



Kanata Blazers Minor Atom B

With registration for the upcoming 2012-13 season underway, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and give parents an overview of what to expect from the Minor Atom B team in the season ahead.

My name is Mike Murray and I look forward to coaching the team this upcoming season. I been coaching hockey for over 15 years, most recently coaching a peewee house A team and assistant coaching a novice A team. I plan to use that coaching experience to make the upcoming season the most positive experience possible for all the players and their families.

Our primary focus will be on having FUN while developing a sense of fair play, self-confidence, teamwork, and camaraderie in a competitive environment. Each player will understand they have an important role on the team and are instrumental in the overall success of the team.

The focus will be on teaching fundamentals and building a solid skills base for the future. We will work on individual skills and tactics, game situational play and introduce a few systems and strategies. I will reinforce the concept that winning is about performing to your potential not about the score on the board. Developing skills and ensuring the kids want to compete for each other will ultimately produce results.

This will be the first exposure to competitive hockey for the players and many families,. It is important to be aware from the outset that competitive hockey requires a commitment of time, effort and money. Our team will have activities, on average, four times per week throughout the season. All team activities – games, practices and dry-land sessions will be mandatory. Our team should be your top priority - behind only family commitments and school work.

In addition to the time commitment, families should be prepared for an added financial commitment as well. Our draft budget for the season is approximately \$22,000, or \$1,300 per player which can be offset with fundraising.

We will be attending five tournaments this season – two 'away' tournaments and three local. The tentative tournament schedule is as follows:

- Nepean Turkey Tournament - Oct. 6-8
- Markham Islanders Jerry Jacobs Annual Tournament - Nov. 2-4th
- Rochester Thanksgiving Tournament - Nov. 28-30
- Bell Capital Cup - Dec. 28-Jan. 1
- Bell Sensplex Winter Classic - Jan. 25-27

Tryout times will be posted on the KMHA website (www.kmha.ca) and parents of each registered player will be contacted about their first tryout ice time a couple of days in advance.

I look forward to seeing you in the fall and I look forward to an exciting season ahead. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at mbmurray@rogers.com.

Sincerely,

Mike Murray
Coach, Minor Atom B
Kanata Blazers