

Area Sportsline

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Blackhawks sign TV extension with Cox

The Iowa Blackhawks, member of the American Professional Football League, have announced the extension of their television contract with Cox Communications through the 2006 season.

The deal includes Cox Communications providing video production for closed circuit broadcasts and the taping of all seven home games for tape delay broadcast on Cox Channel 2 the following Sunday at 6 p.m. The games will also be available on Cox Communications On-Demand Service Channel 998 the Wednesday following the game and will be available for ordering for at least two weeks.

Iowa's owner, Jake Hiffernan, said the deal will continue to play a big part in the team's future. "We had such a wonderful response from our fans that re-viewed our games on TV last season and we wanted to give that to them again. And, it's a great way to introduce new fans to our product as well."

Cox Communications is excited to be working with the Blackhawks for a third year. "The team, the coverage and the relationships between Cox and the Blackhawks have grown together over this time. Jake has been a true professional and this season will surely be exciting," said Cox's Local Programming Manager Brian Ortner.

Hiffernan also said he would like to use this outlet to help promote the developing tourism area around the Mid-America Center.

"I have a commitment to my community, and I will do everything I can to help promote its future success," he said.

Iowa opens their season on the road on Friday, April 14 in St. Joseph, Mo., versus the Storm. Their first home game is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 with a 7:05 p.m. kick-off. Season tickets are on sale now. For more information about their upcoming season call the Blackhawks at (712) 366.9326 or email jakehiffernan@iowablackhawks.com.