

AI Assistant Suggestions Enhancement

Overview

Enhanced the AI coach assistant to provide intuitive suggested prompts for user questions with both quick-select buttons and custom input options. This improves the user experience by making interactions faster and more intuitive.

Date

November 8, 2025

Key Features Implemented

1. Suggested Prompts for Free-Form Questions

- **Quick Suggestions:** Clickable buttons with common responses
- **Custom Input:** Text field for users to enter their own responses
- **Context-Aware:** AI provides relevant suggestions based on the conversation

2. Date/Time Input with Calendar Picker

- **Calendar Component:** Visual date picker for selecting dates
- **Time Input:** Time selector for specifying exact times
- **Quick Date Suggestions:** Predefined common date/time options
 - "Tomorrow at 3pm"
 - "This Saturday at 10am"
 - "Next Monday at 4:30pm"
 - "Friday at 5pm"
- **Custom Entry:** Option to pick any date and time combination

3. Text Input with Suggestions

- **Suggested Values:** Common responses as clickable buttons
- **Custom Entry:** Text input field with send button
- **Enter Key Support:** Quick submission via Enter key

Technical Implementation

API Changes (/app/api/chat/route.ts)

New SUGGESTIONS Marker Format

```
[SUGGESTIONS:{"suggestions":["Option 1","Option 2","Option 3"],"allowCustom":true,"inputType":"text"}]
```

Input Types

1. **text:** For free-form text inputs (titles, locations, descriptions)

2. **datetime**: For date/time selection with calendar picker

System Prompt Additions

****SUGGESTED PROMPTS FOR FREE-FORM QUESTIONS:****

Format: [SUGGESTIONS:{"suggestions":["Suggestion 1","Suggestion 2"],"allowCustom":true,"inputType":"text"}]

****DATE/TIME INPUT:****

Format: [SUGGESTIONS:{"suggestions":["Tomorrow at 3pm"],"allowCustom":true,"inputType":"datetime"}]

UI Changes (/components/chat-agent.tsx)

New SuggestionInput Component

- Renders quick suggestion buttons
- Provides custom input options based on inputType
- Handles both text and datetime inputs
- Integrates with existing message flow

Features

1. Quick Suggestions Section

- Displays 3-5 clickable suggestion buttons
- Blue outline style matching OPTIONS buttons
- Instant submission on click

2. Custom Input Section - Text

- Text input field with placeholder
- Send button with icon
- Enter key support

3. Custom Input Section - DateTime

- Calendar picker using `react-day-picker`
- Time input using HTML5 time input
- "Use This Date/Time" button
- Formatted output: "Saturday, November 15, 2025 at 10:00"

Message Interface Enhancement


```
interface Message {
  // ... existing fields
  suggestions?: {
    suggestions: string[];
    allowCustom: boolean;
    inputType: 'text' | 'datetime';
  };
}
```

Parsing Logic

- Extracts SUGGESTIONS markers from AI responses
- Handles nested JSON with proper brace counting
- Cleans content by removing markers
- Preserves OPTIONS and ACTION markers

User Flow Example

Event Scheduling with Suggestions

1. **User:** “Schedule a practice”
2. **AI:** “Which team would you like to schedule practice for?”
 - [OPTIONS with team buttons: Young Stars U8, Thunder FC U12, Elite Academy U16]
3. **User:** Clicks “Thunder FC U12”
4. **AI:** “When would you like to schedule the practice?”
 - [SUGGESTIONS with datetime input]
 - Quick buttons: “Tomorrow at 3pm”, “This Saturday at 10am”, etc.
 - Calendar picker + time selector
5. **User:** Selects date/time (either button or calendar)
6. **AI:** “What would you like to call this practice?”
 - [SUGGESTIONS with text input]
 - Quick buttons: “Saturday Morning Practice”, “Weekly Team Training”, etc.
 - Text input field
7. **User:** Enters or selects practice title
8. **AI:** “Where will the practice be held?”
 - [SUGGESTIONS with text input]
 - Quick buttons: “Main Stadium”, “Training Ground 1”, etc.
 - Text input field
9. **User:** Enters or selects location
10. **AI:** Creates event and confirms: “ Event created successfully!”

Benefits

For Users

1. **Faster Input:** Click suggestions instead of typing
2. **Visual Date Selection:** Calendar picker is more intuitive than typing dates
3. **Guidance:** Suggestions show what kind of input is expected
4. **Flexibility:** Can still type custom responses

For Developers

1. **Consistent UX:** Same pattern for all input types
2. **Extensible:** Easy to add new input types
3. **Context-Aware:** AI can provide relevant suggestions based on team data

Files Modified

1. `/app/api/chat/route.ts`

- Added SUGGESTIONS marker documentation to system prompt
- Included examples for text and datetime inputs

- Updated examples to show full flow with suggestions

2. `/components/chat-agent.tsx`

- Added SuggestionInput component
- Updated Message interface to include suggestions
- Added parsing logic for SUGGESTIONS markers
- Implemented handleSuggestionSubmit function
- Added imports for Calendar, Popover, and date-fns

3. Dependencies (already installed)

- `react-day-picker` - Calendar component
- `date-fns` - Date formatting
- `@radix-ui/react-popover` - Popover for calendar

Testing Results



Successful Tests

1. **OPTIONS marker** - Team selection with clickable buttons
2. **SUGGESTIONS with datetime** - Calendar picker + time input + quick date buttons
3. **SUGGESTIONS with text** - Text suggestions + custom text input
4. **Event creation flow** - Complete end-to-end event scheduling
5. **Build verification** - App builds successfully without errors

Verified Functionality

- Quick suggestion buttons clickable and functional
- Calendar picker opens and allows date selection
- Time input accepts time values
- Custom text input with Enter key support
- Suggestions appear in correct context during conversation
- Multiple suggestion types can appear in sequence

Future Enhancements

Potential Additions

1. **Location Suggestions:** Use geolocation or saved locations
2. **Recurring Events:** Add support for recurring practice scheduling
3. **Smart Suggestions:** Use ML to suggest based on team history
4. **Time Duration:** Add duration picker instead of just end time
5. **Multi-select:** Allow selecting multiple options for certain questions

Configuration Notes

For Custom Implementations

1. Add new input types in the SuggestionInput component
2. Update the Message interface for new suggestion formats
3. Add parsing logic in handleSend and handleSuggestionSubmit

4. Document new markers in the system prompt

AI Prompt Guidelines

- Use OPTIONS for predefined lists (teams, age groups, event types)
- Use SUGGESTIONS with inputType="text" for free-form text
- Use SUGGESTIONS with inputType="datetime" for dates and times
- Provide 3-5 relevant suggestions based on context
- Always set allowCustom=true to enable custom entry

Summary

The AI Assistant Suggestions Enhancement significantly improves the user experience by:

1. Providing quick-select buttons for common responses
2. Adding a visual calendar picker for date selection
3. Maintaining flexibility for custom inputs
4. Creating a consistent, intuitive interaction pattern

The implementation is production-ready, fully tested, and documented for future maintenance and enhancements.

Developer: DeepAgent

Testing Date: November 8, 2025

Status:  Complete and Verified