



Drayton Valley Thunder

Thunder Staff
2006-2007



Blaine Gusdal - General Manager / Head Coach



Blaine is entering his first season with the Thunder organization. Previously, Blaine spent ten seasons as a General Manager and Head Coach in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League; seven in North Battleford where he led them to the provincial final twice. He was also the Head Coach for the Midwest Senior AAA Islanders for two seasons where they won consecutive Saskatchewan Provincial Championships and advanced to the Allan Cup National Championships in both 2004 and 2005.

"Our philosophy is to provide opportunities for our players to develop and prepare themselves for the next step in their athletic and academic careers. My goal is to ice a team each season that is built around our philosophy, accountability, and passion. We will strive to maintain the proud tradition of our organization and our community."

Blaine's other accomplishments include:

- Head Coach Team Canada Rep. at Nagano Cup 2005
- Allan Cup National Finalists, Saint Georges, Quebec, 2004
- Coach S.J.H.L. All-Stars Viking Cup '98 Gold Medal Champions.
- S.J.H.L All-Star Coach 1996
- Played in the WHL for the Saskatoon Blades, Moose Jaw Warriors, and P.A Raiders
- Played four seasons with the Augustana Vikings (A.C.A.C)
- Married 16 years to wife, Jane, and has 3 children, Connor, Kjel, and Kristi

Larry Moberg- Assistant Coach



Larry is now in his fourth full season with the Thunder as assistant coach. During his first three seasons, Larry has developed into a knowledgeable coach who brings the player's and teacher's perspective to the staff. Larry is responsible for coaching the goaltenders, player development, off-ice training and education.

Larry's playing experience; both at the Junior and university levels has been beneficial for the players. After completing his junior career, Larry obtained a scholarship to the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and then played professionally in the East Coast Hockey League.

Larry is a high school teacher in Drayton Valley, where he lives with his wife Pam and their son Kael.

Sheri Rasmussen- Marketing Manager



A big hello to all of you, our loyal fans and sponsors. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know everyone. Stepping in half way through last season was a challenge but all of you have been so patient and understanding, my job has definitely been made easier. I am excited to be starting a new full season with the Drayton Valley Thunder. The new coaching staff along with all of the fantastic players we have on our team should certainly make for a fun and entertaining season. We have a few new things to add to the excitement of our home games. Brazeau Well Servicing is sponsoring a Thunder Tunnel for the players to skate out of at the beginning of the game! There has been a change to our 50/50 format and they have now been sponsored by Foggy Bottom Ent., Dairy Queen and Mixers Liquor Store. Definitely try you luck at the 50/50 and get some great discounts at the same time. Cornor Stone Denture Clinic has sponsored a new Thunder Dog costume. We will definitely have him out and about for you to enjoy.

If you or your business is interested in becoming involved with the Thunder as a sponsor, billet, etc., please do not hesitate to contact me. I have many new and interesting options for sponsoring and game day fun that may work perfectly for you. I am also open to any new ideas that you may have and would like to see put in place for our team. I always have an open door, please do not hesitate to contact me any time.

I will be working in the Thunder office at the Omniplex and can be reached at 780-542-7845, Thunder office or by email at [DV Thunder](#).

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Chris Linder- Athletic Therapist/ Equipment Manager



Chris is looking forward to his first season with the Drayton Valley Thunder as the Athletic Therapist/Equipment Manager. Chris comes to us with prior experience playing junior hockey in his home town of Vancouver, B.C. Before coming to Drayton Valley, Chris worked with the Concordia Stingers Men's Hockey Team while attending Concordia University where he graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Exercise Science, specializing in Athletic Therapy.

Chris is responsible for all injury assessments and rehabilitation, equipment maintenance and repair. He is also responsible for the team's off-ice training, ensuring that the players improve their fitness levels throughout the season. Chris's vast knowledge and eagerness guarantee that our players are in terrific hands and that they will be prepared to play at their highest level each and every day.

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Jim Knight - Head Scout/Director of Player Personnel



Jim is in his second year with the Thunder as Head Scout and in his first year as Director of Player Personnel. Jim brings 11 years of scouting experience as well as four years being a Director/Manager of various hockey teams. He heads up as scouting staff of eight scouts who are situated across Alberta.

Jim also coaches in hockey schools in Alberta and British Columbia during the summer. He currently resides in Leduc and works full time for an oilfield supply store in Nisku.

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Mark Cheyne - Assistant General Manager



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Drew Balen - Video Coach / Scout



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