



2016-17 Kanata Blazers – Minor Midget B

Hello Players and families,

Welcome back to hockey season! As try-outs quickly approach, I wanted to take the opportunity to briefly introduce myself and our plans for the upcoming season. My name is Jason Gadde and I have the privilege of coaching the Kanata Blazers Minor Midget B Hockey Club this season as a non-parent. I have been involved with KMHA in coaching for the past 10 years and hockey for over 35 years. As a coach, I put strong emphasis on skill development while developing an understanding of the game. I place a high-priority on a “team first” positive attitude and strive to keep the game fun and enjoyable for the players.

There is no room on this team for negativity nor will it be tolerated. We're all here to improve, learn and to compete to the best of our abilities and have a good time doing so.

Here are some of the qualities that will be sought for the players of the Club:

- possesses advanced individual technical skills (players - skating, shooting, passing / goaltenders – balance, skating, save execution, puck awareness)
- ability to properly read and react to situational game play
- assertive on the ice and aggressive on the puck
- possess a strong work ethic and effort levels
- brings a positive “team first” attitude
- demonstrates a disciplined approach to the game
- provides a strong commitment to the Club and self-improvement
- demonstrates high level of respect to everyone involved in the game
- the player must be coachable

Commitments

Expectation – It is understood that other interests or activities do not conflict with our team activities. Our Club's activities take priority over the others. All team events are mandatory. Occasional family reasons and education events may take a priority above hockey with Coach's advanced approval however part-time jobs, completing school homework, finishing a project or studying for a test are not valid excuses for missing a team activity. Players will continue to learn time management and responsibility. Players will always strive to maintain high educational standards.

Cost - Team fees are expected to be under **\$1500 per player** above KMHA registration fees and may be offset through team sponsorships and fundraising. Team fees will be collected through a monthly payment structure over the first 4 months weighted with higher payment amounts in the first couple months. This is to offset the majority of the expenses due towards the beginning of the season. This does not include associated tournaments costs or uniform costs. See **Equipment and Dress and Travel** below for additional costs.



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Time - You can **expect an average of 3-4 times a week** dedicated for on and off ice activities. Players are to arrive in the dressing room 1 hour prior to games and 45 minutes prior to practices. Occasional arrival times may be earlier as notified.

Travel - Travel is another major aspect in competitive hockey. League games can range from Carleton Place to Rockland to Vankleek Hill. Please see tournaments below. You should expect a limited number of out-of-town extended player development sessions consisting of 2-3 hours on ice and additional off ice sessions. In the past a bus was rented for such transportation costing around \$30 per player outside of team budget.

Equipment and Dress – Players must wear properly fitted and approved equipment throughout the year. My preference for the players on game days are:

- Collared shirts with ties, dress pants and shoes along (possible team jackets).
- Players are to change into warm-up clothing at the rink.
- 2 pairs of game socks will also be required (home & away).
- These items are outside of team budget.

Tentative Tournaments and Events

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| 1. October 7-9 | Peterborough, ON | Clearview Resort |
| 2. October 21-23 | Cumberland, ON | |
| 3. November 4-5 | Clarkson University tour – Potsdam, NY | Hampton Inn Potsdam |
| 4. Dec 2-4 | Kingston, ON | Residence Inn by Marriott |
| 5. January 6-8 | Kanata, ON | |

*** Tournaments could start on Thursday evenings or Friday mornings and/or require travel time. Players may miss some school.

Try-outs

- I put together a team of non-parent and non-KMHA evaluators with strong hockey backgrounds that will assist in player selection and formation of the team
- Ice times will be posted and updated frequently on the KMHA website. Check back often.
- Dressing rooms and access to them are for players only; Parents, family and friends must avoid these areas.
- Arrive early for your sessions. Be ready to take to the ice 15 minutes ahead of schedule.
- Tryouts begin as you arrive to the rink. Act accordingly on and off the ice.
- Players are to wear full equipment and bring their own water bottles to all tryout sessions.
- Tryouts may also include off-ice components such as fitness evaluations and/or player interviews.
- Expect releases after each session.



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- I reserve the discretion to place players at any position throughout tryouts as well as the season.
- I will assume that all those in attendance for try-outs are competing for a spot on the team. I ask that you inform me if you have other intentions ahead of tryouts to avoid difficult situations.

I'm expecting a very competitive and high paced tryout and look forward to seeing everyone very soon. I know that we are going to have a great season of hockey, a lot of fun and great times. I can't wait to begin. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through the KMHA website (<http://kmha.ca/contact-kmha-rep-coach/>).

Enjoy the rest of your summer. I look forward to getting started shortly.

Good luck.

Jason Gadde
Coach – 2016-17 Kanata Blazers Minor Midget B