

Coaches Letter: Jeff Hawthorne

My name is Jeff Hawthorne and I am looking forward to coaching the 2024/2025 U12 Crusaders team. Last year I had the privilege of coaching the U11 Crusaders team which was a great experience, and I will use the experience and knowledge gained from last season to help prepare and develop this U12 Crusaders team.

My focus will be on developing and refining the fundamental skills of the game. Throughout the course of the season the team will learn and execute technical skills, individual skills, team play, positioning, strategies, and tactical skills required to be competitive at this level.

I will encourage fair play, inclusiveness, respect, strong work ethic, dedication, and most importantly having fun. My goal is to make this the most enjoyable and memorable season for the players and their families.

Players can expect 2-3 ice times per week (practices, games) and participation in 4 tournaments (Oct 25-27 in Buffalo/Niagara, Nov 15-17 in Montreal, Jan 17-19 in Ottawa, and Feb 7-9 in Jay Peak). The team will also participate in some off-ice activities and some community involvement as well (TBD). Fundraising activities, sponsorships, etc., will be discussed at the start of the season. Team Fees will be \$600.00 per player.

I encourage all kids with the 2013 birth year to register for the try outs. I will be looking for players with a competitive spirit, strong work ethic, and willingness to listen and learn. I guarantee to all parents and players that everyone will be given a fair and equal opportunity to make this team.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing you at the rink.

Coach Jeff