

FROM THE NEW YORK ISLANDERS LOCKER ROOM

Boggs digging Island life

Though just 34 years old, Scott Boggs has already had 20 years of experience working in hockey dressing rooms, from the Canadian junior leagues through the minor pros and now in the NHL. Boggs, who makes his home in Oyster Bay, N.Y. with wife Maria and daughter Mackenzie, hooked on as the head equipment man with the New York Islanders last year and his now entering his second year with the team. We chatted with Scott about his career and working for the blue and orange:

THN: Where did you start out in your career?

SB: I started when I was 14 in my hometown of Halifax as a dressing room helper. I first learned the business from Brian "Breaker" Dorey, who's still an equipment manager there. Before school I would help in the preparation at the rink and then after school, I'd run back to help with practice. I knew from an early age that being an equipment manager is what I wanted to do with my life.

THN: Where did you go from there?

SB: I joined the Calgary Hitmen (WHL) in 1995-96 and after that I hooked up with the Thunder Bay Thunder Cats (UHL). Then I spent two years with Hampton Roads (ECHL) and five years with Norfolk (AHL), before join-

ing the Chicago Blackhawks for two years as an assistant equipment manager.

THN: Are you enjoying working for the Islanders? Do you



**Scott
Boggs**
Equipment
Manager



get a sense of the history of the franchise?

SB: It's great, and you do get a sense of the team's history. We have a lot of alumni who are always visiting: Bossy, Trotter, guys like that. There's

so much history here at the Nassau Coliseum and in the dressing room. We have a lot of pictures and newspaper clippings up on the wall.

THN: Do you have players that are pickier than others when it comes to equipment?

SB: Everyone's different, but the important thing for me is that I treat everybody the same way – whether you're a first line guy or a fourth line guy. I try to treat everybody special. They've worked hard to get to the pro level. They deserve the respect and good treatment.

THN: Do you have a Blademaster Ultimate sharpening machine and do you like it?

SB: We do and we love it. It's a very good machine, so consistent in what it can do for you.

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