

## **Head Coach**

Irish Thunder Girls Hockey Program (14U & 16U)

### **Position Summary**

Irish Thunder Girls hockey coaches are responsible for planning, leading, and executing practice sessions, guiding players during games, fostering a positive learning environment, and developing the fundamental skills of young hockey players while prioritizing sportsmanship and player development over solely winning games.

This role is ideal for individuals who are passionate about working with the sport of hockey, enjoy sports and physical activity, have a strong outgoing personality, excellent communication skills, and enjoy a collaborative, dynamic work environment. The Irish Thunder Girls program is out Trine University's Thunder Ice Arena, South Bend's Ice Box and Notre Dame's Compton Family Ice Arena.

The coaching position is for our Girls 16U and 14U team that compete in the MGHL (Michigan Girls Hockey League Tier 2).

### **Job Responsibilities**

- **Practice Planning and Execution:**

- Design and implement age-appropriate practice plans focused on skill development, game strategy, and team building.
- Lead warm-up drills, technical skill drills, and game-like scenarios during practices.
- Adapt practices to cater to different player abilities and learning styles.

- **Game Day:**

- Develop and execute game strategies based on opponent analysis.
- Make in-game adjustments and substitutions as needed.
- Positively motivate players during games, emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork.

- **Player Development:**

- Evaluate individual player strengths and weaknesses to provide targeted feedback.
- Teach fundamental hockey skills including skating, puck handling, shooting, and passing.
- Promote player growth and development by providing constructive criticism and positive reinforcement.

- **Communication:**

- Foster a positive team culture focused on collaboration and mutual respect.
- Communicate effectively with players, parents, and league officials.

- Conduct regular team meetings to discuss goals, strategies, and player roles.
- **Administrative Duties:**
  - Attend required coaching clinics, commit to an ongoing approach of learning/growth and maintain current coaching certifications.
  - Adhere to league rules and regulations, including safety protocols.

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- **Experience:** Prior experience coaching youth hockey at a similar age level preferred.
- **Playing Background:** Strong understanding of hockey fundamentals as a former player is beneficial.
- **Coaching Certification:** Current coaching certification or willingness to obtain from USA Hockey
- **Communication Skills:** Excellent ability to communicate clearly and effectively with players, parents, and other coaches.
- **Leadership Qualities:** Demonstrated leadership skills to motivate and inspire young athletes.

### **Schedule**

Practice schedule:

Mondays: Skills practice at Thunder Ice Arena 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday: Team practice at Thunder Ice Arena 6:55-7:55 PM

Thursday: Team practice at Compton Family Ice Arena.

### **Stipend**

There is a coaching stipend for the head coaches for the season.

### **Please include the following documents with your application:**

- Resume