improved programs and a more effective ice hockey sporting system that encourages both participation and excellence.

Maintaining and sustaining a continued level of success will continue to be a major challenge, as success is heavily dependant on the performance of all IHA's members, officials and the various organisations involved with the sport. With efficient governance, a proper sporting culture and increased professionalism, excellence will be a natural evolvement.

**Key Result Areas (KRA's)**





IHA Members Survey

| State | Year | Senior Over 18 | Junior Under 18 | Female Players (Note 1) | On-ice Officials |        | Develpm't Players | Volunteer Members | Coach | OiHAN | Total | Rinks |
|-------|------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|       |      |                |                 |                         | Male             | Female |                   |                   |       |       |       |       |
| IHACT | 2007 | 89             | 50              | 27                      | 21               | 2      | 16                | 29                | 13    | 27    | 245   | 1     |
|       | 2006 | 82             | 59              | 26                      | 19               | 0      | 12                | 48                | 25    | 22    | 293   | 1     |
| IHNSW | 2007 | 516            | 398             | 105                     | 186              | 19     | 81                | 231               | 54    | 60    | 1519  | 8     |
|       | 2006 | 510            | 324             | 100                     | 90               | 12     | 222               | 220               | 93    | 60    | 1631  | 8     |
| IHQ   | 2007 | 270            | 90              | 35                      | 18               | 2      | 9                 | 13                | 45    | 15    | 460   | 5     |
|       | 2006 | 213            | 98              | 34                      | 15               | 1      | 86                | 20                | 37    | 15    | 519   | 6     |
| IHSA  | 2007 | 132            | 55              | 46                      | 29               | 5      | 83                | 40                | 30    | 52    | 420   | 1     |
|       | 2006 | 123            | 63              | 38                      | 19               | 1      | 16                | 44                | 27    | 50    | 381   | 1     |
| IHV   | 2007 | 202            | 162             | 19                      | 40               | 4      | 63                | 7                 | 62    | 125   | 661   | 2     |
|       | 2006 | 357            | 182             | 15                      | 51               | 2      | 39                | 163               | 27    | 113   | 949   | 2     |
| IHW   | 2007 | 155            | 114             | 31                      | 22               | 2      | 29                | 74                | 10    | 0     | 403   | 2     |
|       | 2006 | 138            | 120             | 33                      | 29               | 5      | 45                | 114               | 46    | 0     | 530   | 2     |
| IHTAS | 2007 | 26             | 2               | 0                       | 0                | 0      | 0                 | 0                 | 0     | 0     | 28    | 1     |
|       | 2006 | 25             | 21              | 2                       | 0                | 0      | 0                 | 0                 | 0     | 15    | 63    | 1     |
| Total | 2007 | 1390           | 871             | 263                     | 316              | 21     | 281               | 394               | 214   | 279   | 3,736 | 20    |
|       | 2006 | 1448           | 867             | 248                     | 223              | 21     | 420               | 609               | 255   | 275   | 4,366 | 21    |

Registry History

|                             | 2004  | 2005  | 2006  | 2007  |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Registered Senior Players   | 1,139 | 1,369 | 1,448 | 1,390 |
| Registered Junior Players   | 929   | 936   | 867   | 871   |
| Registered Membership Total | 3,744 | 4,154 | 4,366 | 3,736 |
| Number of Ice Rinks         | 22    | 21    | 21    | 20    |

Notes:

1. Female player numbers not included in the total figure as they are accounted as either senior or junior.
2. IHA and the Member State Associations do not charge a capitation fee for volunteer members as IHA and the Member State Associations are appreciative for their assistance with time keeping, manning the penalty boxes, serving on various committees and participating in Ice Hockey Australia's various programs. However, all volunteers register as a normal member on IHA's Member Application, Affiliation and Declaration Form for insurance purposes.
3. Because of the associated costs with the sport, teenagers leaving home or having study commitments, sustainability of members continues to be a major focus.

### 2007 Financials

Ice hockey is an expensive sport, primarily because of ice time and equipment. As all ice rinks are privately owned, ice hockey members do not have the option to use federal or state government, council or community funded facilities at a reduced cost. They are at the mercy of operational and maintenance costs of these facilities.

Audited federation and state association figures show ice hockey generating in excess of \$2 million dollars of revenue annually from membership fees, state, federal and international grants to cover expenditures. The audited figures do not take into account the income and expenditures at club level which would further increase the revenue figure to over \$4 million dollars annually. This is a healthy figure which contributes annually to the Australian economy.

The audited figures also do not take into account the Australian Ice Hockey League which is comprised of eight privately owned teams from the major cities of Brisbane, Sydney, Newcastle, Erina, Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide playing in excess of 100 games per season. Budget estimates for these teams are \$50,000 to \$70,000 per team pending their geographical location and travel requirements. Ice time, travel between the cities, ground transport, accommodation, including promotion and awareness initiatives (TV Advertisements, Newspaper and Radio) are the biggest cost drivers for these teams.

### Ice Hockey Australia Audited Financials

|                               | 2004<br>Actual | 2005<br>Actual | 2006<br>Actual | 2007<br>Actual | 2007<br>Budget |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                 |                |                |                |                |                |
| Administration Services       | (205)          | (327)          | 16,335         | 28,360         | 1,810          |
| Affiliation & Capitation Fees | 178,732        | 184,504        | 192,995        | 211,622        | 213,675        |
| Development Services          | 1,600          | 140,981        | 124,220        | 151,264        | 5,732          |
| Insurance Services            | 53,276         | 58,209         | 60,464         | 69,244         | 66,510         |
| Merchandise & Equipment Sales | 12,736         | 35,000         | 24,413         | 31,917         | 29,449         |
| National Team Services        | 1,113          | 24,705         | 17,543         | 12,723         | 2,727          |
| Donations & Other Income      | 4,154          | 7,414          | 13,445         | 9,770          | 10,562         |
| Hosting 2008 World C'ship     | 0              | 0              | 0              | 78,731         | 0              |
| <b>Total Gross Income</b>     | <b>251,406</b> | <b>450,486</b> | <b>449,415</b> | <b>593,631</b> | <b>330,465</b> |

### Expenditure

|                                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Administration Services        | 109,466        | 91,831         | 94,265         | 128,606        | 106,490        |
| Development Services           | 27,282         | 148,680        | 145,800        | 179,136        | 32,724         |
| Insurance Services             | 47,329         | 55,715         | 54,163         | 59,569         | 59,344         |
| Merchandising & Equipment      | 11,661         | 19,535         | 21,089         | 19,592         | 13,725         |
| National Team Services         | 30,870         | 55,341         | 43,900         | 51,299         | 38,949         |
| National Championship Services | 22,756         | 25,709         | 25,257         | 110,208        | 34,803         |
| World Championship (hosting)   | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Debt – Written Off             | 372            | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| <b>Total Gross Expenditure</b> | <b>249,736</b> | <b>396,811</b> | <b>384,474</b> | <b>548,410</b> | <b>286,035</b> |

|                         |              |               |               |               |               |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>OPERATING INCOME</b> | <b>1,670</b> | <b>53,675</b> | <b>64,941</b> | <b>45,221</b> | <b>44,430</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|

### Grants Received in 2007

| Source       | Type   | Amount            |
|--------------|--|-------------------|
| AOC          | NST & NWT Encouragement grant                                | \$ 18,750         |
| IIHF         | National Teams - International Travel & Participation Grants | \$ 83,000         |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>\$ 101,750</b> |

**IHA & Member State Association's Financials**

| <b>Body</b>   | <b>Income - 2006</b> | <b>Expenditure - 2006</b> | <b>P/L - 2006</b> | <b>Income - 2007</b> | <b>Expenditure - 2007</b> | <b>P/L - 2007</b> |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| IHA           | 449,937              | 384,875                   | 65,062            | 593,631              | 548,410                   | 45,221            |
| IHNSW         | 267,148              | 240,366                   | 26,782            | 276,574              | 315,851                   | -39,277           |
| IHVIC         | 355,598              | 265,165                   | 90,433            | 333,606              | 285,670                   | 47,936            |
| IHACT         | 114,190              | 115,225                   | -1,035            | 120,912              | 124,050                   | -3,138            |
| IHSA          | 125,036              | 130,412                   | -5,376            | 170,123              | 184,822                   | -14,698           |
| IHWA          | 247,846              | 219,918                   | 27,928            | 328,890              | 299,074                   | 29,816            |
| IHQLD         | 84,230               | 84,043                    | 187               | 248,247              | 238,275                   | 9,972             |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>1,643,985</b>     | <b>1,440,004</b>          | <b>203,981</b>    | <b>2,071,983</b>     | <b>1,996,152</b>          | <b>75,831</b>     |

Commencing in 2004, Ice Hockey Australia approached its Member State Associations to include their annual audited statement figures to accurately gauge the revenue and expenditure generated by the sport overall. The figures do not take into account the previous season's balances or funds that are in interest bearing term deposit accounts.

The figures greatly assists Ice Hockey Australia's financial controlling body, marketing and strategic planning councils in determining the programs and strategies most beneficial to the promotion and growth of the sport, and service to the members.

The implementation of this initiative provides for transparency and has become an important vehicle for building a cohesive team spirit with common purpose. This has led to improving the decision making process as to the best overall strategies and initiatives for the sport both nationally and at state level.

National Development Program

**IHA Learn-to-Play Program (LTP)**



Learn-to-Play is an Ice Hockey Australia Introduction & Development Progression Program designed to introduce interested youth and parents to the sport of ice hockey. The program also provides the platform to develop the required skills to safely participate and enjoy the sport.

In cooperation with the ice venues across Australia, Ice Hockey LTP Academies are held during the playing season to assist new ice hockey youth enthusiasts attracted to the sport, learn the necessary skills to make the transition to competition. Where required, IHA assists with promotional literature and on-ice instruction.

**Kids Club Program**

The Mighty Roos Kids Club was introduced in 2006 as a customer acquisition vehicle to attract new players to the sport. The concept of the Club is to create awareness in the sport by awarding every child who attends a birthday party at participating rinks or joins the Club via Ice Hockey Australia's website. Each child becomes an automatic member of Ice Hockey Australia and is hosted at AIHL games, introduced to Ice Hockey Australia's Come & Try and Learn-to-Play Programs. The program has been highly successful and has created increased awareness in the sport from the public sector.



**National Development Camps**

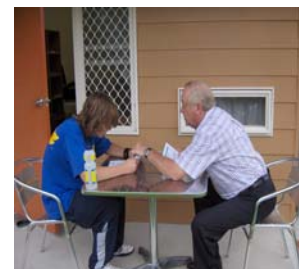


Ice Hockey Australia annually conducts Skills & Development Camps for players aged 18 & Under, 16 & Under and 13 & Under. Newcastle's Hunter Ice Skating Stadium and Myuna Bay Recreation & Sport Facilities are used as the training venues. The 18 & Under and 16 & Under Camps are held during the month of January and the 13 & Under mixed gender group is held in April. The program for 18 & Under girls is covered in the Women's Program on page – 17 of this document.

The camps have been well accepted as players and coaches are now provided the opportunity to attend development camps within Australia thereby eliminating huge costs and the need to travel to overseas countries.

Forty six players per age group are invited from evaluations at the previous year's national championships, camps and as recommended by the state associations. Professional Australian and International on-ice and off-ice instruction is provided from employed professional coaches with assistance and group supervision provided from invited state association coaches.

An important element of the camps is the one-on-one evaluations where the coaching staff meet with each player to discuss their skills, playing strengths and areas that require concerted consideration for improvement. Also of interest is the Speed and Agility Testing Program where the players are tested and their results are compared with players from state to state and against over 200 players from 62 other International Ice Hockey Federation Member Countries.



Development Camps for female novice level players was also adopted in 2005 by the National Women's Council. The "live-in" camps are conducted over a weekend from Friday afternoon to Sunday evening and include both on-ice and off-ice training. The first camp was held at the end of November 2005 in Canberra and attracted over 25 participants. This success has further extended the camps to New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria.

### **International Development Camps**

Ice Hockey Australia has actively participated in International Ice Hockey Federation's International Development Camps in Vierumäki, Finland since 2005 with 23 players and 18 officials attending.

The number of participants per Member Country is nominated by the International Ice Hockey Federation's Development Committees in Zurich, Switzerland. Ice Hockey Australia strives to meet their nominated numbers and in 2007 Ice Hockey Australia again participated, sending two 15-year old players and three officials to the camp.

Ice Hockey Australia has already committed to sending four female 18 & Under players and three female officials to Women's Development Camp in 2008.

### **National Women's Select Program**

The National Women's Select Program is aimed at the development of youth female ice hockey players aged 18 & Under. The benefit of the program is to provide skills development initiatives for females in their own age group and at a higher level than what can be attained at the state level.

The program is also designed to provide opportunity for this age group to gain valuable international playing experience at a young age. This allows players to be better prepared for selection to the National Women's Team Program once they reach the minimum age and skill level required for World Championship competition.

In 2006, the Selects Team traveled to New Zealand for a series of exhibition games. This provided the vehicle for Australia's young female ice hockey players to gain international experience in their development and for potential to progress to the National Women's Team. The team made plans to visit Japan in 2007 which has since been deferred and is now planned for Sweden during the 2008 season.

### *National Coaching Program*

Ice Hockey Australia continues to work in partnership with the Australian Coaching Council and the International Ice Hockey Federation to offer coaching accreditation programs designed to increase the skill level of both male and female coaches in Ice Hockey Australia's coaching fraternity. One important aspect of the program is Ice Hockey Australia's Coaching Council.

The Ice Hockey Australia Coaching Council was formed in 2005 under the stewardship of Elgin Luke, Ice Hockey Australia's Coaching Director. The Council is formed with Ice Hockey Australia's Coaching Director as the Council's Chairman and a coaching director or an interested active coach from each Member State Association. The council meets annually to review programs and set new strategies for the next season and beyond.

To further strengthen the program, the Ice Hockey Australia Board increased the Coaching Program's budget for the National Coaching Director to attend all Ice Hockey Australia Coach Level I Courses to assist with the facilitation and ensure delivery is in accordance to Ice Hockey Australia's expectations. Ice Hockey Australia's Coaching Director also attended the International Ice Hockey Federation's 2007 Coaching Development Camp in Vierumaki, Finland.

In addition, the Council:

- a) Implemented plans to conduct a Coach Level II Seminar in January 2008;
- b) Completed evaluations, marking and processing of Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Level III Course for 31 participating coaches held in January 2007;
- c) Conducted Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Mentorship Program for state team coaches at four Ice Hockey Australia 2007 national championships;
- d) Conducted a number of Level I Updating Courses for current coaches with expired accreditation and new coaches in the sport;
- e) Updated the new Learn-to-Play, Level I and Level II Syllabus formats;
- f) Adopted ASC's new Coach Level I Guidelines into Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Level I Certification Program for ASC re-certification in November 2007;
- g) Conducted a review of Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Level II Syllabus for ASC re-certification in 2008;
- h) Developed Ice Hockey Australia's Coach Level III Syllabus for ASC certification in 2008; and
- i) Continues to drive and foster Ice Hockey Australia's National Skills Testing Program and Learn-to-Play Programs for 18 & under and grass-roots players.

Congratulations to Steve Austin, New South Wales, awarded as Ice Hockey Australia's 2007 "Coach of the Year".



*Coach Level II Seminar & Course (2007)*

*National Officiating Program*

Under the directorship of Ice Hockey Australia’s Referee-in-Chief, a total of 316 on-ice officials (295 male and 21 female) were certified in 2007. This is a 28% growth in numbers over the 2006 season. This success is attributed to the on-going and successful “Establishing Needs for Officiating Program” and the increase in fees paid to on-ice officials for their services.

A total of 21 courses were conducted previous to the commencement of the 2007 season. The annual Australian Ice Hockey League High Performance Referee’s Course was again deferred because of budget restraints in preparation for hosting the World Division II Championship in April 2008 and the allocation of high performance referees & linespersons to the World Police & Fire Games in Adelaide, South Australia during March 2007.

Ice Hockey Australia nominated on-ice officials are internationally accredited by the International Ice Hockey Federation. This acknowledges their skill level and potential for being nominated to officiate at World Championships. In 2007, four International carded referees and nine linespersons received international accreditation. Congratulations to:

|                 |                 |       |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Referees: -     | Allan Wishewan  | IHACT |
|                 | Jeff Scott      | IHNSW |
|                 | Rob Duchemin    | IHNSW |
|                 | Jamie Miller    | IHNSW |
| Linespersons: - | Chris Mason     | IHACT |
|                 | Matt Taylor     | IHACT |
|                 | Adam McMahon    | IHNSW |
|                 | Jason Forbes    | IHQ   |
|                 | Mike Gainer     | IHSA  |
|                 | Darryl Hamilton | IHV   |
|                 | Tim Bell        | IHV   |
|                 | Jason Eeles     | IHWA  |
|                 | Ryan Davies     | IHWA  |



© William A-Stewart 2007  
*AIHL 2007 Championship Game Officials  
 (Tomas Zavisky, David Ast, Ivan Manco)*

Congratulations to the following officials who are nominated to supervise and officiate at the 2008 World Championships.

- Allan Wishewan – Supervisor-in-training at the World Senior Men’s Division II in Newcastle, NSW
- Rob Duchemin - Referee at the World U18 Division III in Mexico City
- Mike Gainer & Matt Taylor – Linespersons at the World Senior Men’s Division II in Newcastle, NSW
- Jeff Scott – Referee at the World Inline Championships in Bratislava, Slovakia

Congratulations to the 2007 Ice Hockey Australia “Official of the Year” Mr. Ivan Manco, Referee from New South Wales.

The Ice Hockey Australia and New Zealand Ice Hockey Association Exchange Program took place with Mike Gainer from South Australia exchanging with Peter Haxell from New Zealand.



*IIHF 2007 World Championship Officiating  
 Supervisor Training Seminar – Vierumäki, Finland  
 (Attendance by Allan Wishewan – IHA Referee-in-Chief)*

## *National Women's Program*

### **Women's Council**

At its inception, the Women's Council was to serve mainly as an advisory body to assist and be the liaison between Member State Associations, female players and officials. The Women's Council has now been expanded their responsibilities with redefined roles.

The National Women's Program is administered under the directorship of Ice hockey Australia's Women's Program Director, who is also the Council's chairperson. The Council is instrumental and responsible for the development and submission of proposals to Ice Hockey Australia's Board for consideration and approval. This ensures insight into the wishes of the female players, continued direction of the Women's Program, and a proper focus on all aspects of female ice hockey in Australia.

### **Grass Roots Development**

A weekend grass roots development camp was held in Canberra for the first time in November 2005. Players attended from WA, SA, Qld, NSW and ACT. In February 2006 a second grass roots camp was held in conjunction with the Women's Show Case Series in Newcastle. Many of the players were rank beginners with some players being on the ice for the very first time. However, most of the players who attended the camps went on to play in IHA's 2006 Joan McKowen Memorial Championship. A series of development camps continued in all states during the 2007 season.

### **Women's Showcase Series**

The Women's Show Case Series is designed to give elite female players an opportunity to play competitive ice hockey on an ongoing basis. Starting play in the summer months provides opportunity to compete at times that are not in competition for ice times with other clubs as is experienced during the winter months.

Four Show Case Series were held between October and February 2007 with one each in Canberra, Brisbane, Adelaide and Sydney. Many inactive players returned to play in the series and five clubs presented teams. The format of the competition has each team hosting a series. Each series consists of three teams playing each other twice. Travelling teams paid for their own accommodation and host teams paid for ice time and officiating costs.

The Showcase Series success is the attraction of many elite female players now joining to enjoy a higher level of competition which was not readily available previously. The overall purpose of the Show Case Series is to act as a spring board for a National Women's League. There is genuine interest in the concept and teams are already preparing for the 2008 season.

To ensure the majority of players are not financially disadvantaged from participating in the showcase series and World Championships, the Joan McKowen Memorial Championship is now scheduled during the month of June in place of the normal months of September or October. This provides for a more consistent competition over the ensuing months so players are in better form for selection and preparation for the World Championships.

### **Selects Team Program**

The Selects Team comprises mainly from players who are in the development stage and have not yet experienced international competition. The first inaugural team tour took place in 2006 with the team visiting New Zealand as an initiative to build a relationship between Ice Hockey Australia's Women's Program and the New Zealand Women's Program.

An international tour was planned for Japan during the 2007 season. Unfortunately finances and lacking player numbers resulted in the tour being deferred to 2008. The tour is now planned for Sweden in July 2008 for a series of exhibition games and instruction under Sweden's National Women's Team coach.

### National Marketing and Merchandising Program

The 2007 season witnessed a number of high level government activities and promotions in the sport.

The Honourable Jim Lloyd MP, Liberal Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads met with Ice Hockey Australia's President and representatives to discuss Ice Hockey Australia's planned major event for 2008, the hosting of the World 2008 Division II Championship scheduled for April 2008 and allocation of Australian Sports Commission funds to the sport. The Minister was also instrumental in having Ice Hockey Australia's President and his wife join Prime Minister, John Howard and visiting dignitaries for Canadian Prime Minister, Stephen Harper's address to the Australian Parliament.




Following the address and a luncheon in the Grand Ballroom, Sydney Consul General Rick Kohler, invited the President and his wife to attend a luncheon at the Canadian High Embassy where the President presented Prime Minister Harper with an Ice Hockey Australia authentic ice hockey jersey.

The continued improvement and expansion of Ice Hockey Australia's Website Program is strategic to promoting and creating awareness to the sport. An important element of the program is its On-line Merchandising Scheme where visitors have the opportunity to purchase Ice Hockey Australia products on line. The scheme produces between \$15,000 and \$20,000 of additional revenue per annum with the majority of sales resulting in the USA.

A number of current and projected major projects and events gained increased attention during the 2007 season. These were:

- Continued development of Ice Hockey Australia's "Kids Club";
- Joint venture National Hockey League & McDonalds Pilot Program for Grass-roots players;
- Ice Hockey Australia's 2008 Centenary Celebrations and Centennial Dinner;
- World 2008 Division II Championship Bid Package for presentation at the World Congress in Moscow Russia; and
- Domestic and International media coverage, including Fox Sports Broadcasts & North America National Hockey League.



### Horizon Projects

- The 2009 Goodall Cup Centenary Celebrations (The Goodall Cup is the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest ice hockey trophy in the world that is still competed for today.);
- Hosting of the International Ice Hockey Federation's 2008 World Division II Championship in Newcastle, New South Wales;
- Redesign of Ice Hockey Australia's website;
- Federal Government Support through the Australian Sports Commission; and
- Corporate Sponsorship.



## Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA)

**Pure Performance: The most important sporting record is a clean one.**

The activities of the Ice Hockey Australia's Medical Council concentrate on prohibitive substances, concussions and reduced injuries. All are important factors in Ice Hockey Australia's Risk Management Program to ensure competitors are able to compete in a safe and drug free environment. Continued programs are:

1. Ongoing Doping Control responsibilities across all Ice Hockey Australia sanctioned events following WADA Guidelines. This includes an extension of the Out of Competition Agreement with ASADA.
2. Anti-Doping Education Programs at the local level.
3. ASADA Testing Requirements
  - a. Athletes Whereabouts Program;
  - b. In competition testing requirements;
  - c. Out of competition testing requirements; and
  - d. Process and management for TUE's
4. Player Injury Prevention Program and Reporting of Injuries.
5. Enforcing the introduction of "Custom Fit" Mouthguards.
6. National Team Player Physiological Profile.
7. National Team Player Medical Assessment Requirements & Program.

With the appointment of Dr. Rob Reid as IHA's Chief Medical Officer in 2005, Dr. Reid represents Ice Hockey Australia at the International Ice Hockey Federation's International Medical Symposiums to ensure the future safety of Ice Hockey Australia's playing members and for Ice Hockey Australia to keep abreast with the information and education of other institutions and countries.

The reduction in the number of serious injuries to participating Ice Hockey Australia playing members is testimony to the efforts of the Medical Council and the introduction of new game rules by the International Ice Hockey Federation. The adoption of these rules has seen a dramatic reduction in concussions overall, not only in Australia; but in International Ice Hockey Federation World Championships and the professional National Hockey League in North America. As a result, and with the assistance of Ice Hockey Australia's Officiating Council, Ice Hockey Australia has maintained its current level of insurance premiums for a number of seasons.

Ice Hockey Australia is aware of the changes in the WADA Code and Prohibited Substance List for 2009 and is making arrangements to make sure there is 100% compliance by all players to the new Code. The new Code is an important change and there are significant changes in the Code which are being instituted at the National, and State levels.

### National Team Program

Ice Hockey Australia's National Teams competed in five World Championship categories during the 2007 financial year.

- Senior Men ~ Division II ~ Seoul, Korea ~ Silver Medal
- Senior Women ~ Division III ~ Sheffield, England ~ Gold Medal
- Junior Under 20 ~ Division III ~ Belgrade, Serbia ~ Relegated to Division III
- Youth Under 18 ~ Division II ~ Miercurea Ciuc, Romania ~ 5<sup>th</sup> place
- Inline ~ Division II ~ Budapest, Hungary ~ 14<sup>th</sup> out of 16 teams

With the exception of the National Inline Team, all "ice" hockey teams receive a travelling and participation grant from the International Ice Hockey Federation. The grant is allocated in terms of each country's geographical location and their placing in the previous world championship. In addition, the Australian Olympic Council contributes to both the senior men's and women's ice hockey teams. Additional costs are covered by the players. Ice Hockey Australia contributes to the National Inline Team to assist in covering travel costs.

Pending the length of training camps and the location of the championship, the cost per player is between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Players entering international competition during their first year of Youth (U18), and remain with the Youth and Junior (U20) teams for the next four years, easily accounts for some \$24,000 to \$30,000. These costs are in excess to the player's club, state and national fees. The resultant cost significantly prohibits the availability of the best players to represent Australia especially at the Under 20 level as these players are normally university and TAFE students. Increasing flight and baggage/luggage costs continues to be a concern to Ice Hockey Australia's affordability to participate at these events.

In addition to these costs, the continued threat of excess baggage penalties is a significant burden to the players. Teams are now compelled to travel through North America where airlines have a more relaxed policy on weight restriction. However, on returning from Europe the majority of European Airlines have a stricter policy and teams have been faced with an added cost of some \$6,000 to \$8,000 penalty. Teams are now compelled to purchase excess baggage allowance which in turn also increases the cost to team members.

Although Australia has a small member base as compared to other countries in their divisions and the issue of travel costs, the teams have done exceptionally well. This is despite Australian players not being on the ice since September and having to compete against teams who have just completed their season. Their success has attracted interest from the wider international ice hockey community and the International Ice Hockey Federation as to the programs and the means Ice Hockey Australia and its Member State Associations are employing to develop players with the skill level to sustain Division II ranking.

#### 2007 National Senior Men's Team



The 2007 National Senior Men's Team competed in Division II Group B in Seoul, Korea, narrowly missing out for the gold medal with minutes left in the final game against host Team Korea with a score of 5 - 4. Australia dominated over the other four countries with scores of 4 - 1 over Israel, 5 - 3 over Iceland and 12 - 2 over Mexico. DPR Korea withdrew for political reasons.

#### 2007 National Women's Team

The 2007 National Women's Team competed in Division III in Sheffield, England winning Gold in the event with an overtime score of 5 - 4 over archrivals Great Britain. Scores in their other games were 18 - 1 over South Africa, 3 - 1 over Hungary, 8 - 2 over Belgium and 6 - 0 over Korea. The team is promoted to Division II for 2008.



### National Junior U20 Team



The 2007 National Junior Team competed in Division II in Miercurea Ciuc, Romania. Having held their own in 2006, the team did not have good success with many well experienced players being unable to participate because of lacking finances and studies.

The team did not win any of their games and were relegated to Division III for 2008. The team went down to Croatia 6 – 1, 11 – 5 to Hungary, 6 – 1 to Romania, 6 – 3 to Spain and 3 – 1 to Iceland.

### National Youth U18 Team

The 2007 National Youth Team competed in Division II also in Miercurea Ciuc, Romania. Although the team did not finish in the medals, the team held their placing in Division II with two wins and three losses.



Scores in their games were a loss to Korea 6 – 2, a loss to Lithuania 8 – 2, a 5 – 4 win over Croatia, a 4 – 3 win over Serbia and a loss to Romania 4 – 0.

### National Inline Senior Team



What is reported to be the top World Inline Championship, Australia held their own against some very tough opposition with the likes of Japan, Brazil Great Britain and Hungary in Landshut and Passau, Germany. Ice Hockey Australia was a participant in the very first IIHF World Inline Championship in 1996

and has participated every year since. The Championships are split into two groups with the top eight teams in the world in Group-A and the next eight teams in Group-B. The top team in Group-B is promoted to Group-A. The bottom ranked team in Group-A is relegated to Group-B. Australia currently holds fourth place in Group-B.

The International Ice Hockey Federation is currently working on its Five Year Inline Plan. The plan has the following goals:

- Increase global awareness of Inline and promote participation of all national associations and new countries.
- Increase the number and quality of Inline Championships.
- Establish a solid position within the IIHF by developing a self-supporting section to serve the growth of Inline Hockey
- Become the leading international governing body of Inline.

*National Championships Program*

IHA conducts six national championships which are attended by state teams from each of Ice Hockey Australia's Member States.

- a) Open Women ~ Joan McKowen Memorial Championship
- b) 23 & Under ~ Brown Trophy Championship
- c) 18 & Under ~ Tange Trophy Championship
- d) 15 & Under ~ DeFris Trophy Championship
- e) 13 & Under ~ Ginsberg Trophy Championship
- f) 11 & Under ~ John McCrae-Williamson Trophy Championship

The Goodall Cup is the third oldest ice hockey trophy in the world that is still competed for today. The Cup is annually presented to the Australian Ice Hockey League Championship Team.

**2007 National Champions**

AIHL League Champions  
IHA Goodall Cup  
(Inception - 1909)

Gold Sydney Bears  
Silver Newcastle Northstars



Joan McKowen Trophy  
(Inception – 1995)

Gold New South Wales  
Silver South Australia  
Bronze Victoria



Brown Trophy  
(Inception – 1964)

Gold New South Wales  
Silver South Australia  
Bronze Victoria



Tange Trophy  
(Inception – 1969)

Gold Victoria  
Silver New South Wales  
Bronze Western Australia



DeFris Trophy  
(Inception - 1985)

Gold New South Wales  
Silver Victoria  
Bronze Western Australia



Ginsberg Trophy  
(Inception – 1984)

Gold New South Wales  
Silver Victoria  
Bronze Western Australia



John McCrae-Williamson Trophy  
(Inception – 2003)

Gold New South Wales  
Silver Victoria  
Bronze Western Australia



### *National Tribunal & Disciplinary Program*

Ice Hockey Australia's Tribunal & Disciplinary Committee is charged with the responsibility to deal with cases covering a wide range of incidents and offences, including but not limited to:

- Infringement of WADA and ASADA Doping Regulations;
- Violations of Ice Hockey Australia and International Ice Hockey Federation Eligibility Rules;
- Violations of any conditions laid down by any host country in which a national team is a participant;
- Violations of playing rules at national championships and international competitions;
- Violations of terms and conditions for selection to national teams at all levels, including, but not limited to, Ice Hockey Australia's Codes of Behavior and Ethics;
- Player suspensions and appeals;
- Any other infringements of Ice Hockey Australia's Sport Constitution, Regulations & Policies; and
- Provide support to IHA Member State Association Tribunal & Disciplinary Committees.

Most cases are dealt with by telephone or email, except in cases where it is obligatory to convene a formal session. One case was investigated at the national level in 2007.

### *Legal*

Johnston Withers, an Adelaide, Law Firm, was appointed in July 2005 to provide legal services to Ice Hockey Australia. The President is happy to state there were no legal requirements required other than reviews of IHA's regulations, policies and various contracts.

### *National Insurance Program*

Ice Hockey Australia's current insurer is QBE Sports Insurance Policy, which is brokered through Sportsnet, a Sport Insurance Division of D.H.B and Associates Pty Ltd. Ice Hockey Australia, QBE and Sportsnet have had a long standing insurance relationship since 1999. Coverage to Ice Hockey Australia includes:

- Sports Injury Insurance Policy;
- Sports Public and Product Liability Policy;
- Sports Professional Indemnity Policy; and
- Directors & Officers Liability Policy.

Travel insurance for Ice Hockey Australia members to attend world championships, seminars, meetings, conferences, etc is purchased through the IHA's Travel Agent. Ice Hockey Australia, through its comprehensive Risk Management Program has successfully maintained the current level of premiums.

### *National Old-timers Program (OiHAN)*

Old-timers Ice Hockey Australia Network (OiHAN) is an active member of Ice Hockey Australia and who are the controlling body for all OiHAN activities and events. OiHAN Members are recreational playing members who are 35 years or older with some playing participants who are in their late 70's and still competing at the senior category level. One player is now over 80 years old. During the 2007 season, OiHAN conducted national tournaments in Canberra, Bendigo and Newcastle. Up to 15 teams participated in each.

### *Constitution, Sport Regulations & Policies*

Each year the Constitution, Regulations & Policy Review Committee conducts a review of Ice Hockey Australia's Constitution, Sport Regulations and Policies to ensure documents keep abreast to the many changes that take place from season-to-season. This continuous review has now produced documents which accurately reflect the rules and policies governing the sport. This has resulted in fewer and fewer changes from year to year. Many of the policies also require a review by IHA's Legal Committee to ensure the documents are not in conflict with Federal and State Legislation.