



To: Current and Prospective KC Mavs Travel Families
From: Jim Krueger and DJ Wiles

Thank you to everyone who has reached out to us over the past few days with kind words and enthusiasm. This will be a fun and exciting challenge for us. Hearing all the positive support has been uplifting. We want to thank Dean Nelson for laying the ground work in the KC Mavs travel program. We appreciate all his time and effort creating great opportunities for players and families. We will be releasing more information in the coming weeks but want to initially reach out with some important items for everyone.

Travel Tryouts and Pre-Tryout Training Camp – Pre-tryout training camp will be held for Squirts-Midgets. Dates, times and more specifics will be available soon.

Body Checking Clinic - We will be holding a body checking clinic for the bantam group July 21-22. This will be held on a weekend and will focus not only on the proper way to give a body check, but more importantly how to receive a body check from an opponent. Specific info to come.

Coaches – Our coaching line-up will be available as soon as we can. We are talking with current and potential new coaches as we type this, looking for the best fits at each age group, from Squirts to Midgets. Our goal is to have a complete non-parent coaching line up for each age group.

Fundraising – We are in the opening stages of organizing a golf tournament fundraiser for the travel program as well as implementing fundraising into our travel program more as a whole. We both grew up with the understanding that hockey and fundraising go hand in hand. More to come on this as we move forward. But this is something that we can all do together to help make travel hockey an option for everyone who wants to. If you are interested in volunteering to be on the fundraising committee please email us at dwiles0624@gmail.com or jkrueger1778@live.com. The target date for the golf tournament is Saturday July 28th!

Goalies – One of the 1st things we are starting to tackle is growing our goalies within the association. We are looking at many options but a big one is having an emphasis on how our coaches are coaching goalies. With it being a specified position, it can be hard for the best coaches to come up with a game plan that will incorporate some goalie work. We want to educate the goalies and make them part of every drill so they are getting the most out of every ice session. We also want to motivate and educate them on the position. Not just be target practice. Much more to come on this as this is a real important task for us to get ahead of.

Over the past 3+ years, travel hockey in this area has exploded with talent. We have won 6 Missouri State Titles and have been the runner up 4 other times. Each year the skill level gets better and better and the drive internally from the players to improve from one practice to the next is remarkable. We are looking forward to this new opportunity to continue to take hockey in the KCYHA to the next level and beyond.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have along the way.

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