



West Coast Renegades Guide for Billet Families

Thank you for considering the opportunity to become a host or Billet family for the West Coast Renegades. Billeting high level hockey players is a long standing hockey tradition and is especially important at the elite levels of hockey. Billeting a hockey player is a valued and necessary role in the organization. This concept involves local host families providing a home for out-of-state or out-of-country players for the hockey season. This program allows the players to complete their high school educations, take college preparatory classes and/or obtain part-time employment in the local community while pursuing the next step in their hockey careers.

What is expected of a Billet family:

- • A comfortable and safe living environment
- • Healthy meals
- • Transportation assistance to/from team practices and to the tournament travel arrangement drop-off/pickup location (if the player has a car they may not need this assistance)
- • Enrollment in the local public school where their billet family resides
- • No more than two (2) children in a bedroom
- • Medical treatment provided as necessary through the players health insurance.
- • Open communication with your billet sons family

It is important to recognize in many instances this is a totally new situation for your billet child.

A few suggestions to make your child feel comfortable in your home:

- • Tell them how you would like them to address you
- • Show them around the home, their room, bathroom, laundry room, pantry, where certain dishware are kept
- • Review the rules of the house and the chores you would like them to be responsible to complete and the frequency.
- • If there are any “off limits” foods or areas advise them of these
- • Let them know what is expected of them in the household
- • Ask them questions about favorite foods or hobbies that they enjoy

What can you expect from your Billet Child:

- • A respectful, well behaved addition to your household
- • Will conform to the rules of your family

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- • Will perform the chores in the household your children perform
- • Will keep his bedroom, bathroom and common areas tidy
- • Will do his own laundry
- • Will have access to a debit or credit card provided by his parents for social activities, such as; movies, dinner with friends, shopping etc.

What you can expect from your Billet child's family:

- • Consistent communication in regards to the child
- • A full and complete medical history
- • A photocopy of the medical insurance card
- • A signed and complete copy of the USA hockey Medical Consent to Treat form
- • Money in a school lunch account
- • A monthly stipend of \$500.00
- • Emergency contact numbers
- • Any information that will assist their child in a smooth transition

Often the bond formed between the Billet family, the player and the player's family is a bond that lasts long after the player has moved on to higher levels hockey.

Guardianship:

In order for a child to attend school in the community it is necessary for the billet family to obtain legal guardianship of that child. This is a simple court process to complete and allows the child to legally attend school. The billet coordinator will assist you through this process. If the child chooses on-line schooling there is no need for a guardianship to be obtained.

Zero Tolerance Policy:

WCR has a zero tolerance policy for all of its players in regards to drinking, drugs and any criminal behavior. Your billet child will have a clear understanding that they are to be respectful members of your household. Any disregard of house rules or WCR rules can result in their expulsion from the home and the program.

WCR is committed to a positive and rewarding experience for our host families and our players. We strive to match children in compatible homes that will allow them to

flourish and enjoy. The experience should be an enriching one for both the host family and the child. It is rare that there are real problems among the players and their families. In the event that a situation does not seem to be compatible please contact the Billet Coordinator immediately and we will work to rectify the situation. The role of Billet families is important to help these young athletes achieve their goals and realize their dreams. It is a truly wonderful and giving gesture for a family to welcome a child into their home. We value our Billet families and desire the experience to be enjoyable.

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Once you have agreed to take a billet child into your home, the following process begins:

- • You will be contacted by the Billet Coordinator
- • You will receive the names and contact information for your child
- • The child's family will also receive your contact information.
- • The billet coordinator will encourage you and the child's family to talk to each other to discuss the family situation and the child you will be taking into your home
- • The billet coordinator will provide you with information on the Guardianship process
- • The billet coordinator will collect paperwork from the child's family and provide a folder for you and your billet child
- • The Billet Coordinator will remain available to assist you throughout the season
- • The Billet Coordinator will periodically conduct a walk-through of Billet homes and provide feedback to the Billet family and the Billet player.

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