

Hello Players and Parents,

My name is Eric Bennett, and I'm excited to be the Head Coach for the U11 B Competitive Team for the 2025/26 season. Like many of you, hockey has been a lifelong passion of mine, and I've been involved with the game in some way since I was a kid.

Most recently, I've had the pleasure of coaching within KMHA, serving as both a head coach and assistant coach for my older son's teams. I also have a younger son who will be starting his hockey journey this year. Being involved in minor hockey over the past few years has been very rewarding. Watching young players take on challenges and grow—not just as athletes, but as teammates and individuals—is an unbeatable experience.

My goal as a coach is for the players to have fun, by working hard and playing the game with pace and purpose. We'll be working to achieve this by building a positive team environment both on and off the ice, developing players skills in line with the Hockey Canada Pathway Program, emphasizing good practice habits that carry into game play, and helping players gain a knowledge of hockey so that they can begin to recognize what they need to do to improve every practice and game.

I am looking for players who are coachable, committed, respectful teammates and opponents, practice and play with effort, and are wanting to improve individual skills along with team development. Players can expect to take part in team activities a minimum of 3 to 4 times a week, this would include on-ice practice, dryland training and games. The goal is to make every session fun, challenging, and something the players look forward to.

Joining a competitive team requires a strong commitment from both players and families. Team fees are expected to range from \$1,800 to \$2,000, in addition to the KMHA registration fee. A detailed team budget will be shared and may include fundraising opportunities.

The Team can expect to take part in 4 tournaments, 2 away and 2 local. The specific tournaments will be confirmed but are still TBD.

Tryout information will be posted on the KMHA website and will include evaluations of individual skills and gameplay. Please follow any KMHA communication for more information.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the season as much as I am. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Best, Eric Bennett Head Coach KMHA U11 B