

Ryan Sallows wraps up five seasons with the Alliston Hornets

After five seasons with the Alliston Hornets, centre #91, Ryan Sallows has achieved quite a junior record.

He played his final two seasons as captain of the local squad.

With 190 regular season games and 83 playoff games behind him, he recorded 113 goals and 145 assists for a career 258 points.

Ryan started with the Hornets as a rookie during the 2015 / 16 season.

“Leading up to playing with the Hornets I was playing Minor Midget with the TNT Tornados in Alliston,” Ryan explained of his start with the Club. “My coach at the time was Scott Hutchinson who was also an assistant coach with the Hornets. I was 16 at that time and I got to practice with the Hornets every week as an AP which was a good lead-in to playing there the following year. My original plan was to start with them and see where it went.”

The Hornets were a successful Club every year that Ryan was on the team.

He cites a championship season when they were up against the Stayner Siskins in the final as a highlight season.

“The Hornets were successful every that I played here,” he said. “In my second year we didn’t finish first in regular season but we ended up sweeping Stayner in four games in the final.”

Staying with the Club for five seasons, Ryan said he appreciates what the organization is all about.

“It’s a very well-run organization. We have a really good reputation. We have players coming from all over that want to play here based on the name alone. It’s a great organization and everyone I’ve talked to speaks very highly of it.”

He said as captain, he tried to lead by example by working hard every day in games and in practice.

With the championship series cut short this season, Ryan said the team was determined to go out and win their final game. The series was stopped after the entire season was cancelled during Game One of their Division final series against the Stayner Siskins.

The team was notified in the dressing room after the second period that this would be their final game.

“Our coach told us, and everyone was kind of looking around the room, jaws dropped, wondering if this is real,” Ryan said of the final game. “Once we all realized that this is our last once, we decided we might as well make this Game Seven, winner takes all ? and we weren’t going to lose this game.”

With his junior career now over, Ryan is going to concentrate on school. He is currently studying business at Georgian College in Barrie and will graduate this year.

As far as hockey goes, he is undecided right now, but is considering getting into coaching in the next few years.

After spending four or five nights every week in an arena for the past several he thinks it’s time to take a bit of a break.

By Brian Lockhart