



MEDIA RELEASE

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Olympians Wickenheiser and Makowsky to speak at Coaches Conference

The Coaches Association of Saskatchewan is pleased to announce that five-time Olympian Hayley Wickenheiser and 2010 Olympian gold medalist speed skater Lucas Makowsky are the keynote speakers at the upcoming Saskatchewan Coaches Conference.

The Coaches Conference will take place on May 28 & 29 at the Saskatoon Inn. Wickenheiser will deliver the opening keynote on Friday afternoon while Makowsky will present at the Saturday lunch. The conference is geared at coaches from all sports who work with athletes from community to high performance levels. A great line up of presenters will deliver a total of 25 breakout sessions and three plenary sessions over the two-day conference.

“We are extremely pleased to have two Saskatchewan Olympians speak at our conference. Both Hayley and Lucas excelled with gold medal performances at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver and will have exciting messages to share with Saskatchewan coaches,” says Mark Bracken, Manager of Coaching for the Coaches Association of Saskatchewan.

Four-time Olympic medalist, Hayley Wickenheiser is regarded as one of the best female hockey players in the world. It all started in Shaunavon, Saskatchewan and at age 15 Hayley was chosen for the Canadian Women’s National Team. She has since led the squad to six gold and one silver medal at the Women’s World Hockey Championships. As an Olympian, Wickenheiser earned a silver medal at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan and three consecutive gold medals at the Winter Olympics in 2002, 2006 and 2010.

Makowsky began speed skating at the age of six and through his determination and passion he progressed to the National Team and soon found success at the Olympic level. At his first Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, Lucas captured a gold medal in Team Pursuit, placed 19th in the 1500m, and 13th in the 5000m. In March, at the World All-round Championships in the Netherlands, Lucas had top 10 finishes in three of his four distances, finishing 9th overall and capturing a silver medal in the 1500m.

“This is going to be an outstanding professional development opportunity for coaches,” says Bracken. “Whether you are coaching young athletes at the club or school level or working with high performance athletes this conference has something for you.”

To view the conference agenda and to register go to www.saskcoach.ca/2010conference. Spaces are limited so register early.

- 30 -

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