



Immediate Release

Sam Klassen hired as U15 Prep Head Coach

July 27, 2021

Prairie Hockey Academy, Saskatchewan's first Hockey Canada Accredited School is pleased to announce the signing of Sam Klassen as the U15 Prep Head Coach. Sam is from Watrous, SK and joins Prairie Hockey Academy for the 2021/22 season after an eight-year pro career that saw him sign with the New York Rangers and play throughout the AHL, ECHL and DEL in Germany. Sam and his wife Jaylin have three children and look forward to making Caronport, SK their new home.

"Sam is a great addition to our team at Prairie Hockey Academy. What you will notice right away from Sam is that he cares about people and wants them to know he is present and listening to them. He is a high charactered individual who believes in mentorship and helping young men grow in maturity and integrity. Sam is a relationship builder and because of that, we believe he is an excellent choice for our U15 Prep program, to welcome young grade 9 student athletes into PHA and help them adjust to life at the academy."

- **Justin Simpkins, PHA President**

After playing four seasons with the Saskatoon Blades and under Lorne Molleken, Sam signed an entry level contract with the New York Rangers. He spent the next four seasons playing in the Rangers farm system, splitting time between the AHL and ECHL teams. To finish his career, he headed overseas and played three season in the DEL. Sam still loves the game of hockey and he knows it is a journey full of ups and downs. He is eager to pass on his knowledge and experience to our young student athletes.

"Sam as a player played the game of hockey with a tremendous amount of heart and desire. He was truly dedicated to be the best he could be every day. Sam was a great teammate and would do anything to help the team succeed. As a coach he will help the young players he coaches also be the best they can be."

- **Lorne Molleken**

"I'm thrilled to be coaching at Prairie Hockey Academy. It's a great opportunity to join an already fantastic coaching and support staff in their efforts to use the game of hockey to develop life champions. I love hockey and think it's the greatest sport on earth, but I'm excited to be a part of an organization that cares about developing the whole person, not just the hockey player."

- **Sam Klassen, U15 Prep Head Coach**

If you would like to speak to Sam Klassen, you can contact him at sam@prairiehockey.ca or 306-917-7318

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