**Casey Crupi U15 A 2023-2024**

Dear Parents and Players,

My name is Casey Crupi and I am excited to have been selected to coach the U15 A Rangers for the upcoming 2023-2024 season. This year marks my 7th year in the KGHA, and my 2nd year as a head coach. I am very excited to take on this new leadership role and look forward to what the season holds.

**Philosophy**

I thoroughly believe in creating a safe, fun, and positive environment that fosters growth and development. I will ensure the girls and coaches are all treated with respect and positivity. I hope to challenge the girls and help develop not only their skills, but their hockey IQ. I am committed to teaching and developing all key skills set out by Hockey Canada and the KGHA.

I would expect all the coaching staff, players, and parents to be aligned with creating a positive and competitive environment for the girls while working on their skills and tactical plays.

As a former KGHA player myself, I have a unique experience that aligns with these young girls on a personal level. In my KGHA experience, I have always found that the key to a successful season is ensuring the girls develop both on and off the ice. This would include developing communication skills, leadership skills, and working equally well in a team setting as well as independently.

The coaching staff that I am looking to fill after tryouts will include assistant coaches who are positive, have good hockey knowledge, are caring and can help foster a healthy learning environment.

**Commitment**

This season I am looking to have 3-4 mandatory hockey commitments per week. This will include off ice and on ice training. As the schedule comes out, the team RAMP app will remain updated. I am looking to have a set date every week in the summer for your girls to get together for team bonding, and off ice training. More details to come on this.

The priority for me for your girls will always be family, school and then hockey (in that order). If there are any commitments or events that come up with family or school, please treat that as priority over hockey. I believe in a healthy balance between family time, personal time, and hockey.

There are no call-ups permitted for playoffs and playdowns, so please keep that in mind if considering family trips in February and March.

My expectation for your girls this year is that they bring a healthy positive attitude to the games and practices, strong work ethic, drive and the ability to support teammates when needed. The same expectations are also to be upheld by parents and coaches. I believe that if we all commit to fostering a positive developmental space, we will have a great and fun season for all.

**Season and Tournaments schedule**

Our season will consist of 20 regular season games, playoffs and playdowns.

I am looking to schedule 2 away tournaments (likely in Toronto) as well as 2 local tournaments (including the KGHA tournament). We will plan for a Provincial run in March/April as well as play downs and playoffs. I am hoping to have the least amount of school disruptions as possible, as well as considering the girls’ social lives on weekends.

**Team Fees**

Team fees will be in between $1,500 - $1,800 depending on tournaments selected and the possibility of making Provincials.  These fees are in addition to registration fees.  The team budget will be determined at the beginning of the season and discussed in the parents’ meeting at that time.

I am also a big believer in off ice team bonding. For me, those are the moments that stand out at making this year fun, and memorable. These will be optional, but I am looking to schedule team bonding activities such as bowling, movie night, or any other recommendations. As a kickoff for the season, I am looking to schedule a team bonding activity shortly after tryouts (more details to come).

**Tryouts**

Tryouts will be held at the end of April and beginning of May. All tryouts will be exhibition games against others trying out (more details to come). A link to the schedule and a copy is below:

https://kgha.ca/content/spring-competitive-tryouts

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| Friday, April 28, 2023 | 8:00-10:00pm | Pinecrest Rec |
| Saturday, April 29, 2023 | 4:00-6:00pm | CRC-A |
| Monday, May 1st, 2023 | 7:15pm-8:15pm or 9pm-10pm | CRC-B orCRC A |
| Wednesday, May 5th 2023 | 7:15pm-9:15pm | CRC-B |

I look forward to having a successful, fun, and rewarding season.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Regards,

Casey Crupi

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