



Garth Behrje Joining The New Jersey Stars

****New Coaching Director for the Stars Program****

Garth Behrje will start working with the New Jersey Stars in late March. Garth will take over a new position of Coaching Director for the program. Garth will also be the Head Coach for the Bantam AA Minor team and will assist with another Bantam team. Garth's passion for hockey runs deep and he will help guide our coaching staff to a more structured and accountable format. The entire program will benefit from a more detailed approach to coaching at the various age levels. With more organized and documented practice programs, coaches will then follow these program wide approaches and adapt as they see fit to their individual teams. We are excited to have Garth's passion and he will be a big part of the future success of the Stars program.

Coach Garth Behrje grew up in Michigan and began skating in 1973. Garth started playing ice hockey at the age of 4 in the Kalamazoo Optimist Hockey Association in Southwest Michigan and played 14 seasons. He continues to play adult league today at the youthful age of 49 on 3 teams. In High School he played Varsity & lettered every year freshman thru senior year 1983 - 1987. He captained his High School team 'the Portage Central Mustangs' which was a perennial state championship contender. The Mustangs played twice 1983 and 1986 in the final 4 Class 'A' state High School championships in Flint Michigan. He received Michigan High School All State Class 'A' State honors at the center position his senior year. Garth walked onto the Ice Hockey Team at the University of Notre Dame his sophomore year. His career was cut short by a serious injury early that season. He continued to play on the club team as a junior & senior at the University of Notre Dame. Garth has coached since 2004 (Mites to Midgets) in New Jersey. Garth was the coach of the year for USA Hockey in the AAHA district in the 2017-2018 season. This past season, Garth took the Princeton Tigers Peewee A team to a NJYHL Championship and is headed to the district playoffs in March. Garth is a level 5 Master USA Hockey coach for the 2019-2020` season. He is a dedicated teacher of the game. His hockey philosophy is: Hard Work, Discipline, and FUN!!!