



Oct 27, 2023

Regarding: Junior Coach Mentor

Coach Director: Darren Walker

This directive outlines the Junior Coach Program, which is an initiative created for the development of youth members into leadership roles within the Fort McMurray Minor Hockey Association.

Players registered in the U18 division with FMMHA can apply to the Junior Coach Program, thus providing valuable assistance to coaches in running efficient and effective teams. Volunteering as a Junior Coach provides those members an opportunity to acquire valuable experience in learning leadership skills while providing service to the community. This along with acting as a role model to younger players are two objectives of FMMHA.

To nurture the development of young leaders within Fort McMurray Minor Hockey so that they may continue to learn, grow and contribute to our association now and in the future is in line with our vision of *"Hockey for Life"*.

Program objectives:

- Help our U18 FMMHA players achieve their NCCP Coach Level 2 certification over the course of the season
 - Provide an opportunity for Junior Coaches to practice their coaching skills with a FMMHA team during practices and games
 - Satisfy their Community Service Requirement for secondary school graduation •
- And to be considered for a coaching position with FMMHA in the future

The FMMHA Junior Coaches will be required to:

- Registered with FMMHA as a U18 player
- Required to take the *Respect in Sport - Activity Leader* online course
- Required to take the *Safety* online course



- Attend coach development sessions put on by FMMHA throughout the season as directed by the Coach Development Chair
- Attend a minimum of 50% of the practices and games of the team they are assigned to • Lead specific stations/drills for these teams under the supervision of a head coach • Take direction and mentorship from a head coach

Jr. Coaches Selection Process

An application and selection process for Jr. Coaches will take place in preseason. 10 Applications will be chosen based on the following criteria:

- U18 aged players registered to FMMHA
- Player is currently attending secondary school (high school)
- Player is committed to the program and states that they are available to the team they are assigned
- A recommendation from last season's coach regarding the applicant's ability to succeed in the program

Jr Coach placement guidelines:

- Division directors will nominate experienced head coaches as mentors for their divisions
- Coach development chair will match mentors to selected Junior coaches creating a one to one relationship
- Junior Coach will be assigned to the Hockey Alberta roster of the same team as their mentor as an assistant coach
- Mentor coaches must have a clear plan on how they will help the growth and development of a Jr. Coach, and able to discuss their plan if approached by FMMHA's Development team
- Jr. Coach may not participate with a team other than their own until their request has been approved by FMMHA
- Jr. Coaches must wear a helmet and gloves on ice as required by all coaches

Contact Darren Walker @ wblcoachdev@fmmha.com if you have interest in this program.