

History of San Diego Women's Hockey (SDWH) and the San Diego Heartbreakers



San Diego Women's Hockey (SDWH) was established in the spring of 1994 with a women's developmental program (a class that taught the basic fundamentals of hockey). In the spring of 1995, SDWH formed their first tournament team called the San Diego Wave. As demand for participation increased in the wake of their first tournament, SDWH began formalizing tournament team guidelines. In the fall of 95, The San Diego Wave changed their name to the San Diego Heartbreakers and became a permanent facet of the SDWH program.

In the fall of 1997, SDWH expanded the Heartbreakers and formed a second tournament team. The 2 teams attended their first tournament together in Las Vegas, Nevada in February of 1998. In May of 1998, SDWH hosted its first "home ice" tournament at Iceoplex in Escondido, drawing teams for both intermediate and novice divisions.

The success of the tournament teams and the developmental programs allowed SDWH to implement the final phase of a two-year plan. In the fall of 1998, using tournament team and developmental skaters as a base, SDWH established the first San Diego Women's Hockey League (SDWHL). The league caused increase interest in the community, brought many new skaters to SDWH, and provided a competitive forum for skaters. The league continues on today, under the direction of San Diego Ice Arena (SDIA) in Mira Mesa.

Unfortunately, due to the decreased market, financial instability and loss of jobs, SDWH was not able to stay alive. So in the fall of 2009, the heartbreakers separated from SDWH and became their own organization as SDWH folded.

The San Diego Heartbreakers is a current member and in good standings with California Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) and USA Hockey.

