



## NORDIQUES HOCKEY CLUB

# BILLET FAMILIES

### **Thank you for your interest in becoming a Host Family.**

Junior Hockey Players need guidance, support, and attention to be successful while playing hockey with the Nordiques. Host Families will be the primary adult figures in their life while players are away from home. Our goal is to have Host Families that treat players as they would their own children, by supporting them in academic and athletic endeavors, imposing discipline when necessary, and expecting contributions to their own family's home life and activities.

Please read the information that follows as it outlines expectations from Host Families and Nordiques Players. These guidelines were developed to make the role easier and ensure consistency across the Nordiques program.

### **HOST FAMILY & PLAYER EXPECTATIONS**

Players have been invited to join the Maine Nordiques because they wish to have an opportunity to join college hockey programs. Players should be reminded often that these opportunities hinge not only on their hockey skills, but also on their academic records, their citizenship, and their disciplinary record. Their continued involvement in the program, during this or future seasons, is also dependent on these three dimensions. Your positive influence is welcome and we ask that you have/provide:

#### **Space & Accommodations:**

- Separate room and closet for a player, or shared room and bath if hosting more than one player
- Desk and chair, internet access and furnishings as you might find in a dorm room
- Nutritious meals. (players are responsible for meal expenses when traveling)
- A patient, caring and friendly home atmosphere
- The same guidance and attention you would want for your children

#### **What do I do if it doesn't work out as planned or my family situation changes?**

We ask that if you are ever unable to fulfill all the obligations to the player please let us know immediately so we can make other housing arrangements.

#### **Sensitivity & Patience**

It can be overwhelming for a player to be so far away from home. A thoughtful billet family appreciates that each player is unique

#### **What you can expect to receive in return for opening your home to a Nordiques player:**

- Most importantly, the opportunity to make a difference to a young player and help him toward realizing his dreams.
- A first hand understanding of being a hockey fan.
- A new perspective on hockey as seen through the eyes of your player
- Orientation and support from the Maine Nordiques staff and other experienced billets.
- A monthly stipend of \$500
- 2 Season Tickets



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## BILLET FAMILY FAQs

### What is a billet family?

Many players leave home to play 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 is paid to the billet family per month. This helps with additional household expenses, especially food and drink.

### 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 the 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 each other. 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 the player stay?

Players arrive in late August. Players who are not in school will leave usually within a few days after the season ends.

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

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

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

You are welcome to invite players to join you and your family for celebrations or activities, but it is not mandatory that you do so. All players have time off during the holidays in December.

**Will my player attend school or have a job?** Yes, all players are required to either be in school or work part time

**Will I have to pass a background check?** Yes, the Nordiques require a background screening for billet families.

## QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT Jim Mercier  
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## NORDIQUES HOCKEY CLUB

### BILLET FAMILY APPLICATION

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

PHONE #2:

EMAIL:

**How far is your residence from**

**The Colisée? \_\_\_\_\_ miles**

**Please list all family members who live at your home on a regular basis:**

**If needed, will you provide transportation to school and to and from the rink for practices, games and road trip departures? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_**

NAME:      AGE:

**How many players would you be willing to accommodate? \_\_\_\_\_ Players**

NAME:      AGE:

**Is there a private bathroom for each player? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

NAME:      AGE:

**Do you have any pets in your home? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_**

NAME:      AGE:

**If yes, please specify type of pet:**

NAME:      AGE:



**Background screening:** All billet parents and anyone living in the host family older than 17 are required to complete a background check. We will email you information for completing the screening. The cost of background checks is covered by the Nordiques and completing the application takes just a few minutes. Additionally, we may interview you and visit your home before placing a player with you.