

Barrie Jr Sharks

Billet Guide 2024-2025



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One of the many important components that make up a successful hockey club are billets. These people open their homes to the young athletes, giving them a stable and secure home away from home. There are many long-lasting friendships that develop between players and their billets. Athletes who play for the Barrie Jr Sharks Hockey Club stay in Host Family homes during the regular season, which runs from mid-August until mid-April.

Our coaching and management staff work hard at identifying players with not only hockey talent, but also players with strong moral and ethical values. For the most part, these players should be good people and you should expect players to be respectful and helping in your presence and your home.

When a player arrives at your home, it is important that she knows your house rules and please clearly define your expectations and ask the player her expectations of you and your home.

The billet coordinator along with our coaching and management staff will try to make the best fit with a family as possible, i.e. kids, allergies or any other concerns there may be. It's a good idea to touch base with the player's parents to start a relationship and to know the rules for the household.

Important: The key to a successful billeting experience is good communication and this means with all that involved – billets, parents, billet coordinator, players and coaches and management staff. If problems arise they should be addressed immediately and through the proper channels whether it is the billet coordinator or the coaching and management staff, we do not want to lose a good billet or player because of any matters that may arise off the ice.

With all questions and concerns please contact one of the following:

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Expectations of Players

Expectations of the players when billeted:

- Respect the Host Family and their generosity;
- It is not a right to live at a Host Family's home, it is a privilege;
- Your billet's belongings should always be treated with the utmost care;
- Supply your own personal hygiene products (razors, deodorant etc)
- If Host Families wish to purchase any items that is at your cost;
- Respect and to adhere to the rules of the house;
- Curfew of 11 on regular nights and 10 on pre-game nights;
- Notify Host Family in advance if you will not be home for meals;
- Inform Host Family of any schedule changes;
- Players must inform Host Family of their whereabouts in case of any emergency
- There are no sleepovers at other players' Host Family's home without permission from the coaching or management staff;
- Sleepovers at the Host Family's home are only permitted from the Host Family and coaching/management staff

Expectations of the Host Family when billeting:

- Provide a clean, family atmosphere for the player;
- Provide nutritious food for the player. You are not expected to cook all the meals for the player, but it is expected to have food available to the player so that they may make the meals themselves;
- Coaching staff will check on curfew, cooperation from the Host Family in this matter is a necessity;
- If player does not have access to her own vehicle, the Host Family will supply transportation to and from East Bayfield Recreation Centre.(unless other arrangements have been made)
- Respect the player. They will be experiencing all kinds of different emotions though out the year. At times you may notice they need their own space however they also require reinforcement, trust, and encouragement from their Host Family. The rule of thumb is to provide the same kind of care and attention you would extend to a member of your own family.

Financial Compensation

- Host Families will receive \$450-\$500 each month; (½ Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, ½ Apr)
- Injuries: if a player is hospitalized, out of town, or sent home due to unforeseen circumstances payments will be adjusted accordingly until they return.

Curfew

- Players are required to be in their homes no later than 11:00pm on regular nights.
- 10:30pm on nights before games.
- Players should be home 1.5 hours after a weekend home game. Unless other arrangements have been made.
- Curfews are subject to change throughout the season should the Coaching Staff see fit.
- Players must communicate any changes of curfew to the Host Family. The Jr Sharks staff will do their best to inform the Host Family as well of any last-minute changes.
- Curfew check calls make take place periodically throughout the season. Host Families will not cover for a player who is in contravention of the curfew rules.
- Host Families are encouraged to keep the lines of communication open with their player and the Jr Sharks staff should a player be consistently breaking curfew.

Host Family House Rules

Some things that need to be discussed and agreed upon with your player(s):

- The use and care of appliances;
- The upkeep and cleanliness of all rooms in your house including the bathroom;
- The areas of your home that are out of bounds;
- If you have a computer and internet connection, clearly define your rules of usage and content to be considered out of bounds during the internet time;
- Your fridge and food rules should be clearly defined. Ask your player for any food preferences or allergies and establish suitable eating arrangements for all involved. You are not expected to provide "junk food" for your player. As far as cooking for your player we know that families may have busy schedules, all we ask is to have food available and the player should be able to make himself at home and prepare meals for himself;
- Establish the phone rules and consideration for phone times. This is one area that seems to cause the most problems, please establish a proper agreement between the Host Family and player;
- Host Families are not expected to wait up for players;
- Players are not to be used as childcare providers. Any arrangements made in this area should be clearly discussed with the players and mutually agreeable;
- Do not lend money to your player. If you do so it is at your own risk;
- It is very important that you do not cover up for your player if she misses curfew. The Host Family is part of our team and we expect everyone to follow our guidelines;
- Players do most of their laundry. Host Families may help out at their discretion;
- Household chores should be clearly defined. They should be expected to help out in household chores in areas that they are involved in (their bathroom, dishes, rooms that they use, etc.).