



Hello RMHA Families,

Finally, it's hockey season again! On behalf of the executive, I would like to welcome back all of our returning players and families. We are anticipating that hockey will be back to normal this hockey season after a couple of hard seasons due to COVID. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new players and families. We look forward to a very successful season!

Our goal as a club is to provide the best hockey experience for the largest number of players, given the parameters we have to work within (ice slots, ice allocation, demands of teams, and other organizations that use MAC). Given that, I can tell you that the executive has put in countless hours of effort to provide your player with the highest level of hockey development.

Our biggest goals this year include:

- Learning and improving from years previous
- Emphasis on developing hockey players with character
- Having fun while working hard and learning the great game of hockey

This year there will be some changes as we learned from last year's rushed start. We start with every child getting their legs back underneath them with a couple of ice times (labelled conditioning ice). Secondly, every child U9 and up will be given an evaluation jersey, blue or gold, with a number. These will be used for the two evaluation sessions where the players will be run through a set of drills by an independent, third-party company. This will be followed by one evaluation game, blue vs gold. We understand that some kids shine in drills, but shy away in games and vice versa. The final change is that everyone will be asked as they enter the 1st evaluation ice if they are interested in Rep or House hockey. Additionally, there will be no letters handed out until final cuts from the Rep tryouts and everyone interested in Rep will be welcomed.

The evaluation process, development, quality of play, and equal team selections at all levels, are improving. This was evident in our success as an organization last season where all RMHA House league teams were in the top five of every division, as well as our Rep B teams! The amount of our players that are leaving RMHA to play AA and AAA, although it is tough on our association, is great to see. We are proud to see them continue to develop and play at the level that matches their skill set.

This is a true testament to our great volunteer coaches that develop these players. All organizations have players that leave for a variety of reasons during the offseason and the organization hopes that we can continue to add more new players than the total lost. In a smaller organization such as ours, it has always been a tight balancing act to keep enrollment up and team sizes normal.

As the VP of RMHA, I realize the awesome opportunity and responsibility to help young players chase their dreams and develop a lifelong love of hockey. It wasn't that long ago, okay maybe it was, when I was a young player and hoped to play for a program that had exceptionally qualified coaches with a professional approach, that could ensure me the best hockey experience possible. I am committed to

leading an outstanding organization that will deliver on its promises and set the standard for top-notch hockey training. In saying that, we should all thank our great coaches. They are such a vital part of our success and we are fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented group. Coaches, your commitment to developing our children to be the best they can be both on and off the ice is very much appreciated. Finally, the strength and success of our organization lie within the participation of our membership. I strongly encourage all members to volunteer and try to contribute to the organization in any way possible. We are always looking for volunteers and there are many opportunities to help on and off the ice. RMHA helps with training and resources to assist you. Reach out to your convenor or me and we will help get you started. It is my plan that this letter will be the first of several throughout the season. I will do my best to keep everyone up to date with the goings on of the organization. On behalf of the RMHA Executive and all our volunteers, I wish every player and every family in RMHA a rewarding and fun-filled season.

GO Wolves Go!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kyle Schroeder".

Kyle Schroeder
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