



Kanata Minor Hockey Association

Creating a Stronger Community Through Minor Hockey



Dear Parents and Players,

Welcome to the 2023-24 hockey season. My name is Chris Robinson and I am excited and looking forward to coaching the Kanata Blazers U16 AA team. Below I have included some information about me, my coaching philosophy, the evaluation and tryout process and expectations for the upcoming season.

I have been playing hockey for as long as I can remember and have been involved with various KMHA teams as on-ice helper, trainer, assistant and head coach since 2013. I have enjoyed my time and learned a lot over the course these seasons from both the players and coaches and hope to bring the lessons I've learned to this team. It is an honour to be given the opportunity to coach this team and I look forward to another great experience this season.

My coaching philosophy is one that is focused on helping every player achieve their full potential both on and off the ice in positive and fun environment. This philosophy is one that is based on:

- **Attitude:** Bring a positive attitude to all team activities and have a willingness to learn and improve at all times.
- **Effort:** Give 100% effort on and off the ice for all practices and games
- **Respect:** Coaches, Teammates, Officials and Opponents

My objective is to provide each player with the opportunity to improve their hockey skills through well designed practices that focus not only on individual skills but also team play and tactics, as well as providing everyone an opportunity to play in different games scenarios. Hockey is a team sport and my objective is to ensure every player on this team is provided the opportunity to contribute to the team's success. I also strive to provide the players with the opportunity to voice their opinions and suggestions in order to give them the opportunity to take a leadership/ownership role on the ice and in the dressing room. I strongly believe that the lessons taught through minor hockey should not only be focused on improving a player's ability as a hockey player but also improve skills that are transferable to life outside the rink. As a coach I feel that I am well organized and come to the rink prepared with a strong work ethic. I do have a high expectation from my players to bring the same enthusiasm and work ethic on the ice whether it be a practice or a game. With that said I strive to ensure that I maintain a positive attitude towards all the players to allow them to get the most out of the season, grow as a team and at the same time have a great time along the way.

This year's tryout schedule has not yet been confirmed but will be posted on the KMHA website as soon as it is available later this summer. I will be looking for players that have a high hockey IQ, work hard with a strong level of compete both with and without the puck, have a positive attitude, are coachable with a willingness to learn and are team players. The evaluation process will consist of a mixture of intersquad and exhibition games. The players will be evaluated by an evaluation panel that will consist of non-parent evaluators to ensure a fair and objective measurement of all players.

Over the course of the season players and families should expect to commit to 3-5 team activities per week (on-ice practices, dryland training and games). In addition we will also compete in 3 to 4 tournaments, 1-2 of which will be out of town. The tournament dates will be communicated once registration has been finalized.

The financial commitment for families (in addition to KMHA registration and tryout costs) will be approximately \$2250- \$2750 depending on the level of fundraising or sponsorship. These fees will be used for ice times, officials, tournaments and other team activities/requirements.

Should you have any questions regarding the U16 AA team for 2023-24, please don't hesitate to contact me by email kanatablazersu16aa@gmail.com

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you all at the rink.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Robinson', written over a horizontal line.

Chris Robinson
Head Coach
Kanata Blazers U16 AA