



Coach Shawn Sarbacker

Background

Shawn grew up in Moorhead, a hockey town in northwest Minnesota just across the Red River from Fargo, ND. As with many Minnesotans, Shawn grew up with youth hockey including playing in competitive northern MN travel hockey leagues and taking advantage of a family backyard rink that allowed daily neighborhood games from Thanksgiving into March each year.

After high school, Shawn was fortunate to be able to continue playing hockey at a competitive level. He was recruited to play for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), an ECAC Division I hockey school, where he could combine his passion for hockey with his Engineering career aspirations. Shawn also took advantage of the opportunity to play in graduate school for the Stanford University club team, which included a trip to the ACHA national club tournament. After college, Shawn has continued to play in a variety of competitive senior leagues, and has transitioned from his original position of goaltender to skating out, mostly as a forward / center.

Playing Experience

- Moorhead (MN) High School Varsity (1982-86)
- USAH Junior Olympics Festival (1986)
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), ECAC Division I (1986-90)
- Stanford University, ACHA Division II Club (1993-95)
- Senior League Hockey, A, B, 30+ leagues (1995-present)

Coaching Experience

USA Hockey CEP Level 4

- Assistant Coach – Grosse Pointe (MI) Squirt A (1990-93)
- Head Coach – Royal Oak (MI) Beginner's Clinic (2003-05)
- Head & Assistant Coach – Hatfield In-House, Ice Hawks Selects (2005-09)
- Assistant Coach – Ice Dogs Squirt A (2010-11)
- Head Coach – Ice Dogs Pee Wee B (2011-12)
- Head Coach – Ice Dogs Pee Wee A (2012-13)
- Head Coach – Ice Dogs Bantam AA (2013-14)

Coaching Philosophy

"My philosophy and goal as a travel hockey coach is to give each player the chance to experience the fun, satisfaction, camaraderie, and personal growth that comes with playing the great sport of ice hockey, while learning to compete at an advanced level."