



## Billeting Guidelines

**Policy Overview:** Our Ice Hockey Billeting Program aims to create a supportive and enriching environment for billet players while fostering meaningful connections between players and host families. This policy outlines the expectations, responsibilities, and guidelines for both billet players and host families.

### Billet Player Guidelines:

1. **Respectful Conduct:** Billet players must conduct themselves with respect, both within the host family's home and in the community. Treat the host family, their property, and fellow residents with kindness and consideration.
2. **Communication:** Maintain open and honest communication with your host family. Inform them of your schedule, any dietary requirements, and any concerns that may arise during your stay.
3. **Attendance:** Attend all team activities, practices, and games as required. If you're unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances, notify your host family and team officials promptly.
4. **Contributions:** Contribute positively to the host family's daily routine, respecting their household rules and customs.
5. **Safety and Security:** Follow all safety guidelines provided by your host family, including emergency procedures and curfew rules.
6. **Cultural Exchange:** Embrace the opportunity to share your culture and learn about your host family's way of life.

### Host Family Guidelines:

1. **Welcoming Environment:** Provide a welcoming and safe living space for the billet player, ensuring their comfort and well-being.
2. **Nutrition:** Offer nutritious meals that cater to the billet player's dietary needs, promoting their overall health and energy.
3. **Communication:** Maintain regular communication with the billet player regarding schedules, expectations, and any concerns.
4. **Respect for Privacy:** Respect the billet player's privacy and personal space, while also encouraging their involvement in family activities.
5. **Attendance Support:** Encourage the billet player's attendance at team activities, practices, and games. When schedule permits, attend your billet player's games to show support and enthusiasm.
6. **Cultural Sensitivity:** Embrace the opportunity to learn about the billet player's culture and background, fostering an inclusive and diverse environment.



## Billeting Policy

It is recognized that some youth and junior hockey players leave home to play hockey in a location away from their parents. In those circumstances, the organization or team typically arranges for the player to live with a host or billet family. Having Minor Athletes live outside their homes increases risk for abuse and misconduct to occur. All organizations and teams that arrange for players to live with billet families shall have written policies and procedures in place to govern the arrangement. All billeting policies and procedures shall be provided to the player's parents in advance of placing the player with the billet and shall meet the following requirements:

- Billet families and the player and player's parents shall all sign an agreement with the Member Program and/or team that they will comply with the terms and conditions of the Billet Policy, the SafeSport Code and the USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook.
- If required by the jurisdiction where the player is billeted, the player's parents shall sign and provide a power of attorney and/or guardianship (as necessary by applicable state law) to the billet family adults to allow for them to make emergency medical and schooling decisions.
- Each Member Program or team shall have a billet coordinator who shall be responsible for overseeing compliance with the Billeting Policy, the SafeSport Code and all USA Hockey Safe Sport Policies.
- No more than two billeted players may be housed with any one billet family. At the Junior level, there may be exceptions to the number of billeted players permitted in one billet home if approved by the applicable Junior league, however approval should only be granted when necessary.
- Absent an emergency, or unless a Dual Relationship exception applies and the team has obtained the necessary consent, owners, team/program management and staff (except the billet coordinator) are not allowed to host or billet players, and coaches may not host or billet players who play on the coach's team. Emergency situations should be documented and kept with the Member Program.
- Minors must be placed with a billet family and may not reside in an apartment or home solely with other players. This includes homes, apartments or hotels used as a "dormitory" unless the housing is offered in conjunction with and authorized by a school that is accredited or sanctioned by the state school system.
- All adults living in the household of the billet family must be registered with USA Hockey, screened in accordance with the USA Hockey Screening Policy, and must complete the SafeSport Training in compliance with Section II. Proof that these requirements have been met must be received by the team's billet coordinator prior to the player moving in with the family.
- It is strongly recommended that all billet families be two-parent homes. However, single parent billet families may be acceptable, but the organization or team shall take additional reasonable



steps to regularly monitor the billeting arrangement and its compliance with the USA Hockey Safe Sport Policies.

- The Member Program or team shall have a mandatory curfew for all billeted players. The host family may have an earlier curfew.
- Players must agree to comply with the house rules of the billet families, including curfews, chores/cleaning, telephone usage, etc. Complaints about unusual rules shall be addressed with the Member Program/team billet coordinator.
- Players shall not stay overnight at any other home except with the permission of the player's parents and advance notification to the billet family and Member Program or team billet coordinator.
- Players are not to drive billet family vehicles without automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, and documentation and approval of the billet family.
- Billet host family is required to maintain appropriate homeowner's/renter's insurance.
- Players living with a billet family shall be permitted to make regular check-in phone calls to parents. Team personnel and billets shall allow for any unscheduled check-in phone calls between the player and parents.
- Billet Players and/or their parents are responsible for making all arrangements for transportation and abiding by the Colorado Thunderbirds Travel Policy.