

**Director of Coaching**  
**Mike Gunderson**

I am honored to be nominated for the STAHA Coaching Director position. I have extensive volunteer experience both as a youth coach and league administrator.

My coaching experience spans the last decade or so and ranges from t-ball assistant head coach to my last season as the Grizzly 14UB Head Coach. I've spent the last three years plus at the helm of successful Grizzly Hockey Teams with several championship banners earned including the State Championship banner for the 2016-2017 Pee Wee A division.

As an administrator I was the Tournament Director for Sierra Inline Hockey from December 2012- October 2014 where I developed and coordinated the league's Travel Program. I worked directly with the SIHL Board of Directors, various Board Members of other Inline Hockey leagues as well as Parent Volunteers to schedule and run a successful travel program.

I am a collaborative, passionate, and motivational individual who demonstrates consistent and positive leadership behind the bench. My true ambition as a youth coach lies in teaching the core values of success through hard work, discipline and respect. In my opinion these lessons are best taught in a fun and inviting atmosphere which I believe I provide as a natural byproduct of my love of the game of hockey. My vision synchs with USA Hockey's ADM philosophy that the love of the game leads to improvement as the athlete comes to naturally want to spend more time on the ice. It's my belief that the importance of teamwork can't be overstated and that a team is only as strong as the most novice of player on the squad. Equal playing time for all is crucial to the development of the team as a whole and I believe this to be the secret of my successes.

As Coaching Director it would be my goal to encourage these same values throughout the STAHA coaching staff but I would also empower each coach to use their own unique individuality and creativity to be successful. It's my belief that no one knows a team better than the coaches who spend so much of their time with these kids. As such, my primary focus would be to support the coaching staff any way possible. I believe an empowered, well trained coaching staff would result in a positive experience for the most important component of our league: the youth athletes.

Respectfully,

Michael Gunderson  
Nominee for Coaching Director