



Growing up, nothing made me happier than hitting a fresh sheet of ice early in the morning.

To this day, nothing makes me smile more than the good old 6am practice where we get to go on a little early and cut up the fresh ice that has been waiting overnight!

Minor hockey was a big part of my childhood, adolescence, young adulthood and still continues to be to this day. I played house league and competitive at the AAA level. Hockey played an integral role in my athletic and personal development.

For the past 5 years, I have been a volunteer in KMHA as an on ice assistant, trainer, assistant coach, co-manager and head coach. I have been actively involved in the annual KMHA player sort-outs as an evaluator and as an on-ice supervisor (ice general). I have also aided KMHA with the new novice half-ice concept, which will assist with the rollout of the half-ice program in the 2019/20 season.

I am also involved in Spring and Fall hockey as a head coach, managing approximately 60 minor hockey players in developing their skills. As well, I was involved with the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees hockey team while at university.

Needless to say, I have been involved with the game of hockey for a very long time. I am passionate about the game and appreciate the game from a players' perspective, a trainer perspective, a managerial perspective, a coach perspective and a parent perspective.

I have a good understanding and appreciation of the time, financial and emotional commitments that hockey places on our KMHA members, players, volunteers, coaches, trainers, managers and countless others. I also believe that through my experiences, I have a strong grasp on areas where we can continue to build on as an Association (coach recruitment, selection, training, feedback and mentoring; player evaluations; sort-outs and try-outs; goalie and player development; and affiliation). I am also all ears to the ideas of our members when it comes to coach, goalie and player development as well as any other feedback. I will welcome input from all.

While focusing on the present for all levels of play is important, we must also look to the future and ensure that our Initiation Program (IP) is strong and that the new novice half-ice concept is properly implemented. From IP to midget, whether house league or competitive, we need to ensure that our hockey programs are robust and are developing our goalies, players and coaches appropriately and in anticipation of their next level of play. I do believe that all of this can be achieved in the spirit of fun and enjoyment for all involved.

I believe my primary role as the VP of Hockey Programs will be acting in the best interest of all players (house and competitive), parents and coaches equally.

See you at the rink!

J.