**Philip Samojlenko U15-C 2022-2023**

Dear U15 players and parents,

My name is Phil Samojlenko and I am honoured to have been chosen as the head coach of KGHA’s competitive team at the U15-C level for the 2022-2023 season. The KGHA has an extremely strong volunteer base and coaching community and I would like to say thank you to the executive committee for putting their trust in me to develop our players at the U-15 level.

In this letter I will outline my philosophy, the tryout and selection process, the expected commitment and anticipated schedule, as well as the fees associated with the program.

**Philosophy**

As a head coach, I focus on player development and personal growth while nurturing a love of the game. I emphasize our connection to the greater hockey community and our responsibility to the city and the community we play in. I expect a commitment to growth from our players and, in turn, I am also personally committed to improving my coaching skillset through mentorship and certification.

Looking ahead to the coming season, the focus will be on foundational skills and decision making. We will work on technical skills, individual and team tactics, team systems, and individual and team strategies that are appropriate for the U15 level as well as making in-game decisions based on various inputs.

**Tryout and Selection Process**

Tryouts for U15-B and C will take place at the following times:
**Goalies only**: Monday April 18 from 6-7pm at CSP-Kinburn
Sunday May 22 from 3-5pm at KRC-A
Tuesday May 24 from 5:30-7:30pm at CSP-Kinburn
Thursday May 26 from 6:30-8:30pm at KRC-B
Friday May 27 from 5-7pm at CRC-A
Saturday May 28 from 4-6pm at KRC-A

Tryouts will be a mixture of skill-based sessions and scrimmages. Players will be chosen based on measurable criteria that evaluate attitude, skating, hockey sense, puck control, and compete level.

**Expected commitment**

We will play 20 league games and additional exhibition games throughout the season. There will be typically two hours of practice a week, both on and off ice sessions. As a result, you should expect 3-4 hockey commitments per week. In addition, you can expect to play in 4-5 tournaments (most likely Kanata in November, Gloucester in December, Toronto Leaside in March, and Provincials in April).

We will have affiliates available from U13-C and U15 house to replace players who cannot attend practices or games throughout the season. I am committed to using affiliates throughout the season, placing an emphasis on developing all the players in KGHA, not just those on U15-C. Affiliates are not eligible for playoffs so keep that in mind when planning family trips in February and March.

We will have celebrations planned for the World Girls’ Ice hockey weekend in October and we will also enter a submission for the Chevrolet Good Deeds Cup. Submissions will be made in late December to early January so start thinking of ways we can improve our community through the game!

Players will be expected to abide by the fair play agreements as well as the team attendance and arrival policy and the team dress code (players and coaches).

**Fees**

In addition to the tryout fee and the registration fee, we will collect team fees to cover additional costs not covered by registration fees including additional ice time, tournaments, and other on or off-ice activities. We will seek sponsors and other fundraising opportunities to help offset those costs. Total fees can reach $1,000-$1,300, depending on a number of factors.

I am looking forward to seeing all the new and familiar faces in the coming weeks as we move through sort outs and into a fun and successful season.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything contained in this letter, please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Thank you,

Philip Samojlenko
Head coach, U15-C
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