



Welcome to the 2019-2020 season of the Major Atom AA Kanata Blazers!

My name is Terry Zanatta and I am extremely excited to be the head coach of this team. Included in this introduction letter is information regarding tryouts, coaching philosophy and what you can expect for the upcoming season. My expectations for the 2019/20 hockey season; is to have no limitations to success that we can all achieve together as a TEAM in a fun and positive environment. The status of positive players and positive parents has a huge impact on overall team success and the expectation is to have both this season.

This will be my fourth year as head coach with KMHA. Hockey has been a large part of my life since I was 5 years old. I played competitive hockey in Sault Ste Marie and enjoyed the experience of playing at a high level and look forward to the opportunity to pass on the passion I have for hockey, the skills of hockey and teaching each player what it means to be successful in a team environment.

My philosophy in coaching is to make each player better through individual player development and teach them how to play the game of hockey through hard work and a lot of fun. I believe in trying to make every player feel like they are an important part of the team and to be successful we play as a team. I stress the importance of the process and not the outcome. The process is far more important because if you do absolutely everything that you can do to try and be successful then regardless of the outcome you cannot be disappointed. I stress the importance of keeping their head high and to be proud of their play and accomplishments.

I believe in teaching young players the skills of the game, introducing team concepts and challenging them every day to get better. I try to use sport as a metaphor for life as often as possible. It is through challenge, adversity and setbacks that we learn to deal with life's tough times. How we learn to deal with these situations in sport helps us deal with challenges and setbacks later on in life.

I teach players to have pride in the program, the jersey they wear, and the city they represent. I believe in developing respectful, disciplined young boys that will grow to be quality young men some day through sport. I do not take my responsibility to the kids I coach, their parents, and the association I represent lightly and appreciate the opportunities that I have to influence young children through sport.

This season players should expect to be on the ice four times a week, on average. There will also be periodic team events such as team building activities, parent meetings and off ice training. All players are expected to attend.

With competitive hockey, there comes a significant financial commitment. Families should expect to pay an additional \$1200-\$1500 above KMHA registration fees. This money will be used for tournaments, ice times, referees and other team expenses. Beyond this, there will be costs associated with at minimum two of town tournament that must be considered.

Tournament commitments expected this season.

- Sens AAA Shootout Sept 6-8, 2019
- Whitby Thanksgiving Classic Oct 11-13, 2019
- Mississauga Rebel Border Battle Nov 15-17, 2019
- Taylor Hall Cup Classic (Kingston) Jan 10-12, 2020

This year's tryout schedule has not been set. You should expect the dates to be posted at www.KMHA.ca in early August. I will contact each family to confirm tryout times. The team will be selected by me with detailed input from experienced, independent evaluators from both inside and outside of KMHA. The team will be looking for players with strong foundational individual skills that work hard and are willing to learn.

In summary, I believe that hockey is the greatest game on earth and it is to be enjoyed and that development comes with working hard, being discipline and having fun.

In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the Major Atom AA team for the 2019-2020 season, please feel free to contact me at tzanatta@hotmail.com

Have a great summer and I will see you in September!

Terry Zanatta
Head Coach
Kanata Blazers Major Atom AA 2019-2020

