

Adam Buckley – MYHA Board of Directors

In the summer of 2014, my wife Kelly and I decided that we wanted to make Mahtomedi “home” for our family. Our daughter, Emmerson (17), is now a senior at MHS and has found swimming to be her passion. She’s also involved in activities within the schools and community. Next year she plans to attend Minnesota State Mankato where she will continue to swim. Our oldest son, Henrik (14), is a freshman at MHS and just wrapped up his youth hockey career in March. He also plays Lacrosse at Mahtomedi and enjoys golf and fishing. Our youngest son, Milan (10) is a 5th grader at OHA and just finished his 2nd year of Squirts this year. Milan enjoys everything about hockey from playing it, watching it, looking at stats, and he might be one of the best knee hockey players in Mahtomedi. Personally, I grew up on the Iron Range and graduated from Greenway High School. At Greenway, I played 4 seasons of varsity hockey and was part of the State Championship team in 1992. Other activities for me were baseball (State Champion 1993), golf, hunting and fishing. Following High School, I went on to play 3 years of college hockey and graduated from Hamline University with a degree in Exercise & Sports Science. For the past 15+ years, I’ve been working in software / technology sales. Kelly is from Cottage Grove and has her paralegal degree. When she’s not doing everything to make our family run smoothly, she’s a supervisor at the State of Minnesota.

For the past 10 years, my falls/winters have been spent on the ice as a head or assistant coach for my boy’s teams. I consider myself fortunate to have been surrounded by many great coaches, supportive parents (for the most part), and awesome groups of kids. At the end of the year, it’s truly the kids that make it all worth it. There hasn’t been a season where I haven’t learned something new or dealt with a new situation. While I’ve been coaching, my wife has spent countless hours helping manage and coordinate teams behind the scenes. This past fall, I was asked to help with team evaluations and really enjoyed that experience as well.

One of the main reasons I’m interested in becoming a MYHA board member is because I feel that all of my experiences over the past 10 years at Mahtomedi along with my own youth / high school / college experiences give me a unique perspective that can add value to the overall association as a whole. As a hockey parent, we all go through the highs and lows each season with our own kids. From winning / losing, to making or not making a team, to making or not making a play, to which training we should invest in, to injuries / sickness...there is a ton to deal with. As a head coach, all of that gets multiplied 13-15x's when you take into account each player and family that make up the team. One of the things I enjoy most about coaching is being able to overcome these challenges (and more) and help foster good habits and create good team foundations that have led to successful seasons. Another reason I’m interested in becoming a MYHA board member is because I believe in the development of as many hockey players in our community as possible. The end game for each player will not be the same, but for most of them the starting point is. So many changes between the ages of 5 and 15. No matter what level, giving players the opportunity to succeed or fail will not only make them better hockey players, it will make them better humans. If elected to the board, I would bring commitment to support every family involved in MYHA, willingness to listen to new ideas, dedication to my role, as well as passion for standing up for what I feel is best for the association.

Thank you for your time and consideration for a MYHA board position.

Regards,

Adam Buckley