



March 27, 2015

Friends of West Ranch Hockey Club,

It was great to see everyone last Saturday at our first West Ranch Hockey Club evaluations, we're looking forward to seeing you at this Sunday's evaluations as well. If you were not able to join us last Saturday, a quick recap on the announcement from Matt Blanchart from the Anaheim Ducks High School League (ADHSHL) – the LA Kings have made a decision to support and accelerate the growth of high school hockey in Southern California. The LA Kings contacted me this week and they would like to sponsor the WRHC and have us help them start their new league. The Kings believe they can get 8-10 high school teams to join the league for the 2015 fall season. Luc Robitaille has approved funding of the program and Jim Fox has volunteered to be the league commissioner. Jim's brother is a high school hockey coach in Canada so Jim is very passionate about the benefits of high school hockey.

A representative from the LA Kings will be at our evaluations this Sunday and will share the Kings high school hockey plan and answer questions starting at 10:30am upstairs in the grill where we met last week.

The Kings and the ADHSHL are working very closely together. While the Kings are technically forming a new "league", the ADHSHL is acting as the governing body and the Kings are following their exact model for everything from fees to rules to uniforms. One of the key discussion topics was the Kings' commitment to supporting "pure" teams like we have with the WRHC. The ADHSHL really supports and encourages "pure" teams as they give players the experience of playing hockey for your high school and all the unique benefits that come with that. Pure teams represent true high school hockey, whereas district teams are more like club hockey just under a different label. The ADHSHL understands this and in turn supports pure teams with words and actions. For example, their roster rules favor the creation of pure teams over district teams, pure teams get all games streamed live online, pure teams get the most exposure, they get the best scheduling, etc.

The Kings said they share the same commitment to creating pure teams, which is great to hear. The Kings and the ADHSHL both committed to ensuring our WRHC teams have competitive schedules. For instance, if we have a pure JV team and the Kings only recruit four other JV teams for the fall, we will play other teams from the ADHSHL JV division.

This commitment to pure is very important to our WRHC. I explained that many of our families have sacrificed to enroll their players at West Ranch High School. I want you to know that Stacey, Mark Crawford, Todd Arrowsmith and I understand and sincerely appreciate the commitment all of you are making to provide this unique opportunity to your child to play true high school hockey. As Matt said last Saturday, the only difference this Kings entry means for WRHC is that instead of having a Ducks logo on our jerseys, we will have a Kings logo. We will work hard to make sure this is the case.

If your player will be participating in on-ice evaluations this Sunday and you haven't registered yet, please fill out the online evaluation registration form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRHCEvals>.

We are considering fielding a West Ranch team for a **Memorial Day Tournament**. Please reply to this email and let me know if your player is interested in playing.

Finally, we are starting our WRHC strength and conditioning program next month after students return from Spring Break with two sessions a week in the West Ranch High School weight room. Details regarding exact dates and times will be communicated soon.

Be on the look out for an email tomorrow from Stacey with important information and reminders for this Sunday's WRHC on-ice evaluations. We look forward to seeing you then!

My best,



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