



Dear Yokohama Grits Fans,

I want to thank you for the incredible journey from our first two years together.

We started a new team under the toughest conditions and like our name, the Grits, we fought hard to bring a new team into the Asia Hockey League. Our management and sponsors showed exactly what Grit means: to never give up, to fight to the end, to give everything you have – and that is what happened over the most difficult time to open a new business in history!

I personally gave everything I had to make our team competitive on the ice. As a group, the players and coaches understood the challenge to compete in Japan's highest league all while pursuing a career off the ice. I am extremely proud of the players, the staff and the volunteers that made our pursuit to become competitive that much easier.

The team has grown. The team understands how to balance three careers, in order: Family, Business and Hockey. The team is ready to take another step forward and continue to push towards winning more games than losing.

I was so proud to be the Grits Head Coach for the last two years and I will continue to be proud as I watch the team grow under a new Head Coach. (insert Jeff Flanagan if you want)

I'd like to thank Mikoshiba san for the honour to be the Grits first coach and in my new capacity as Executive Advisor to the Grits.

I look forward to helping the team continue to advance towards becoming a Champion!

Lastly, I want to thank all the fans who put their faith into a team that is trying to disrupt the league and start a new path forward for players that want to play while pursuing a career. Thank you for your dedication to the Grits and thank you for joining us on this incredible journey to pursue a championship right here in Yokohama!

Sincerely, Mike Kennedy