

May 12, 2020

Gloucester Rangers Minor Hockey Association 2020/2021 Season - Hockey Operations Update

Hello Rangers Families,

It seems like forever since we have bumped into one another at the rink, since the players have suited up and skated, since we have had the opportunity to cheer from the stands. We hope that during these difficult times, that our Rangers hockey families are safe and healthy.

As the world deals with the Covid-19 healthcare crisis and we all do our part by social distancing to help stop the spread of the virus, its impacts are being felt through all that we do.

While there is still no new information about when, or even if, minor hockey will resume next season, the Gloucester Rangers Board of Directors is working to ensure that our operations are ready to go should we be given the green light for the 2020/2021 hockey season.

We wanted to share with you some of the important changes that will be in place moving forward for the Gloucester Rangers.

- New Website: In order to help teams, we have created a new website that incorporates TeamSnap. All teams will have access to a Gloucester Rangers TeamSnap account when the season begins. This will allow us to automatically upload any association-led initiatives or meetings directly to your team calendars. A huge THANK YOU to Shannon Wheeler Bradley, our association VP Administration, for developing the Rangers new website and TeamSnap access! You will be able to check-out the new website at <u>www.gloucesterrangers.com</u>. Please note: we will be transitioning over to the new website in the coming weeks. While the migration to the new site is taking place, there may be a couple of days that the Rangers website is down.
- **2020/2021 Coaches:** Thank you to all those who submitted applications for the head coaching positions. All of our Head Coaches have been selected and a complete list of coaches and their bios can be found under the 'coaches' tab at the top of the new Rangers website.
- Rangers 5 Year Rings: All players who played for the Gloucester Rangers for 5 seasons or more are eligible to purchase a custom Rangers ring to reflect this achievement. Please note that the five years **does not** include any seasons played at the AAA level. If you have a player that meets the criteria above and you would like to purchase a ring, please confirm via email to pr@gloucesterrangers.com before June 1. A ring sizing session will be confirmed once social distancing rules have relaxed to allow group meetings. The rings are \$209 + tax = \$236.17. In order to confirm your order a \$100 deposit is required at the time of purchase. The rings take approximately 8 weeks to arrive.

- Next Season: While we await word from Hockey Canada and Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) on the details about the upcoming season, there are some guidelines that have been established for the time being:
 - Hockey Tournaments: Coaches have been directed to hold off on any tournament registrations and the Ontario Hockey Federation has decided to put a hold on all hockey tournament planning for the upcoming season. Should hockey tournaments resume, the Rangers have made the decision to restrict teams from travelling outside of the province of Ontario.
 - **Registration:** We will not be opening the registration link for the time being. Please be sure to check back on the Gloucester Rangers website regularly for the very latest details about registration and tryouts.
 - **Updates to the age division categories:** Following the guidance of Hockey Canada, and in an effort to make the game more inclusive, the age division categories for hockey have been revised see chart below.

Birth Year	Age on Dec. 31, 2020	New Division Name	Previous Division Name
2012 or 2013	7 or 8	U9 - Under 9 U9 - Tier 1 Green U9 - Tier 1 Gold	Novice - Tier 1 Green / Gold
2011	9	U10 - Under 10 U10 A Green U10 A White	Minor Atom A - Green / White
2010	10	U11 - Under 11 U11 A U11 AA	Major Atom A / AA
2009	11	U12 - Under 12 U12 A U12 AA	Minor Peewee A / AA
2008	12	U13 - Under 13 U13 AA	Major Peewee AA
2007	13	U14 – Under 14 U14 AA	Minor Bantam AA
2006	14	U15 - Under 15 U15 AA	Major Bantam AA
2005	15	U16 – Under 16 U16 AA	Minor Midget AA
2003 or 2004	16 or 17	U18 - Under 18 U18 AA	Major Midget AA

Gloucester Rangers - 2020/2021 Age Divisions

Given the current landscape, the Rangers Board has opted to cancel the annual Volunteer Appreciation Night. We humbly thank all of the volunteers who helped to make the 2019/2020 such a tremendous success, before operations were halted. We'll be announcing the Coach of the Year and Volunteer of the Year in the coming weeks. We have such an incredible hockey community that continues to go above and beyond to ensure that all of the players and their families have a wonderful experience, both on and off the ice. **THANK YOU!**

To keep up to date on the very latest Rangers hockey information, please be sure to follow us on twitter @GRMHA.

Please stay safe and healthy - and we hope to see everyone at the rink in the months ahead.

Yours in hockey,

Klamel

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