



## U11 – Will McMurray

Welcome to the 2020-21 Hockey Season! My name is Will McMurray and I am very excited to take on the MTK U11 Head Coach position for the upcoming season. I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce (or reinforce for returning families) what kind of coach and season you can expect by outlining my coaching philosophy and goals for the season.

My coaching philosophy and overall approach are intentionally simple: Kids who play hockey at this level love the sport - don't screw that up for them. Despite all the pressures, worry and fear that abound in kids lives, their favorite part of the day should always be when they get to play hockey.

Practices will be well organized, focused and high tempo. The skills taught will come from the Hockey Canada Long-Term Player Development Model with even the most basic drills maximizing skating, creativity and decision making. Use of battle drills and small area games will be frequent to reinforce newly learned skills and to reward players for their focus during practice.

During gameplay, there will be no penalty kill or power play specialists. Players at U11 will learn to play multiple positions and be exposed to all game situations so their hockey IQ, maturity and confidence grows during the season. The coaches will keep interaction with the players positive and tap into players competitive nature to challenge, motivate and push individuals when needed.

As the summer progresses, we will learn of whatever changes are mandated following COVID-19. Until then, please keep yourselves healthy and I hope all U11 players are looking forward to tryouts and a great hockey season this Fall!

Sincerely,

Will McMurray