

2013/2014 Kanata Blazers Major Midget “B” tryout information

Welcome to parents and players registered for the 2013/2014 Kanata Blazers Major Midget “B” tryouts! My name is Robert Levesque and I will be coaching the team this year.

For those of you who don't know me from previous years, my coaching philosophy is to create a fun and positive hockey environment. I want the players to look forward to coming to the rink where they will have the opportunity to develop both their hockey skills and life skills. Teamwork, hard work, commitment, discipline, and a positive attitude are values that are essential to have a successful and enjoyable season. These values, combined with the technical skills of hockey will be stressed during the tryout process and throughout the entire hockey season.

Evaluations

Please visit the KMHA website regularly to get the latest tryout schedule. It is subject to frequent changes:

<http://kmha.ca/competitive-tryout-schedule/>

The evaluation process will be a combination of on-ice drills, scrimmages, and exhibition games. Player's performance, with respect to technical and tactical skills, including skating, puck handling, passing, and shooting (and goaltending as applicable) will be evaluated. Players will also be evaluated on qualities such as aptitude, attitude, teamwork, effort, discipline, and intensity. Assessments will begin as soon as players arrive at the rink and will not be strictly related to their on ice behaviour. All players will be ambassadors of the KMHA both on and off the ice and need to act accordingly. Independent evaluators and I will carry out these evaluations.

I will contact all players by phone prior to the first scheduled tryout session in order to ensure everyone is aware of the schedule. After each session, I will verbally confirm dates and times of the next scheduled tryout session to the players.

Releases

I am planning to have face to face discussions with each player following the tryout sessions when releases will be made.

I will let both parents and players know during the tryout process when releases will be made.

Commitment

Here is an overview of both the time and financial commitment expected from each player/family:

- In addition to the standard KMHA player registration fee, each family is expected to provide approximately \$1200-\$1600 in additional funds to cover the cost of team expenses such as additional ice time, tournaments, exhibition games, referees, etc. This expense can be offset based on the team's level of fundraising activities and ability to collect sponsors. A detailed budget will be produced once the team has been selected.
- Players can be expected to play any position (except goaltending) as determined by team needs
- The success of the team is dependent on parents contributing to team roles such as manager, assistant coaches, trainer, etc.
- The team will participate in 4-5 tournaments and at least two will be out of town. The team is registered in the following tournaments:
 - (away) Toronto Avalanche October 11th-14th *thanksgiving weekend*
 - (local) Stittsville (BSP) November 22th-24th
 - (away) Pembroke Regional Silver Stick November 29th-December 1st
 - (local) Kanata (BSP) January 3rd -5th
 - (away) TBD Feb-March 2013
- Between practices, games, and tournaments, players will be on the ice on average 3 times per week (1 practice, 1 home game, 1 away game)
- Players will be encouraged to participate in off ice programs which would improve their hockey skills

Logistics

Each participant attending tryouts will be assigned a numbered practice jersey prior to the start of the first session at the rink. Players that have been reassigned from the 'AA' level to this level will use the jersey they received at that tryout camp. Changes may be required and numbers/jerseys reassigned in order to balance intra-squad teams as we move forward.

Please plan to attend a parent's meeting which should be ~45 min prior to the first tryout session. We will discuss team commitments, my coaching philosophy and address any questions or concerns that you might have.

I will confirm the start time and location of this meeting during my first phone call to each player/family.

Please have the players at the rink one (1) hour before their scheduled start time in order to register and distribute sweaters. Each player should also have their own labeled water bottle during the tryout process.

B League Information

For all B league information, please visit the B league web site:

http://ottawableague.ca/page.php?page_id=32352

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the rink!

Sincerely,
Robert Levesque