



# Miles Macdonell Collegiate

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Mr. J. Muller Principal • Ms. M. Williams Vice Principal • Ms. B. Frith Vice Principal

Aug. 27, 2019

Dear players and parents,

Welcome to the 2019/2020 season. Thank you for your interest in the Buckeye hockey program, I wish you the best of luck in our try-outs.

This team was started in 1990 and you have an opportunity to join the almost 300 member strong Buckeye alumni family, as well as the 40 team WSHL. There is a reason that the league has grown so much, and that is because our league offers a very competitive hockey environment while still allowing you some time to focus on your academics and part time employment if you choose. Most weekends are free, and our ice times begin before 5 PM, leaving your evenings open. Additionally, we are fortunate to benefit from good exposure in the hockey world and beyond. Our players graduate to higher levels of hockey, including the MJHL and the MMJHL, the latter of whom we have a very close relationship as a league. We are often featured in local and city-wide media as there is considerable interest from the general public as they follow their former schools or the teams from their community. Finally, your teachers and classmates will come out and support you at games too!

Last season we competed in the Winnipeg Free Press "B" Division of the three-tiered WSHL. We had a young team, but made some great strides and lost a close playoff series to West Kildonan that went down to the wire. Our aim is to re-join the Platinum Promotions "A" Division, but this will depend on the competitiveness of our roster and how we stack up against other squads. In either case, the hockey is excellent. We have entered four tournaments and, pending final approvals, are very excited to travel with the team to Nashville, Tennessee. The Buckeyes will also compete in The Husky Classic (October), Steinbach Invitational (November), and the Brandon Vic Inns (December). We expect to play around 45 games.



I will return for my fifth season as head coach, tenth with the program, and thirteenth in the WSHL. Having played for the Buckeyes myself, I am proud to continue to be involved with the league. Mr. DeLeeuw will join me for his third season on the bench. He brings a wealth of experience playing in the WSHL and MMJHL and will be beginning his second year as a teacher at John G. Stewart School. New to the staff, but not to the Buckeyes, will be Alex Krosney. Alex played goal for the Buckeyes for several seasons, playing an integral part in our championship run of 2016. He will come in as an assistant with special focus on our goaltenders. At the time of writing, we are still working on the possibility of one additional coach joining team.

I want to wish all the best to Mr. Joel Schreyer who accepted a teaching and coaching position at his alma mater Springfield Collegiate. He will be missed on the Buckeye bench.

Please see the reverse side of this letter for more information on tryouts. Good luck and play hard!

Mr. Gordon Fritzsche

Head Coach – MMC Boys Hockey

Teacher – Social Sciences Department / IB

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## Tryout Info

- Players are asked to arrive at least 45 minutes before our scheduled **exhibition games**. There will be early dismissals from school for students if necessary and these will be communicated to players, parents, and teachers. There is no requirement for arriving at a particular time for **tryout practices**, as long as the player is ready to go by the start time.
- There is a player dress code for **exhibition games**. Collared shirt and tie with dress pants or slacks. No hats. There is no dress code for **tryout practices**.
- Jerseys will be provided for all ice times. All other equipment is the responsibility of the player, including hockey socks.
- Players must bring their own water bottle. Neck guards and mouth guards must be worn for **exhibition games and tryout practices**. Students will not be allowed to participate without the proper equipment.
- The \$20.00 fee must be paid before the player steps on the ice. This guarantees three hours of **tryout practice** and eligibility for the **exhibition games** on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> of September. Each student is guaranteed to play in at least one of the games. The roster for each game will be communicated the day before.
- If a student is not dressing for a game they are encouraged to attend but this is not a requirement.
- Players are permitted to tryout for other teams simultaneously. Note that some students may join our tryouts late after being released from AAA. The \$20.00 fee will still apply.
- If there is a conflict with another activity or tryout, this information must be communicated to Mr. Fritzsche in advance. Note that it is harder to get an accurate evaluation of a student's abilities if they do not attend. It is important that students communicate honestly and clearly about their hockey priorities so the coaching staff can plan the roster accordingly.
- A student may be offered a spot on the roster prior to the conclusion of tryouts. They will be asked to sign and return a document (along with their parent) committing them to our program and acknowledging that they understand the expectations and fees associated with playing. This is not a legal document nor does it give away the players' "rights". We simply want to ensure that the player and parent have discussed and agreed to join our team. We are taking you at your word. It helps us manage our roster and ensure that we do not release players that we may yet need.
- Players that are offered a roster spot are still expected to attend all tryout ice times in order to prepare for the season.