



MINOR ATOM “B” - Coach Introduction 2009-2010 Season

Dear Parents and Players:

My name is Corey Villeneuve and I will be coaching the 2009-2010 Ottawa Sting Minor Atom B team. I would like to welcome the parents and players alike to the Minor Atom “A” and “B” tryouts for the Ottawa Sting Minor Hockey Association. This will be the first competitive tryout for your child and we look forward to making it an enjoyable experience in his or her young hockey career.

In order for the players to get off to a good start, I would recommend that each player participate in some form of skating (hockey camp, public skating, power skating, etc.) prior to attending tryouts. Coaches will have a window of opportunity to assess the skill level of each of the players at the tryout. Any ice time a player may enjoy prior to tryouts will enable them to find their on ice comfort level quickly.

All players will be treated equally and be afforded the same opportunity at tryouts to become a member of the Ottawa Sting Minor Atom “B” Team.

Administration:

Upon completion of the Minor Atom “B” tryouts with the establishment of a team roster, parents can expect the following with respect to the administration of the team:

Team Officials

I will be responsible for selecting the staff members of the team consisting of 2 Assistant Coaches, 1 Trainer and a Manager.

Financial Commitment

Parents will be expected to contribute approximately \$1000.00 per player on the team, in addition to the Home Association Registration Fee. Also, fundraising, including the sponsorship opportunities and team fundraising activities may be necessary to offset expenses relating to team activities (ice time, tournaments, clothing, parties etc.). Parents and players will be expected to participate in all team-sanctioned fundraising activities.

Tournaments

Competitive teams are required to register for Tournaments in the summer months or face the possibility of not being accepted in tournaments due to the limited space availability and popularity of the tournaments.

This year, the Minor Atom “B” team will participate in 2 local tournaments and 2 out of town tournaments as follows:

- 1) Empire State Showdown (Rochester, NY) Tournament – October 23-25, 2009 (accepted);
- 2) Bell Sensplex 5th Annual Capital Mid Season Showdown (Ottawa) Tournament – November 27-29, 2009 (accepted);
- 3) Bell Capital Cup (Ottawa) Tournament – December 30-January 3, 2010 (accepted); and
- 4) Verdun National Atom Tournament (Montreal) – February 7, 2010 (pending)

Team Participation:

The players are expected to commit approximately 4 hours per week participating in team practices and scheduled league games. Players are expected to arrive 30 mins in advance of the scheduled practice and 45 mins. in advance of the commencement of a game. The coaching staff will require all parents to vacate the room 10 mins. prior to the commencement of a practice and 15 minutes prior to the commencement of a game. This time will allow the coaching staff to discuss the drills to be performed at the practice and allow the players time for independent thought and pre-game instructions.

Philosophy:

Player Character

On and off the ice our team will be focused on the importance of respect, discipline, sportsmanship and leadership while having fun playing the game. These are not specific skills to hockey, but are considered valuable life skills that will assist your child in his or her development in the years to come.

I will encourage my players to always treat hockey as a game that is to be enjoyed and to be played with exuberance. On the ice, I expect the players to share my enthusiasm when playing and learning the game. I want the players to celebrate their successes and view their disappointments as opportunities to learn and improve.

Coaching

My coaching philosophy is to identify, at an early stage, both areas of strength and weaknesses of individual skill. It is our responsibility to focus on the development of player skills by overcoming weaknesses and enhancing areas of strength. The “Team” is the foremost important aspect of hockey and quality player development is key to achieving a successful Team.

I take the responsibility of coaching your children very seriously and as such I will be very well prepared for each practice and game. Practice plans are developed with a long term approach to teaching players skills. Drills are prepared in anticipation of being introduced, executed and then built upon by adding skill and endurance as the players graduate to higher levels. Effective drills do not have to be extremely complex.

Team systems taught at the Minor Atom level are very basic and need to be repeated in order to achieve successful results.

It has been a priority of mine to promote and facilitate good communication between key participants (players, parents, staff) in order to achieve transparency and successful results.

Finally, hockey is about making friends and having fun. If the players are not having fun or encouraged to have fun, then despite the wins/losses, trophies etc., I will have failed as a coach if your players did not make friends along the way and have fun doing it. More than any other factor, having fun will ensure that players continue to participate by playing the game in the future.

Corey Villeneuve

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