



## ***RDGHA Competitive Program***

My name is Martin Leroux, and I am honoured to serve as the head coach of the U15 Russell Coyotes competitive team for the 2026–27 season. My motivation is simple: to pay it forward by helping young athletes develop a lasting passion for a sport that gives so much in return.

Accountability, communication, compete, discipline, fun, and respect are at the core of my coaching philosophy. I expect players to practice with purpose through age-appropriate training that elevates their compete level and challenges them to think strategically.

To reach their full potential, athletes need a healthy environment that supports learning and growth. Player development is not one-size-fits-all, and I am committed to a tailored approach that emphasizes strong relationships and fosters trust among players, coaches, and parents.

In addition to coaching the U13 Coyotes over the past several seasons, I served as head coach of the EO Cobras (AA) from 2020 to 2022, and as an assistant coach with the EO Wild (AAA) for the past four seasons. The experience I've gained working alongside dedicated athletes and experienced coaches has helped shape and broaden my approach to coaching.

While winning remains a priority, it will never come at the expense of long-term player and team development. Too often, I've seen athletes lose interest—or leave the sport entirely—due to coaches who define success too narrowly.

### **Season plan**

#### **Phase 1 – Preparation & Evaluation**

Tryouts; identification of coaching staff; exhibition games; coach, parent, and player meetings (team and individual); team-building activities; tournament(s); and practices focused on skill development, foundational team concepts, and confidence building.

#### **Phase 2 – Development & Competition**

Regular season play; tournament(s); mid-season player meetings; and practices emphasizing skill refinement, confidence, position-specific development, and team tactics. Continued focus on fostering a strong sense of belonging and team culture, while mentally preparing for Phase 3.

#### **Phase 3 – Peak Performance for PPP**

Playdowns, playoffs, and provincials. The team should be performing at its highest level during this stage of the season. Concludes with a year-end team activity and exit meetings.

I am excited for the season ahead and I look forward to seeing you at tryouts.

Sincerely

Martin Leroux

