

**LEASIDE WILDCATS – MIDGET BB
2012/2013 COACH'S STATEMENT
HEAD COACH – JOHN MACKINNON**

I have been playing hockey for 45 years at all levels ranging from AAA to some of Toronto's finer beer leagues. I have been coaching at Leaside for five seasons, including last year at the Midget B level. My two daughters play in the Leaside program and I believe hockey to be the perfect sport for girls to develop leadership and life skills. In competitive hockey every girl has a role that will lead to the success or failure of the team. My personal belief is that by playing hockey, the girls develop team and leadership skills that will serve them throughout their futures. Perspective is important for Midget BB hockey. Winning is fun but more importantly, Midget BB is about girls having an opportunity to play competitively while learning the importance of everyone's role in creating a winning team.

The key to this team will be working the balance between the social aspects of the team, the competitiveness of hockey and skill development. Our philosophy is to let the girls set the tone and teach them and push them as much as they are willing. The key is to listen and adapt to what the girls want to learn. We want a cohesive dressing room where the players place team objectives ahead of their own interests and in which they support each other enthusiastically. This support structure will be the key to the team's development. Our goal is to develop a team of leaders with skills that will serve them for a lifetime. We plan to create a positive learning experience in which the players are able to compete to the best of their abilities. We want to encourage the girls to make a commitment to the team and teach them that success comes from being proud of doing their very best. Most importantly, we want to ensure that the players and their families have fun, with lasting memories and friendships and a love for the game. Our long term goal would be to keep the core of this team for the next two seasons and advance to the A level.

On the hockey front; we plan to carry 15 skaters. We expect to have 1.5 practices per week, participate in the Lower Lakes Female Hockey League and enter 3 tournaments, including one in San Jose, California. The team will have 3 on ice coaches. The coaching will emphasize hockey skills and team play in equal proportion. Our ice time philosophy is that the girls will share equal ice time with the possible exception of the last 5 minutes of playoff or elimination games

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Tim Wright	TimWright@onelec.com
Robert Wong	robert.wong@td.com
John MacKinnon	john.mackinnon@fourseasons.com