

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Local Hockey Academy Expands, Adds NHL Alumnus

### Former Lightning Player and Coach to Lead Staff

Wesley Chapel, FL August 11, 2021--AdventHealth Center Ice's Global Prospect Academy (GPA) is hosting a press event **Thursday, August 12, at 1:30pm** to announce the expansion of its leadership team. All press members are invited and encouraged to attend.

On hand will be AdventHealth Center Ice management and leadership, representative of the Tampa Bay Lightning (Brian Bradley), representatives from the Pasco County Commissioners Office (Mike Moore), representatives from AdventHealth Wesley Chapel (Florimar Galdon), representatives from Florida's Sports Coast (Adam Thomas/Consuelo Sanchez), and the president of North Tampa Christian Academy, Orton Varona and the Head of School, Stephen Herr.

Global Prospects Academy, Florida's leading hockey training and educational experience, has added Glen Metropolit as its Director. In his position, Metropolit will drive the growth of the developmental hockey program and the educational curriculum for the academy's enrollees, both on and off the ice.

Metropolit is a former professional hockey player with tenure and accolades in multiple national and international leagues including the NHL, AHL, NLA, SM LIIGA, & DEL. His time in the NHL included playing over 400 games for a range of teams, including the Tampa Bay Lightning where he most recently served as Assistant Hockey Director and Head Coach of the U18 Elite Development Program. While Metropolit has reached the pinnacle of recognition by his accomplishments and awards, it's his nomination for the Bill Masterton Trophy during his career in the NHL that really stands out. The award was for his exemplary qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to ice hockey that is especially prized to him. Metropolit also represented Canada at the World Championships in 2006 and has been inducted into the ECHL Hockey Hall of Fame.

Metropolit will be directing a staff including former NHL/Tampa Bay Lightning player Stan Neckar, Nick Lindberg, former professional hockey player and experienced GPA coach, and John Drysdale, a USA level 4 certified coach, a bronze certified goalie coach, and the Youth Development Director for AHCI. In addition to a team of assistant coaches, visiting and/or guest coaches include Andrew Brewer, current Florida Panthers assistant coach and Dwayne Roloson, former goaltender for the Tampa Lightning.

Roger Shannon, CEO of Global Center Ice, Prospects Hockey, and founder of the V-Red Prospects Hockey program and the Consulting Director of GPA, said, "We are excited to welcome Glen to the GPA team and know that his experience and work ethic will inspire our students and move us to further realize our vision for the Academy".

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### **About Global Prospects Academy**

The Global Prospects Academy (GPA) is an elite development academy featuring the highest levels of training in the disciplines of hockey, ice skating, and sports performance/recovery, accompanied by an educational curriculum partnership designed to meet the unique needs of elite competitive athletes.

The Global Prospects Academy encompasses training platforms for ages 8 to 17, not only attracting athletes from the local/regional community but from international destinations. The access to educational freedom allows flexibility to the student and family and the ability to excel in both sport and academics.

Elite competitive athletes have unique academic scheduling needs that must accommodate training and competitive travel while also maintaining uncompromised academic rigor. The educational curriculum for GPA is provided by North Tampa Christian Academy (NTCA), an accredited college preparatory private institution 3.1 miles from GPA. North Tampa Christian Academy provides an immersive on-campus experience that encourages innovation through project-based learning and an engaging thematic structure. GPA students will graduate with a college prep diploma and academically NCAA eligible. The NTCA academic office will advise GPA students and create an academic plan that could include Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, Honors, and enrichment courses.

### **About AdventHealth Center Ice**

The Global Prospects Academy is a component of AdventHealth Center Ice (AHCI), the largest ice-sports training facility in the Southeast. The 150,000 square-foot facility features five ice rinks (one Olympic-sized, three NHL format, and one mini-rink), 18 locker rooms, a fitness and sports recovery center, off-ice training area, full restaurant/bar, concession stand and pro shop.

AHCI supports the activities of community public skaters, professional figure skaters, and is home of the state's largest learn to skate program, 37 youth rec and travel hockey teams, 92 adult league hockey teams, 10 regional high school hockey teams, two university hockey teams, and the Tampa Bay Juniors—the state's leading junior hockey team. It also hosts numerous tournaments year-round, bringing tens of thousands of participants and visitors to the area. The facility is a major economic engine in the region, supporting Pasco County's Florida Sports Coast initiative.

**Further information available at: [Global Prospects Academy | AdventHealth Center Ice \(ahcenterice.com\)](https://www.ahcenterice.com)**