



## **HAMILTON HUSKIES HOCKEY OPERATIONS GROUP (2022-2023)**



### **Robert Kitamura - VP of Hockey Operations**

- **NHL - Amateur Scout with the Tampa Bay Lightning (2011 – Present)**
- **OHL - Director of Central Scouting and Player Development (2005-2011)**
- **Director of Operations Team Ontario U17- 3 Gold, 1 Silver (2008-2011)**
- **Experienced AAA Hockey Coach and Hamilton Huskies Alumni**

### **Jeff Toole - Director of Coach Development**

- **OHL - Hamilton Bulldogs Training Camp Coach (Rookie and Main Camp) 2017-Present**
- **AAA/AA - Head Coaching positions with Hamilton Huskies since 2006**
- **Hockey Canada - High Performance 1 Certified Hockey Coach**
- **Physical Education Teacher/Coach @ St. Thomas More & Cathedral Secondary since 1998**
- **Team Alliance U16 Gold Cup Head Coach 2016**
- **Team Alliance U16 Gold Cup Asst Coach 2015**
- **Turek Elite Hockey League Coach**
- **Course Facilitator/Conductor for the ALLIANCE Hockey**
- **Development Instructor with Pro Hockey Life Academy since 2002**
- **Winner of the 2018 Wismer Award for High School Coaching Excellence**

### **Rich Vrataric - Director of Player Development**

- **Hockey Canada Certifications - High Performance 1, Power Skating, Level 2 Skills Coach**
- **Assistant Coach - Hamilton Kilty B's Hockey Club since May 2022**
- **Certified Personal Trainer & Power Edge Pro Instructor**
- **Teacher/Coach/Athletic Director @ Blessed Trinity Secondary School since 2005**
- **AAA/AA - Head Coaching positions with Hamilton Huskies & others since 2015**
- **Development Instructor with association, teams & private camps since 1998**
- **U Sports Player - Brock University Men's Hockey Team (1999)**
- **GOJHL Player - Niagara Falls Jr. B Sutherland Cup Champions (1998)**
- **OHL Player - 200+ Games in the OHL with Erie Otters, North Bay & Niagara Falls Thunder**
- **OHL Player - Ontario Hockey League 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Draft Pick (1994)**
- **OJHL Player - Hamilton Kilty B's (1993–1994)**
- **AAA Player - Hamilton Huskies Alumni (7 Seasons)**

## **Mike Walsh - U8-U9 Program Director**

- **Hamilton Huskies - U8 & U9 Developmental Program Director since 2016**
- **Hamilton Huskies - AAA Head Coach 2016-2017**
- **Minor Hockey Coach/Mentor/Development Instructor with 32 years experience coaching A-AAA hockey, U8-U18 in Dundas, Ancaster & with the Hamilton Huskies**
- **Played Junior B/C Hockey with the Dundas Blues for 4 Years**
- **Teacher/Coach/Athletic Director @ Ancaster Secondary School - 31 Year Career**
- **Operator of Ancaster High School's Hockey Canada Skills Academy – 13 Years**
- **Certified Power- Edge Pro Instructor**
- **Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS)**
- **Alliance Hockey Head Coaches Certification Instructor**
- **Head Instructor U7-U10 Developmental Program for Ancaster Minor Hockey - 4 Years**

## **The Hockey Operations Department will oversee the following:**

- **Coach Recruitment & Selection**
- **Player Evaluation & Selection**
- **In Season Player Development**
- **Post Season Player Development**
- **Procurement of Development Resources**
- **Implementation of coaching & specialty clinics**
- **The overall player experience from a Hockey Perspective**