



ORYA Hockey Families,

I'm reaching out to inform all current hockey families that I am beginning the process of selecting an ORYA Hockey Advisory Group (AG). To this point the ORYA hockey program has been led, primarily, by one or two dedicated volunteers with additional support, input & feedback coming from head and assistant coaches. These volunteers have done an absolutely amazing job over the years to develop our local program into one that has a reputation on and off the ice equal to, or better than other organizations and clubs with paid coordinators and coaches. To create a more structured and sustainable support network, I will be selecting a group of volunteers to lead the hockey program into the 2017-2018 season.

Please look over the information below and submit an Advisory Group Applicant Questionnaire to me **by July 24<sup>th</sup>** to be considered for a position. Your questionnaire can be found [HERE](#).

#### **What is an Advisory Group (AG)?**

All team sports in ORYA are led by volunteer AG's under the guidance of the ORYA Director and Assistant Director. These volunteers often take specific roles important to the success of the program. Since each sport has unique needs each AG may have distinct roles to fill. These volunteers typically meet once per month during the year (even in the off-season) to ensure their program is as prepared as possible for each season.

#### **What does an AG do?**

Though highly supported by ORYA Staff, each AG is responsible for ensuring their sport is prepared for a successful season. They organize volunteer coaches, determine program focus and organization, create teams, request & inventory program equipment, support scheduling, organize league & tournament placements, oversee tryouts/evaluations (if applicable), consistently communicate with ORYA Staff, communicate with coaches & participants, etc.

#### **Who Makes up AG's?**

Most AG volunteers have previous experience in either coaching or playing the sport in question to offer sport-specific insights into best recreational or developmental practices. Most importantly, they can offer impartial support based on what is best for the players and program, not specifically their own child - if they have a current participant. AG positions are open to any volunteer that the Director feels would help drive the program in a positive direction - you do not need to have a child in the program.

#### **What positions are in an AG?**

That is specific to each sport but common AG positions are lead coordinator, scheduler, registrar, equipment coordinator, fundraising coordinator, coach education coordinator, budget coordinator, age group or gender specific coordinators, etc.

#### **How much time must be devoted to being on the AG?**

While that varies greatly depending on sport and position within your AG, at the very least you will need to be present at monthly AG meetings, participate in conversations relevant to the sport and your specific role within the AG to ensure your positional responsibilities are fulfilled. Some positions require more work than others and could include communicating with participants, league coordinators, tournament coordinators, officials/referees, attending

league/tournament meetings, addressing parental or coach concerns, creating and maintaining schedules for practices, games, officials/referees, etc. AG members that are not fulfilling their responsibilities may be asked to leave the AG.

**Who determines who is on an AG?**

Selecting AG positions is the responsibility of the ORYA Director.

**What is the relationship between the AG and ORYA Director?**

The ORYA Director has final approval/disapproval of program changes, budgets, purchases, etc. The ORYA Director is in charge of ensuring each AG adheres to the ORYA mission statement and that all decisions reflect positively on the organization and wellbeing of our players. The ORYA Director may attend monthly AG meetings, especially when his/her input is requested or needed.

**I'm interested, what do I need to do?**

I'm glad you asked! Please fill out this questionnaire, found [HERE](#), and send to the ORYA Director, [Matthew Glode](#), to signify your interest. Only submissions received on or before **July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017** will be considered for the AG.