



Memo For: Coaches and Players, 2008 Festival

Subject: Congratulations

February 23, 2008

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your selection to represent Maine as coaches and players for the 2008 Festival.

Players, you have demonstrated hard work and dedication to the game of hockey. Your efforts will be rewarded further by your ability to demonstrate your talents during this showcase. To that end, Play hard, Play fair, Play safe and above all else – HAVE FUN!

Coaches, your commitment to the youth of our great state reflects true dedication and unselfish service to those who are about to be entrusted to you. We ask that you set examples of moral and ethical values. Throughout the many years of coaching, I have heard horror stories of coaches that taught players how to dive to get a tripping call, how to fake an injury, how to spear without being detected by an official and more. If you are going to teach anything, teach them to be good sports.

The purpose of the New England festival is to showcase each player's individual talent and to select those top players to represent New England at the national level. I must emphasize that it is not intended for team competition. This year all ages will play together as a state team but the emphasis must be on each player's individual ability in the game. This is what the evaluators are looking for. It is NOT about winning!

MEAHA enforces the "Zero Tolerance Policy" established by USA Hockey. Please demonstrate sportsmanship while attending these events. Remember, you are here as ambassadors to this great game, to Maine and to USA Hockey.

Finally, take advantage of this opportunity to meet new friends from around New England. We at MEAHA wish you the best of luck.

For The Board of Directors:

Sincerely,
Jeff Thompson
President, MEAHA