

## 'Thankful For The Opportunity'

*PWHPA girls clinic comes to Solar4America Ice at San Jose, earns positive reviews*

By Matt Mackinder

Last month, Bay Area girls hockey players, including many with the San Jose Jr. Sharks, were treated to a Professional Women's Hockey Players Association (PWHPA) clinic at Solar4America Ice at San Jose.

The event was part of a collaboration between the PWHPA, San Jose Sharks, Sharks Alumni Foundation, Jr. Sharks, Cathy's Power Skating, Tri-Valley Lady Blue Devils and others.

Held back on Sept. 21, players representing the PWHPA, including **Kendall Coyne Schofield**, participated in two one-hour practice sessions at Solar4America Ice at San Jose with approximately 50 total 10U-14U girls players that were invited. The players were divided into groups of five and spent 10 minutes in each of five stations.

Each station had two coaches and 1-2 PWHPA players.


"My players, coaching staff and parents are all extremely thankful for the opportunity to participate in this event with players representing the PWHPA," said Jr. Sharks 14U AAA girls



head coach **Jon Carpenter**. "Many of my 14U girls saw Kendall Coyne Schofield make history here in San Jose earlier this year when she became the first woman to compete in the NHL All-Star Game. Kendall skated a lap so fast that it will not be forgotten by anyone who witnessed it.

"This practice session was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these girls to meet the heroes of their sport and it will surely inspire the next generation of female hockey players in the Bay Area. The PWHPA was so gracious to invest time in San Jose with our players and we will be forever indebted. This was an incredible opportunity for girls to meet, interact and learn from some of the best hockey players in the world. And to have female role models to look up to that are working hard to provide future opportunities for these girls that they themselves never had at that age."

The PWHPA players stayed after the practice as well to sign autographs and spend more time interacting with the girls.

Then on Sept. 22, the PWHPA played an exhibition game versus the Sharks Alumni as part of the San Jose Sharks annual Fan Fest with most of these girls in attendance. The skill and speed of the PWHPA players was on full display and the PWHPA won the game 3-2. 



## PWHPA PLAYERS WHO ATTENDED SAN JOSE EVENT

### GOALIES

Nicole Hensley, Lakewood, Colo. - Olympic gold medalist, two-time world champion

Dani Cameranesi, Plymouth, Minn. - Olympic gold medalist, two-time world champion, two-time national champion with University of Minnesota

Noora Raty, Espoo, Finland - four-time Olympian, two-time Olympic bronze medalist, five-time world bronze medalist, world silver medalist

Hannah Brandt, Vadnais Heights, Minn. - Olympic gold medalist, three-time world champion, world silver medalist, three-time national champion with University of Minnesota

### DEFENSEMEN

Lee Stecklein, Roseville, Minn. - two-time Olympian, Olympic gold and silver medalist, five-time world champion, three-time NCAA national champion with University of Minnesota

Kelly Pannek, Plymouth, Minn. - Olympic gold medalist, two-time world champion, two-time national champion with University of Minnesota

Savannah Harmon, Downers Grove, Ill. - Recently competed her first year with the U.S. Women's National Team, two-time national champion with Clarkson University

Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson, Grand Forks, N.D. - three-time Olympian, Olympic gold medalist, two-time Olympic silver medalist, six-time world champion, scored the game-winning goal in the shootout of the 2018 Olympic gold medal game, famously called "Oops, I did it again"

Alyssa Gagliardi, Raleigh, N.C. - two-time U.S. National Team member, four-time ECAC champion with Cornell University

Gigi Marvin, Warroad, Minn. - three-time Olympian, Olympic gold medalist, two-time Olympic silver medalist, five-time world champion, two-time world silver medalist

Kelsey Koelzer, Horsham Pa. - Member of U.S. Under-22 Team, invited to U.S. Women's Olympic Team tryouts, Patty Kazmaier top-ten selection from Princeton University, member of the NHL's Girls and Women's Advisory Committee

Sophia Shaver, Wayzata, Minn. - Team USA Under-18 and Under-22 Team member, national champion with University of Wisconsin, entering her first season with the U.S. Women's National Team

Olivia Zafuto, Niagara Falls, N.Y. - Recently completed her four-year career at Colgate University, all-time points leader as a defenseman in Colgate hockey history, entering her first season with the U.S. Women's National Team

Kendall Coyne Schofield, Palos Heights, Ill. - Olympic gold and silver medalist, six-time world champion, Patty Kazmaier Award winner, first woman to compete in the NHL All-Star Skills Competition at SAP Center on Jan. 25, 2019

### FORWARDS

Annie Pankowski, Laguna Hills, Calif. - Longtime member of the U.S. Women's National Team, three-time world champion, national champion with University of Wisconsin

Haley Skarupa, Rockville, Md. - Olympic gold medalist, three-time world champion, All-American from Boston College