



Dear Pee wee Hockey Families,

My name is **Scott Bowlby** and I will be the Pee wee AA Head Coach this season. I'd like to welcome everyone to the Edina Pee wee program. For those of you who were involved last year welcome back and for those new to Pee wees, I'm glad you are here.

This season I am very excited to have **Zach Budish, Garth Dietrich, Andrew Dietrich and Craig Johnson** as assistant coaches. In addition to my coaches, I have also put together a group of non-parent evaluators to help us with our tryout. This group has done this with me for several years and has a solid understanding of how to evaluate the athletes at this age. As evaluators, our number one priority will be to make sure all the athletes are given fair opportunities to showcase their skills and have been evaluated thoroughly as a hockey player. In the end, all we want is for all the athletes to be placed on teams that are appropriate for their skill and commitment level. I am well aware that tryouts can be a stressful time for many families (including coaches). For this reason, I take my responsibility as the Pee wee AA Head Coach very seriously and I will do everything possible to ensure every athlete is treated with fairness and respect. When everything is said and done - I know the only thing that we all want is for the athletes to have A GREAT EXPERIENCE.

In preparation for the upcoming tryouts, I would like to offer a list of recommendations for the players and parents to consider. I hope that these recommendations will help everyone get through the next two weeks with minimal headaches.

Parents:

- Please make sure your athlete is dressed and ready to go on the ice **10 minutes** before their scheduled sessions
- Please be sure to notify one of the level liaisons (contact info on the EHA Pee wee Page) of any injuries, sickness or absences as soon as possible
- Please be a fan and encourage all of the athletes. **Encourage them to work hard and HAVE FUN!**

Players:

- **Each player is to bring their green and white Edina jerseys (or other generic green and white jerseys if you don't have an Edina jersey) with their name on the back to all tryout sessions.** If a player does not have a green and a white jersey, he should borrow them and use tape and markers to put his name on the back. If a player cannot borrow the jerseys, they should contact a Board Liaison in advance.
- **DO NOT** wear any AAA jerseys or socks. It is time for all of us to be **HORNETS!**
- Please be prepared to play multiple positions as the evaluators may want to evaluate different aspects of your hockey skills; when selecting a team, it is important to identify players that are able to adapt to changing situations.
- **The most important thing to remember is to show up to the rink with a positive attitude and be prepared to work as hard as you can. Hockey is a game of mistakes and even the greatest players in the world make them. You will more than likely make a lot of mistakes during the tryouts and the only thing you can do is to keep working hard and do your best. Remember, HOCKEY is FUN!**

The tryout process will consist of two grading sessions on both TUESDAY SEPT 16TH & THURSDAY SEPT 18th. After the grading sessions the athletes will be divided into four groups according to skill level. We will then have four tryout sessions over the next 10 days. Teams will be posted after session 4.

The coaches will move players from one group to another as we feel is necessary to properly evaluate everyone's capabilities. The groups will be posted on the website after each session. (See *Important Note*" below). Movement does not mean that any player has made a given team, nor does it mean that they have been cut from any team. **Please do not call commissioners, liaisons or coaches with questions about group placement.**

We simply want to see the players in different situations, under different conditions and with different players.

***SCHEDULING NOTE:** Some players from Group 1 will be asked to attend a tryout scrimmage vs OMG on Wednesday Sept. 24th- 7:00-8:30 at Braemar East. We will send an email with this list of players to attend after session 2.

IMPORTANT NOTE: During the grading and try-out process, the EHA website will be the key source of changes to groups. Please check it periodically and if you notice that your player is not listed, call the liaison. REMEMBER, group assignment is not guarantee of selection to any specific team. Depending on final player numbers, projected teams will be 1 AA, 1 A, 2 B1, 3 B2 and 2C. Note that this is subject to change. The final tryout is Sunday September 28th, **Final teams for the AA through B2 teams will be posted By Sunday evening.**

If you have any questions regarding the tryouts, please be sure to contact the EHA's **Peewee Liaison Connor Houlihan** connor.houlihan@edinahockey.org or 612-616-9390 & **Bryan Trottier** trot0030@umn.edu or 612-670-7661 Their contact information can be found on the EHA website.

Sincerely,

Scott Bowlby
Peewee AA Head Coach