



## Kanata Minor Hockey Association

*Creating a Stronger Community Through Minor Hockey*



My name is Mark De Verno and I'm honoured to be coaching the U11A team. I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome your player back to hockey!

### About Me

Coaching and teaching have been a significant part of my life. I've had the privilege head coaching the last five years in KMHA, including three in the competitive program. Prior to this, I've taught children overseas for 5 years in Japan, as well as karate to students of all ages.

### Coaching Philosophy

The U11 cohort is in special time and place. They are at the peak age for the skill development and yet we are transitioning late back to full-ice hockey. The team will be following Hockey Canada's [Long Term Development Plan](#), which is a balance of skills and gameplay. Athlete's will learn how to play as part of a team, and not just as individuals.

Players are expected to show great respect for everyone involved with the game, teammates, opponents, referees, coaches, and parents. They are also expected to work hard, be a good teammate, and have a positive attitude. We'll have a ton of fun improving and working as a team.

### Season Plan

The commitment will be 4-5 times per week including games, practices, and dryland. Attendance is mandatory to the best of the ability of the family.

We'll be attending 4-5 tournaments, with at least one being out of town in the very early season. One of the tournaments will be the Silver Stick, which I had the pleasure of coaching an International Semi-Final team pre-COVID.

Families can expect team fees of approximately \$1300-\$1500 depending on the level of fundraising and sponsorships we achieve. These fees do not include registration or tryout fees.

### Tryouts

Players are expected to be competing for a spot from the outset. There will be a team of 4 or more independent evaluators to help select the team. I'm looking for players who are coachable, respectful, driven to compete.

Further information concerning the tryouts will be communicated in the near future. Please check the website ([www.kmha.ca](http://www.kmha.ca)) for details.

I'm happy to answer any questions and can be contacted at [mdeverno@hotmail.com](mailto:mdeverno@hotmail.com).

Have a great summer and keep your stick on the ice!

Mark De Verno  
Head Coach  
U11A  
Kanata Blazers

