Welcome to the 2019-20 hockey season! My name is Stephen Perkins and I am excited to have the honour of coaching the Kanata Blazers Major Bantam B team this season.

I have been volunteering with KMHA for the past 9 years in various capacities including coach, assistant coach, and trainer. I have never missed playing a season of hockey since I was 5-years-old. I look forward to it every year, and I hope to contribute to the players continued passion for hockey throughout the upcoming season and beyond.

Philosophy & Player Expectations:

My coaching philosophy is to ensure the players enjoy the game of hockey, having fun while they continue to grow and develop as hard-working players and as courteous and respectful teammates in a competitive environment. I believe in open and clear communication between all team coaches and volunteers, players and parents.

My expectations of the players are to work hard, always bring a positive attitude and their best effort to the team, and always respect everyone involved both off and on the ice. With the support of the whole team and volunteers, we will provide the players with a positive, safe, fun and respectful environment.

Evaluations & Tryouts:

Tryouts for Major Bantam B will commence at the end of August/Labour Day weekend and all players who are interested are encouraged to attend. Tryouts will be conducted with the assistance of experienced third-party evaluators and coaches. All players will be evaluated on their skating, teamwork, game-play and compete level. I will be looking for players who not only show strong hockey skills, but who are also excellent listeners, positive team players, hard workers, and who show passion and potential to continually improve long after the tryout process has closed. The dates and times for tryouts will be posted on the KMHA website at: www.kmha.ca, and I will be contacting families once I have further details and information confirming tryouts as well.

Season at a Glance & Tournaments:

The season will begin with tryouts and will continue on through to playoffs which generally begin the second week of February. Players can expect to have an average of 3-5 mandatory team events per week, including practices, games, off-ice conditioning, activities, and other training, etc.

There will be 4-5 tournaments this season, with the following tournaments confirmed at this point:

- September 27-29, 2019: 3rd Annual Capital Blues Hockey Fest, Richcraft Sensplex
- November 1-3, 2019: 70th Annual Shriners Charity Tournament, Belleville, ON

- December 12-15, 2019: Green Mountain Avalanche Tournament, Jay Peak, VT
- January 3-5, 2020: 16th Annual Capital Winter Classic, Bell Sensplex
- TBD a 5th possible tournament may be added

The financial commitment for each player (in addition to registration and tryout fees paid to KMHA) will be approximately \$1,600 for the season.

I know that I will be investing a fair amount of time and energy into developing the team and providing the best all-around hockey experience I can for the players this season. I also know this involves a lot of time and commitment from the players and their families. If you have any questions regarding the information I've provided so far for the Major Bantam B team's upcoming season, please do not hesitate to reach out and contact me. I look forward to seeing everyone at tryouts!

Cheers, Stephen Perkins, Head Coach Kanata Blazers Major Bantam B coachsteve.kanata@gmail.com 613-296-8776