



Caps billet family introduction: As the 2018/19 hockey season approaches, the Midget AAA Caps welcomes players from around NB to the city of Fredericton. These young elite hockey players aged 15-17, will stay in our beautiful city from Late August till spring. The date depends on playoffs. These young players do not live on their own, and require accommodations. This is where a billet family becomes very important, as some of our players who don't live in Fredericton, need to be placed in a home within the local community.

Billet families are an integral part of the Midget AAA program. A billet family provides support for our young players, when they are away from their own home and families. This is an emotional time for many of these players as this will be their first time away from home. They will need a stable environment with lots of support for hockey, education and daily life. Part of our commitment to our players and their families is to ensure our players are placed in a good home.

What is billeting: Caps billet families provide a safe and supportive environment that our young players consider a home away from home. The player lives in your home as an extension of your family. The families provide meals, transportation, support, and a safe environment. In most cases, a strong relationship develops between the player and billet family that can last for many years.

Why billet: Becoming a billet family is extremely rewarding and makes a big impact in someone's life and their future. It comes with a great deal of responsibility on both ends. Hosting a player in your home gives our young hockey players an opportunity to compete at the highest level possible and the host family to be a part of their journey.

What makes a great billet? We expect our billet families to offer a caring and friendly home atmosphere, with an emphasis on education. A billet family needs to understand the demands of balancing elite hockey with school. The same guidance and attention you would want for your own children is what we expect you to provide to our players. Billet families also serve as authority figures. You are impressionable role models to our players and act as an extension of their own family while they are in your home. While hosts receive a monetary honorarium to off-set some of the costs, the true rewards are in the lasting relationships that are developed.

Billet coordinator: Stepping in to the role of Billet Coordinator for the Caps this year is Heather Zilbert. Heather has firsthand experience with billeting, as her own son shared a home with 4 different families while playing junior hockey. The experience was extremely rewarding, and one she hopes others will get to experience. Together with the coaching staff, they will facilitate the billeting process, and ensure that our players are placed in a home they will be comfortable with. This process includes an extensive screening process that insures the family and player are the right fit for each other.

Screening process: Each potential billet family goes through a screening process and reference check. The player and their family is also asked a series of questions such as if they are okay living with children, pets, etc. The goal is to insure the player, their family and billet family are comfortable with one another.

Are you interested in becoming a billet? If you are interested in becoming a billet family or require further information, please contact the Major Midget Caps Billet Coordinator Heather Zilbert or Coach Bissonnette

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