

BRANDON

POULIN

CJFL ALL DECADE TEAM - NOMINEE

Brandon Poulin, recent graduate of the Valley Huskers Junior Football program has been nominated by the CJFL for the ALL DECADE Team.

Brandon, like so many of us started playing football as a youngster. In Brandon's case he was 10 years old, suiting up for the Crescentwood Grizzlies in Winnipeg, Manitoba. After his time with Crescentwood he made his way to Grant Park High School, where he spent time playing both Junior Varsity and Varsity, with some of that time under the tutelage of Surrey, BC native, Coach Doug Kovacs.

Coach Kovacs' earliest memory was when as a 5th or 6th grader he would dress up as a pirate and cheer on his older brother who was playing for Grant Park Football.

"He has been practicing with the team since 6th grade. Always with a big smile, Brandon attacked every day with a passion and enthusiasm rarely seen.

Brandon began playing with our JV team in 9th grade and had an immediate impact. He could be counted on to play all skill positions. Throughout his Grant Park career, Brandon would be a solid contributor. He was grossly undersized but his skill level and heart made up for it. He capped off his Varsity career with an Iron man award in 2014 at Grant Park, given yearly to the hardest working players on the team.

Always known as Mr. Pirate Brandon loved playing Grant Park Football.



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Brandon is the most dedicated Pirate I have ever met.

He bleeds blue and white.

COACH DOUG KOVACS
Grant Park Pirates, Winnipeg MB

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His passion for football is unparalleled. He trains daily and gets the most out of his talent. He plays through injury and is not afraid to be in the spotlight or make the big play.

The thing that impressed me most about Brandon is his willingness to be a leader and father figure to others. Numerous times at Grant Park he took younger players under his wing and mentored and trained them. He looked out for young guys and encouraged them to be great. He was a strong locker room presence and tried his best every day. The field is his sanctuary and no one gets more excited for game day than Poulin.

Brandon has routinely come back to visit and cheer on the Pirates. You can see him on the sideline on game day. He has worked at our middle school camps and helped with our winter flag program. He is Mr. Grant Park and it is always great to see him walking down the hall in his Pirate Varsity Jacket. Always with a big smile and a great story to tell."

We reached out to Brandon and asked him about his time in football and asked him to share some of his story.



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FOOTBALL BIO

Started playing (tackle) when I was 10 years old for the Crescentwood Grizzlies in Winnipeg! Then moved to Grant Park High School for JV and Varsity! Spent 3 years at the University of Manitoba before going to Chilliwack, (VALLEY HUSKERS) for 2 years 2018-2019.

Growing up I ran a lot of track, and was also apart of the provincial wrestling team! Those sports helped shape me into the athlete I am today both mentally and physically!!

LIFE OUTSIDE OF FOOTBALL

Spend my time coaching football, training, and working as a support worker with at risk kids. I try to keep myself pretty busy when I'm not on the field!

MOST INFLUENTIAL COACH

BLAIR ATKINSON

My Positional Coach in University and OC! Then also my OC in junior. I learnt a lot of valuable information from Coach through the training program RECRUIT READY. Without their help and guidance I wouldn't be the player I am today!

TOUGHEST DB

On The Field: KYLE CLAROT, Langley Rams DB.

Had many many battles with him on the field and at BC Lions eCamp. Very smart player, tall, physical. Great match up in the 4 games we played each other.

Off The Field: MAURICE LEGGETT

Trained at Recruit Ready with him, he played in the NFL and was a CFL all star for the Bombers. Never repped against someone that was so intense and fast in their back paddle. Made me elevate my game to a WHOLE new level!

PREGAME ROUTINE

Always need my ankles spatted, and I pray in the endzone right before every kickoff. Thank the lord for my blessings and abilities to be able to do what I love.

SUPERSTISIONS: None

FAVOURITE SPORTS TEAM

NFL I'm a huge Vikings fan!

CFL I'm a BC Lions fan but bleed Bombers at heart. Hometown team!

NBA I'm a HUGE Lebron James fan (So whatever team he's on)

CAREER HIGHLIGHT

So far would probably be taking the Huskers back to playoffs after 10 years. Clinching that last win in westshore on the road after Going from 0-37 to 6-4 as a team. Great group of guys! Something I'll never forget

ADVICE FOR YOUNGER PLAYERS

Ask yourself what you truly want. Do you want to go to the CFL or do you want to go to school? If the answer is CFL I recommend the BCFC or junior football until your ready to be an immediate impact starter for a university program.

Don't REDSHIRT.

Go to university out of Highschool if you a student looking for a degree. If you want to play football right out of Highschool. 90% of the time, that won't happen if you go to university! So junior is the best route to take!

Write down realistic goals on a piece of paper and hold yourself accountable. Put that paper right where you can see it all the time and make sure your doing whatever you can to make those goals come true!!

Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard.

“Never let someone tell you that you can't do something in life or football!”

You're capable of whatever you put your mind to!!!

Brandon Poulin
 Valley Huskers Alumni