

# Port Colborne Women's Senior House League

## MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

#### **Mission Statement**

The Port Colborne Women's Senior House League is dedicated to fostering a fun, safe, and inclusive environment where women of all skill levels can come together to enjoy the game of hockey. Our mission is to build a strong sense of community over competition by encouraging connection, respect, and personal growth on and off the ice.

Led by women and created for women, our league exists to empower players through sport, celebrate teamwork and belonging, and support a culture where everyone—whether new to the game or a seasoned skater—feels valued and inspired to return season after season.

We are more than just a league. We are a community built on camaraderie, fun, and the shared love of the game.

### **Core Values**

#### 1. Community Over Competition

Our league is built on the foundation of community, not standings. The focus is on building friendships, promoting wellness, and enjoying the sport—regardless of the scoreboard. For many players, the weekly games are more than just hockey; they are a chance to connect, reset, and be part of something meaningful. We value commitment, camaraderie, and the shared love of the game above all else.

#### 2. Women's League, Run by Women

We take pride in being a women-led league that exists to serve the women who play in it. Every decision is made with the intention of creating a positive, empowering, and inclusive experience. This structure ensures that women are at the center of both the sport and the space.

#### 3. Safe and Inclusive for All Skill Levels

Our league is open to women of all abilities—from complete beginners to experienced players. We are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment where everyone can grow and enjoy the sport at their own pace. No matter your skill level, you belong here.

#### 4. Supporting Team Bonds & Belonging

Team chemistry and player connections are essential to retention and enjoyment. When players are allowed to grow together over time, stronger friendships are formed and a greater sense of belonging develops. This is not a professional league—it's a community. Prioritizing fairness should not come at the cost of the positive team experiences that keep people engaged and returning season after season.

#### 5. Fair Play with Flexibility

We recognize the need for balance across teams and believe this can be achieved through flexible solutions, such as thoughtfully placing new players with more established teams. Rather than penalizing teams that have found success through consistency and connection, we aim to support fairness while still nurturing the team culture that defines our league.

#### 6. Fun is at the Heart of What We Do

This league thrives because it brings joy to the women who play in it. When players feel welcomed, supported, and genuinely enjoy their time on the ice, they're more likely to stay involved and grow with the sport. Whether someone is just learning to skate or has years of experience, our focus is on creating a positive, uplifting environment that players look forward to each week. Fun fosters connection, builds commitment, and keeps our community strong.