



The future of hockey is here. I'm very proud to introduce the Barons Hockey Club. BHC was formed as a not for profit alternative hockey development program to run as an extension of BP Hockey. It will be our mission to encourage every youth that participates in the program to understand the concept of development. Both on and off the ice.

With that in mind we have based our program on the following concepts:

Respect for All Persons

Respect for all persons is not just about physical well-being, it is also about emotionally and mentally being strong and well.

BHC will provide and promote a safe environment where all 3 states of mind are of the utmost importance. My goal has been to create a bully "free" group. Thankfully the ground work has been laid, the culture has been created and standards are passed on by current participants. I really have no part in this. It's just the way it is.

- To me being bully free is more important than any win, goal or skill learnt.

All members matter to me, are equally important and are treated with fairness, respect and without regard for ethnicity, gender, social position or age.

Code of Conduct

At BHC the code of conduct (COC) will be used to **define the standards of behavior** for group members. This will include things like:

- Communicate openly
- Players are team players
- Issues and ideas are shared with the group to make us better

- Use consensus for team decisions
- Parents actively participate in meetings

It's very common for groups to develop a code of conduct. What's not so common is for the group to have success holding members accountable for abiding by this code. Ignoring the code is not an option. Since its inception I've given my heart and soul to the program and will expect the same in return.

The code of conduct challenges everyone to take responsibility for themselves and the group's well-being. Being a team player means following the code of conduct, actively participating in its evolution and ongoing relevance.

The code is a vital and evolving entity. I continue to go back, remind and review it to ensure its meeting the needs of the group.

Style of Play

- We are comfortable taking risks.
- Players will be allowed to be creative on the ice.
- Players will be pushing the play. A "move your feet" mentality, especially defencemen 1st pass then move up ice. Pushing the play is a team tactic not individual skill.
- We will be a fun group to play against. Teams will want to play us.
- Team success will not be measured thru game results rather year 3, 4, 5 player development.
- We will be accountable to ourselves and honest with each other.
- We make mistakes and learn from them.
- Goalies are supported 100% of the time. Without confident goalies no one improves.
- Yelling at Referees is a form of bullying and not be tolerated.

On the ice players are encouraged to be risk-takers, which will leave us prone to mistakes being made (which often go hand in hand). This style of play is developed so players have guidelines in order to work from. Parents and Coaches will be supportive of this style of play.

Player Development

Player development within an appropriate environment is one of my primary goals. We wish to foster all members to guide and help one another, a place where age doesn't matter but a shared love the game and a sense of family can be nurtured to encourage all players to work together to sharpen their skills, share their knowledge and achieve their goals.

Coaches

This isn't just a hockey program but more importantly a life skills group. The success of the entire program begins and ends with having the best educators we can possibly find to help our kids. Coaches and off ice fitness instructors have the most important role in the success of BHC. Our program will strive to ensure that our youth are provided the most current practices. No team will be successful without a good coaching staff.

Family Involvement

Probably one of the hardest things to do as a parent is to release or letting go of your child to BHC and to the teams coach.

- This means you cannot criticize or undermine the coach in front of your child.
- You should not encourage your child to play the game the way you were taught it.
- By letting your child go you are trusting the coach to do what's best for you child, and you are trusting that the coach is familiar with the latest ideas surrounding the game.
- Don't sacrifice your beliefs and values just so your son can play on the team.
- Every year I have seen examples of players and parents becoming disillusioned with the coach as the season wears on. Constant positive communication with the coach will keep parents informed and not foster any type of negativity.
- Understand the coach's philosophy is very important prior to committing to the team. . Sometimes the player quits the team, or endures that last few weeks or months and is miserable. I often think this could have been avoided if the parents and coach were able to communicate better.

Affiliations

At any level, hockey is a game of instincts. The ability to instantly make good decisions both on and off the ice is the difference between good teammates and great friends. My goal is to ensure that mental awareness is instinctively moved to the on ice portion of the player's growth. Families must understand the dedication and importance I'm placing on the physical and mental work being learnt at BHC. This will contribute to the player's growth and success.

The Barons Hockey Club Way

We want teams capable of competing for the championship every year.

BHC will be a supportive and fun environment that has helped develop our players, coaching staff, officials, parents, fans, community members and visitors so they feel respected and valued.

I want BHC's reputation to be one of the most competitive, well-run and sportsmanlike organizations in Canada.

I will continue to remind the parents, that they signed up to support / encourage all players. The player's passion, desire and love will come from within.

I've maintained any type of verbal abuse or bullying is not tolerated from anyone in the program. I've established the BHC culture, the standards I will accept. In the end I go back to how I was raised, what my parents taught us as kids, how Lori, her parents and I raised our kids. When you continue to make decisions for the right reasons the hockey part becomes easy for me.

My goal is to get the players successfully to the next level, in order to do that they have to be mentally, physically strong and a good buddy.

I've truly been blessed in hockey, thankful to the parents for the support allowing me to "make a difference" in so many young lives.

Hockey is truly a team sport, so finally a special thank you to all those who have helped, supported and been part of my team.

No ID skates, so I will be looking for commitments with down payments so we can move forward with ice reservations.

Thanks

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