

Reed resigns as Eagles girls hockey coach

Jim Bastian

NEW ULM - Jeremy Reed, who has been the head girls hockey coach at New Ulm High School for the past three seasons, resigned from that position on Wednesday.

Reed, who posted a 43-34-4 record in his tenure, said that his stepping down was because he was "tired of the 10%."

Reed said that over the course of a season, the focus should be on the kids.

"But a big part of the season is spent with the people who raise the kids," he said. "I have just grown tired of some of the parental behavior - but it is not all of them. Ninety percent of them are great kids who come from great hockey families. But it is just a few, so I think as my wife and I transition to a new phase of life with no kids that now was the time."

Reed said that his decision to resign has been building up for the past two seasons.

"And as far as the future - I do not see it getting any better."

Reed said that his decision and reason to resign is not a rare choice.

"I have heard that right now on the boys basketball side there are seven litigation suits going on now in Minnesota between parents and coaches," Reed said. "But here is the important part of this, and I have shared this with a few of the people that I have talked to. We all want what is best for the kids, but when it comes to playing team sports at a competitive level, coaches want what is best for the team and all of the kids. But at times that may conflict with what parents want. Sometimes there is a difference there on perspective. I love it that parents support their kids, but at the same time there is a larger perspective when you are playing team sports and that is not just hockey."

Reed, who serves on the board for Minnesota Hockey, said that it is getting very hard to find coaches due in part because of some parents.

"In some of my involvements away from the ice, I have met some great people and have had the opportunity to do some speaking," he said. "I was at a speaking engagement two weeks ago and during that speaking engagement, it hit me that you can try and do everything right and it still will not be sufficient for some."

Reed said that he will continue to be involved with Minnesota Hockey (Vice President of Hockey Operations) and USA Hockey.

And Reed said that in meetings with Minnesota Hockey, there is talk about what can be done to change the culture.

"We are very involved in the Positive Coaching Alliance and I will continue to work on from my end and my role and how to change the culture, because it is getting harder and harder to find coaches especially in the out-state - there is not a lot of selection," he said,

Reed said that with his resignation, the case is that the entire coaching staff will have to re-apply if they want to return.

"There is a great core of kids coming back who took positive leaps, bounds and strides last season, and I expect that they will continue to work for whoever the next coach is. There is a great leadership group in there."

Reed again will be involved traveling around Minnesota and focusing on the 8-and-under age group.

"I will also be doing some Parental Education as their child is entering the sport of hockey," Reed said.