



HOUSING GUIDELINES

The experience of billeting a Junior A hockey player can be one of the most rewarding in the world of amateur hockey. In most cases, the players become a member of the family who stays in close contact with the family years after moving away. For families new to this experience, there are plenty of questions not covered in **RULES, REGULATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Let's try and address some of the most common questions.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO SUPPLY?

The billeting family is expected to be able to provide a room or finished basement that will afford the player comfortable space and at least a minimal sense of privacy. A bed, a chest of drawers, and closet space are essentials. While most billeting families supply linens, pillows, etc. If you choose not to supply those items the players must be informed so he can come to your home with them.

Billeting families are not required to provide separate phone lines or computer lines, TV's or CD players. Players may want to come to your home with a separate TV set for their room. If running cable into that room is an extra expense, the player must bear that burden unless the family wishes to donate it.

ARE WE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLAYERS'S LAUNDRY?

In most cases, yes. Some families prefer that players do not have access to the washer/dryer, but that is solely the decision of each family.

IF OUR PLAYER DOES NOT HAVE A CAR, ARE WE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS TRANSPORTATION?

No. It is the team's responsibility to transport the player.

WHAT TYPE OF MEALS ARE WE EXPECTED TO SUPPLY?

We do not expect our billeting families to prepare three meals a day. We do expect our players to eat a nutritious dinner at a reasonable hour. We expect enough food on hand so the player has access to basic breakfasts and lunches.

WHAT DOES THE PLAYER DO DURING HIS “DOWN” TIME?

We endeavor to keep our kids on a fairly tight schedule. Players out of high school will be required to attend junior college part-time or work part-time to help fill their open hours. We will also have extensive community involvement activities that the players are required to participate in. With weight training in the morning hours and practice in the afternoons, there is not a lot of down time. Still, if you've never had a teenager in your home, understand that their hours are usually different from those of working “9 to 5ers”. Teens usually like to stay up late and sleep late and nap as often as possible. Your understanding is appreciated in these matters. However, we understand that if our billet homes finds a player's habits disruptive to the overall lifestyle of the billet home, the Ice staff will move accordingly to help assist on correcting the problem.

AM I RESPONSIBLE TO DISCIPLINE THE PLAYER?

Absolutely not. If a player misses curfew or violates some other team code, we will administer the appropriate discipline. At the same time, we do expect you to be surrogate parents as opposed to older friends with each player. Keeping an open line of communication is essential to a successful experience and to preventing problems before they happen. That communication is between you and the player, and you and the coaching staff as well. There are times when the player and the housing family are simply not a good fit. Sometimes your home is so different from their own that there is a clash of culture. In such cases, we happily remove the player from your home and seek to put him in a place that offers him a better fit.

CAN I MAKE A PROFIT FROM THIS?

No. The stipend you get from the team is approximately \$200 a month, so this is more akin to taking in a foreign exchange student than anything else.

WHY SHOULD I DO THIS?

People open their homes to hockey players for different reasons. Some young families want role models for their children. Some older people want a little more life in their homes. Many just want to be able to “give back” to the hockey community and the community in general and find this the most rewarding way to do so.