



## **Kanata Minor Hockey Association**

*Creating a Stronger Community Through Minor Hockey*



**Welcome to the 2017-18 hockey season!**

**My name is Ryan Kealey and I am honored and excited to be taking on the role of head coach for the Major Novice A rep team this year. I am very passionate about the game of hockey and believe I can pass along what I've learned from my 30+ years of hockey experience to our young Kanata players. I have been a part of the Kanata Minor Hockey Association for the past 3 years, most recently as head coach of the Novice House A team and two years as an assistant coach in the Initiation Program.**

**My coaching philosophy will be based on developing fundamental skills. When young athletes are working hard, focused and listening they will become better hockey players which will also produce a fun atmosphere. I'll work to achieve this by creating upbeat and strategic practice plans that work on the developing skills and tactics of players at the Novice level. Players at this age need to develop the fundamentals while having the message positively reinforced and I will do so consistently throughout the year.**

**For evaluations/try outs I will be looking for strong skaters, hard workers, competitiveness, good listeners and players who show a willingness to never quit. My team will play an attacking brand of hockey in all three zones along with strong positional play. During the tryouts players will be evaluated on their performance including skating and individual skills during the on ice sessions as well as game play during inter squad/exhibition games. Evaluations of players will be completed by non-parent independent evaluators to ensure a fair and transparent process. The dates and times for tryouts will be posted on the KMHA website (<http://kmha.ca/>) later this summer. I encourage all who tryout to play with intensity and an abundance of energy!**

**This upcoming season's time and financial commitment will be significant. You can expect, on average 3-5 sessions per week throughout the entire season. This will consist of 1-2 games as well as 2-3 practices. Our practices will focus on age appropriate drills for the Novice level players and will be upbeat, fast and fun! I understand that family obligations will come into play throughout the season but please know that players are expected to attend all team events. As mentioned above there will be a significant financial commitment as well. Each player selected will be required to pay a team fee of approximately \$1,100.00. This is in addition to the KMHA registration fee and try-out fee. Sponsorships are currently being sought to help alleviate the costs as well as fundraising opportunities throughout the year.**

**The tournament schedule for the upcoming season will include the following:**

- **Capital Gold Rush Sensplex – September 15-17, 2017**
- **Kingston Canadians Tournament – October 20-22, 2017**
- **Pickering “Bring your AA game” – November 3-5, 2017**
- **Holiday Classic Sensplex – December 15-17, 2017**

**Should anyone have any questions regarding the Major Novice A rep team for the 2017-18 season I can be contacted at [ryan.kealey27@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.kealey27@gmail.com) . Have a great spring and summer and I'll see you in August.**

**Ryan Kealey  
Head Coach  
Kanata Blazers Major Novice A**