

## **CHICAGO CRUSH HOST/BILLET FAMILIES**

The Chicago Crush is looking for host/billet families as they embark upon their inaugural season in the USPHL. Home games in the 2022-23 season will be played at the Addison Ice Rink in Addison, IL.

The USPHL is the largest Junior Hockey League in the United States. Since its inception in 2012 the league has placed thousands of players into colleges and universities across the country. Over the same period 14 players have been drafted by the NHL.

The Crush's coaching staff is committed to providing our players with every opportunity to develop their skills and take that next step in their hockey careers. We are also committed to providing our players a place they can truly call home during the season. The success of our organization, but more importantly the growth and maturation of our young players, hinges upon vibrant host families.

Families who billet are financially compensated by the Crush in the amount of \$500 per month (per player) for meals, snacks, housing, etc. The ultimate reward, however, is helping a young hockey player pursue his dream, while providing him a much-needed home away from home. It should be noted that players and billet families often build lasting relationships that are mutually enriching. This can truly be a win-win relationship.

Many of you know first-hand how important the role a billet family plays in the development of an aspiring Junior hockey player. We would love it if you would be willing and able to house one of our players. If not, maybe you know someone who can! Please let us know of any potential host families. (Contact John Varga, [Varga@CrushHockey.com](mailto:Varga@CrushHockey.com)).

### **COMMON QUESTIONS:**

#### **What is a host/billet family?**

Many players leave home to play Midget and Junior hockey. A billet or host family home is where a player lives during the season. This is a player's home-away-from-home.

#### **Are billet families paid?**

A pre-established fee of \$500 per player per month is paid directly to the billet family. This helps with additional household expenses, especially food and drink. Billet families are asked to provide three meals per day and snacks for their players.

#### **Is there a "typical" host family?**

Host families may be two-parent families, single-parent families, and, occasionally an "empty nester." The common denominator is a desire by the family to make a difference in a player's life.

### **Can a family host more than one player?**

Yes. Two (or more) players can share transportation expenses, and often provide company for one another. The only requirement is that each player has adequate space/living arrangements. Each player is expected to have his own bed, closet or dresser, and acceptable access to a restroom.

### **How long does a player stay?**

Players arrive in mid-August. The host family commitment is through the end of the hockey season (which is mid/end of March). Sometimes an arrangement is made between the player's family and the billet family for the player to stay until the end of the school semester; however, this is rare.

### **Who pays if a player is injured or needs medical attention during his stay?**

Players must have medical insurance from their own families. Billet parents are never responsible for medical payments.

### **Will players join our family for personal events?**

Players often become a part of the extended family and families are welcome to invite players to join you for family celebrations or activities; however, it is not mandatory for you to do so. All players will have time off at the holidays.

For more information or if you are interested in housing a Crush player, please contact John Varga by email at [Varga@CrushHockey.com](mailto:Varga@CrushHockey.com)

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