

HOCKEY PEI MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 27, 2009

Hockey PEI Introduces Awards Recognition Program

Charlottetown, PEI - Hockey PEI is pleased to announce the introduction of an Awards Recognition Program developed to honor deserving participants and volunteers of hockey across the province. Eight new awards have been established for the following categories: Volunteer of the Year; Minor Hockey Association of the Year; Administrator of the Year; Female Player of the Year; Male Player of the Year; Coach of the Year; Team of the Year and Official of the Year. Each award has its own established set of criteria and nominations are currently available for submission for the 2008-2009 season.

In addition to these awards, Hockey PEI will also recognize individuals with the Hockey Canada Officiating Branch Awards, Presidents Award and Hockey PEI Life Membership. Gordie Whitlock, President of Hockey PEI, states "we are very pleased with the establishment of this awards program. Hockey PEI has one of the largest networks of volunteers in this province who work tirelessly to make the game of hockey available to our youth; it is those volunteers and participants who deserve the very recognition that this awards program will provide".

"We encourage all members to nominate deserving participants and volunteers for these awards", says Whitlock.

These newly developed awards are added to the already existing awards provided by Hockey PEI, such as, the BF Lorenzetti Inc. and Hockey PEI scholastic awards that are valued at \$1,000 each that honor a deserving player and/or official pursuing post secondary education. Also, Hockey PEI annually presents the Development Council Award to a minor hockey association that best promotes branch and Hockey Canada Development Programs for its players, coaches, officials and instructors. This award will see a change this year in that two associations will be recognized for their efforts; one for associations comprised of 300 players or less and one whose registrations exceed 300 players.

Information and applications on all available awards can be found at <http://www.hockeypei.com/awards.php> or by contacting the office at 902-368-4334. Deadline for submission is May 15, 2009 and all presentations will be made at the Annual General Meeting to be held in June.