

My name is **Mike Brown**, and I am both honored and excited to be coaching the **U9 Tier 1 team** this season. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, share my coaching philosophy, and outline what you can expect in the upcoming year.

This will be my **6th consecutive year coaching with KMHA**. As a parent of two players in different age groups within the association, I've had the chance to learn from a variety of coaching styles and mentors, all of which have helped shape my approach today. When I'm not coaching, you can often find me playing hockey myself at rinks across the city.

Coaching Philosophy

My coaching philosophy centers on **development, compete level, and fun**. A key focus this season will be on **developing skating skills**, supported by teaching the basic fundamentals of the game. Just as important, our team culture will be grounded in **respect, accountability, hard work, good sportsmanship, teamwork, and inclusiveness**. I view this season not only as a chance to develop hockey players but also to help teach life lessons that extend beyond the rink.

Of course, one of the most important elements we'll never forget is **fun**. A positive, engaging environment keeps players motivated and families happy.

We'll be following the Hockey Canada U9 Player Pathway, which can be found here:

- Hockey Canada U9 Pathway PDF

Season Overview

Details regarding tryouts will be shared as soon as they are available.

You can expect:

- 3 ice times per week on average
- 3 local tournaments and 1 away tournament
- Team fees in the range of \$2,000-\$2,200 (before any fundraising), in addition to KMHA registration fees

A detailed team budget will be reviewed with parents at the start of the season.

My practices will be fun, fast-paced, well-organized, and challenging. They will emphasize skating development, individual skills, compete drills, safety awareness, and the introduction of age-appropriate team concepts

Wishing you and your family a fantastic summer! I'm looking forward to getting started and seeing everyone in September.

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