**U11 Welcome Letter**

**Welcome to the 2025/2026 Season!**

We’re excited to kick off another great year of hockey! Below you'll find **important details** about U11 Evaluations, Tiered Team placement, and U11 AA Blazers tryouts.

**🗓 U11 Evaluations – Weekend of September 19th**

The U11 Evaluation Weekend is designed to place players into the most appropriate development path. A team of **independent third-party evaluators** will assess all players to help place them into one of the following:

* **Tier 1 Team**
* **Tier 2 Team**
* **City League Teams** (5 balanced teams)

**How it works:**

* Top performers → **Invited to Tier 1**
* Next group → **Placed on Tier 2**
* Remaining players → **Placed in City League**

📢 *More information about the City League will be shared later in September.*

**🔄 Confirmation Skates – September 22–26**

Following the evaluation weekend, players will participate in **Confirmation Skates** to help ensure the most accurate team placements.

✅ Purpose:

* Fine-tune placements where scores are close
* Ensure every player is in the best-fit tier

**Please Note:**

* Players **may skate with players from other groups**—this is normal.
* **Do not assume team placement** based on these skates.
* **Final team lists will be released after Confirmation Skates.**

**🏒 U11 AA Blazers Tryouts – September 2025**

Players interested in trying out for the **U11 AA Blazers** will go through a separate selection process:

**Tryout Format:**

1. **Initial Sessions** – First round of cuts made after initial ice times
2. **Game Format Evaluation** – Top 30–35 players compete
3. **Practice Roster Selection** – Shortlist created for further evaluation
4. **Final Team Selection** – After exhibition games & practices

📍 *Players not selected for the final AA team will return to U11 Evaluations on Sept 19th.*

**❗ Important Reminders**

✅ **AA Tryouts ≠ Tiered Team Selection**

* AA tryouts are for the **AA team only**
* U11 Evaluations determine **Tier 1, Tier 2, and City League** placement

✅ **If your child is cut from AA:**
They will join U11 Evaluations with the rest of the players.

✅ **If your child is still on the AA practice roster during Evaluations:**
If they are later released, they will likely be placed in **Tier 1**, based on skill level.

✅ **Trying out for AA does NOT increase chances of making Tier 1.**
The processes are **completely separate**.

**🙌 Good Luck & Have a Great Season!**

We thank all players and families for their commitment and enthusiasm. We look forward to a fantastic season of hockey development, teamwork, and fun.

If you are interested in coaching or managing this hockey season please click on the link below and follow the prompts:

<https://lloydminsterminorhockey.com/2025/07/13/2025-26-season-coaches-and-managers-applications-now-being-accepted/>

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out.

I hope everyone has a successful season.

Warrick,

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