

Welcome to the 2018-2019 Hockey Season!

My name is Brent Blaseg and I am very excited and honoured to be the head coach of the Major Atom AA hockey team this year. This is a very unique year, as the players who make this team will transition from a 60 minute game length to a 90 minute game length. These additional 16 minutes of stopped game time will really put the focus on working cooperatively together as a team. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some information about myself, my coaching philosophy, the tryout/evaluation process, and some highlights for the upcoming season.

I have been coaching minor hockey since 2013, but this game has been a big part of my like since I was a young child. The opportunity to share with this team what I have learned over the years, along with the love I have for the game of hockey, is why I have once again, volunteered for this position. I coach because I love the excitement of the kids, the enthusiasm of the parents and the fulfillment that comes with helping these young players develop physically, mentally and even emotionally on and off the ice. I am very passionate about the game, the development of individual skills, building a united team, and developing good work ethic during practices, games and in life.

Philosophy

My coaching philosophy is to help each and every player develop as a competitor, a teammate, and a person over the course of the season. I have 3 primary rules that are not negotiable:

1. Listen & be respectful 2. Work hard & never give up 3. Have fun!

I pride myself on making all of my time with my team a fun and positive learning experience. I promise to give them enthusiasm, consistency, organization, a great work ethic, and a true passion for this great game.

Evaluations and Tryouts

These tryouts are open to any player interested in being part of this great competitive team and I look forward to hopefully seeing many familiar and new faces at tryouts this year. I am looking for players who have strong individual skills (skating, shooting, puck control and passing), who are competitive (love to battle/grind/compete), who are hardworking (with a never quit work attitude), who are respectful (listen, learn and respond appropriately), and who show good potential for continued improvement. During tryouts we will be evaluating players based on their performance in on-ice sessions as well as intersquad/exhibition games. I will be using non-parent independent evaluators to ensure an objective measurement of all players. The dates and times for the tryouts will be posted on the KMHA website (<http://kmha.ca/>) later this summer, and I will be contacting all registered players to confirm your attendance.

Season Plan

My goal is to develop individual based skills and team tactics through high tempo, challenging, and well-designed practices and in game situations. We will have regularly scheduled practices that follow the Hockey Canada development model so that players are building skills that are appropriate for the Major Atom level. The time commitment for all players and parents is significant. You can expect to have 4-5 team functions per week, on average, comprised of 1-2 games, 2-3 practices, and some off ice activities. The expectation for players who make this team is that they will be, to the best of each family’s ability, at all team scheduled events. There is also a significant financial commitment, and each player will be required to pay a team fee of approximately $1600-$1800 for the year (on top of the KMHA registration and tryout fees). We will be looking for sponsorships to assist with these costs.

In addition to regular season games and practices, the team will be participating in FIVE Tier 1 tournaments over the course of the season (2 local and 3 away). The proposed tournament listing and schedule is as follows:

* Shootout - Ottawa AAA September 7-9, 2018
* Monarch Battle Royale - Rochester AAA September 28-30, 2018
* Playstation Platinum Cup - Toronto AAA November 23-25, 2018
* Bell Capital Cup - Ottawa AAA December 29-31, 2018
* The Taylor Hall Cup Classic - Greater Kingston AAA January 11-13, 2019

I understand the responsibility that comes with being a minor hockey coach in a competitive program, and I invest a lot of my time and energy into delivering a high quality one for all involved. Should anyone have any questions regarding the Major Atom AA team for the 2018/2019 season, please feel free to contact me at brentblaseg@gmail.com. Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you at the rink in August!

Brent Blaseg

Head Coach,

Kanata Blazers Major Atom AA