

Hello Players and Parents,

My name is Stephen Swan, and I am thrilled to be coaching the U10A Competitive hockey team for the upcoming season. Hockey has been an integral part of my life; I've been playing the game since I was young, and my passion for it runs incredibly deep. This lifelong involvement has given me a comprehensive understanding of the sport, from its fundamental skills to its strategic nuances.

Building on my playing experience, I have also dedicated several years to coaching. Last season, I had the rewarding experience of leading the U9A Tier 1 team. Prior to that, I gained valuable insights and experience through several years of assistant coaching roles at various levels, both in Boys and Girls hockey. These experiences have shaped my coaching philosophy and approach to player development.

This season promises to be an exciting one for our team. We will be participating in **two local tournaments** and **two away tournaments**, providing our players with a range of competitive experiences and the opportunity to test their skills against different teams. Families can expect an additional commitment of \$1500-\$2000 in order to satisfy our team budget. These additional funds will go towards purchasing extra ice, investing in skill development from outside coaches, paying for tournaments, etc.

As your coach, I am looking for players who demonstrate a strong work ethic, both during our practices and in every game situation. I value players who are good listeners, eager to learn and improve, and who share a genuine passion for the game of hockey. A positive attitude and a commitment to teamwork are essential qualities I seek in each player.

My primary goal for the year extends beyond on-ice performance. While I am dedicated to developing skilled and competitive hockey players, my overarching aim is to help these young athletes grow as individuals. I believe that the discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship learned through hockey are invaluable life lessons. Therefore, my focus will be on fostering a positive and supportive environment where each player can become a better player *and* a better person.

I am incredibly enthusiastic about the opportunity to lead this team and work with dedicated young athletes.

I look forward to the possibility of sharing my passion for hockey with your child and embarking on a successful and rewarding season together.

Stephen Swan  
Head Coach  
U10A