

Mike Cross U13AA 2025-2026

Dear Parents and Players,

My name is Mike Cross and I am excited to have been selected to coach the U13AA Rangers for the upcoming 2025-2026 season. This will be my 13th season in the KGHA and the 9th team that I will have the privilege to be head coach.

Philosophy

As a coach, I will ensure that there is a positive and respectful learning environment that will challenge and push the players to reach beyond their goals. I am committed to teaching and developing all key skills set out by Hockey Canada and the KGHA.

I expect all of the coaching staff, players and parents to be committed to a positive, fun, safe and hardworking environment. We will work on technical skills and individual tactics, team tactics, systems and strategies.

Development is the key to success and it goes beyond hockey skills and systems. It should include; interpersonal skills, communication and teambuilding which will strengthen life skills to help them succeed beyond the boards.

The coaching staff, which will be formed after the team is selected, will be picked based on their commitment to bringing a positive and respectful attitude, enthusiasm, strong hockey knowledge, communication skills and willingness to work as a team.

I am looking to build a balanced team of skill, grit and determination. I ask that nobody outworks us, nobody outskates us and put a huge emphasis on the fact that this is a team sport and we are stronger as a unit.

Commitment

You should expect to have about four mandatory hockey commitments per week consisting of both on and off ice sessions. There are no set days for these commitments. Events will be added as ice is allocated and activities booked.

Please expect that any day of the week could have a team related function. Priority is Family, School, Hockey. The commitment to the team should supersede other sports or activities. Black out dates are listed and are good opportunities for other activities.

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

The expectation is that all players will be fully committed to bringing a positive attitude, strong work ethic and a desire to compete on the U13AA Rangers team. The families supporting the players must have the same attitude as well. If we have this commitment and work ethic from all players and families, we will have a fun and successful season.

Season and Tournaments schedule

We expect our season will consist of 22 regular season games, playoffs and playdowns.

We will also compete in 4 tournaments with a potential for a 5th depending on team performance during the season (Provincials). You should expect that 3-4 of these will require weekend travel out of the Ottawa area.

Team Fees

Team fees will be around \$ 2,250 - \$2,500 depending on tournaments selected, fundraising 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.

Tryouts & Evaluations

Tryouts are part of the ongoing evaluation process for team selection. Since a call for coaches went out in December coaches and evaluators have been watching all teams and preparing for tryouts. All factors will be taken into consideration when final selections are made.

Tryouts will be held in April for the AA team. A link to the schedule and a copy is below.

Please note that with 2 hour ice slots split squads are possible. Please check website for start times by player #.

<https://kgha.ca/content/2025-2026---u11---u18--tryout-schedule>

U13AA	Tuesday, April 22nd	5:15 pm – 7:15 pm	Minto Barrhaven - South
	Wednesday, April 23rd	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Bell Sensplex – Broker Link
	Friday, April 25th	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Minto Barrhaven - South

- NOTE: An exhibition game for the final roster is tentatively booked for Sunday, April 27th 11am – 12pm

As per KGHA policy feedback will only be given for the players in the final release and will be given, if requested, by the VP of Competitive. vpcompetitive@kgha.ca

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,

Mike

Mike Cross

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