



Aug 3, 2017 (\*updated August 20th)

Welcome to the 2017/2018 season for the Kanata Blazers Minor Midget Rep B team. My name is Eric McKeown and I am very happy to be your Head Coach for this upcoming season. I look forward to working with the team and making this a positive and successful experience for both players and parents.

My introductory video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HKCfCpEkLY>

I have been coaching for 5 years, 5 KMHA seasons at all levels of House League, 2 summer teams at the House A level, and last year I was behind the bench of the Major Bantam Rep B team as a Manager.

As a rookie head coach at the competitive level, I've asked Brad Joyal to be my coach mentor. Brad spent some time working with the Ottawa Senators and has been coaching for many years. Brad and I will create a practice plan for the season and set out goals for the team.

This year the team will be participating in 4 tournaments, 2 away and 2 home.

- Oct 6-8 Halton Hills Confirmed
- Nov 9-12 Osgoode Spot Reserved
- Dec 1-3 Kingston Confirmed, Hotel Reserved
- Jan 5-7 Richcraft Sensplex Applied, Paid

The December Christmas break will be a blackout to allow for time to spend with family and for players to recharge. Depending on our league schedule, you can expect our team to completely shut down with no events scheduled between December 24 and January 2.

A team dress code will be in effect:

- Good pants (no jeans), shirt, tie and Blazers jacket for all games and tournaments.
- Kanata Blazers work out attire for all team events.
- Dress pants, shirt, tie and Blazers jacket for all games for coaches.
- Blazers track suit for trainers.

In terms of financial commitments, families can expect a team fee of \$1500 per player in addition to your KHMA registration and try out fees. Team fees can be paid over 3 instalments. We welcome sponsorship but there won't be any team fundraising events.

I have assembled a number of experienced independent hockey people from the community who will help with try-outs. Although I am ultimately responsible, it will be a team effort.

Try-outs are:

- Sept 14th 8:30pm to 10:30pm Arena KRC-B
- Sept 16th 8pm to 10pm Arena KRC-A
- Sept 19th 8pm to 9:30pm Arena BSP-CT Game vs. Nepean

I am looking for players that are eager to learn and open to being challenged. I place special emphasis on players that are developing an active understanding of the play unfolding around them. Players must be committed to being a teammate both on and off the ice. Teamwork will be valued over individual play.

If you have any questions please contact me at [ericmck@rogers.com](mailto:ericmck@rogers.com).

Have a great summer and see you in September.

Sincerely,

*Eric McKeown*

Eric McKeown

Head Coach

Kanata Blazers

Minor Midget Rep B