



## KENAI RIVER BROWN BEARS HOCKEY HOUSING MANUAL

On behalf of the entire Kenai River Brown Bears Junior A Hockey organization we would like to thank you for opening your home to our players. Your support is a vital part of our organization. Our focus is on the development of young hockey players, but a major part of our goal is to assist the players as they become more mature, responsible and productive individuals. Your role in this endeavor is important. For the next several months, you will be a mentor, friend, role model, counselor, and extended family for the player in your home.

Accordingly, you will have a great deal of responsibility. Responsibility not only to the Player, but also to the entire Kenai River Brown Bears Junior A Hockey organization. Coach Mike Flanagan and his staff seek to maintain a comfortable but structured environment for the players outside of the rink. The players are brought here to develop individually and achieve success as part of a team. The Host Family should help promote a team attitude, without sacrificing individual character.

It is the purpose of this manual to provide policies and guidelines for you to use in this endeavor. Your assistance in enforcing the policies set forth by the Bears organization will have a tremendous impact on our success.

### HOUSING RULES

Housing Rules, which contain the basic team rules, are attached to this manual. **Your agreement to abide by and enforce these basic rules is absolutely necessary to ensure the success of our program.** We also expect the player to adapt to your house rules and daily schedule. You should clearly address specific items with the Player as soon after his arrival as is practical. These items should include meal times, laundry arrangements, security issues, bathroom arrangements, computer and phone use, having friends over, privacy issues and any terms of the Player's use of your personal property.

Please supply nutritional meals for the Player while trying to incorporate the Player's dietary preferences. However, you are not expected to turn your home into a restaurant or wait on the Player. Players can be expected to make their own meals should their schedule be different than your own. Players should always be required to clean up after themselves. You should expect



that the Player will maintain his room neat and clean and that he will assist with the daily chores expected of all members of your household.

Please respect the Player's privacy and expect him to respect yours. Discuss arrangements with the Player and, in the event of a problem, communicate immediately and openly to avoid making the problem worse. For those of you with small children, stress to them the importance of privacy for the Players. Assist the Player in letting the children know it is "time to leave them alone." Please do not assume that the Player is a free babysitter, but can if mutually agreeable.

Remind the Players that their behavior, conduct and language will be observed and mimicked by your children! It will also be a reflection upon you and the team. If you feel a Player's behavior is inappropriate, discuss it immediately with him. Do not let any issue linger. If you need assistance or guidance, please call the Housing Director.

### **STIPEND**

You will receive a monthly stipend of \$250.00, which is intended to help defray the cost of housing a player. It is anticipated that the stipend will not cover all of these costs. Your biggest expense will be for groceries. The Players have high nutritional needs, and will require a lot of good food to meet those demands. Obviously, if your family eats many meals out of the home, there will be even more expense. Please budget accordingly.

Most Host Families feel that a Player in the Host Home will not result in a significant increase in utilities. However, this is not the case with phone bills! As stated in the Housing Rules, Players will be required to call collect or use phone cards at all times. Please strictly observe and enforce this policy. Players with homes quite a distance away, know and expect before coming here that this will be an added expense for them.

You should also advise the Player to be selective when giving others your home phone number. Phone numbers should only be given to his family members, employers and other necessary persons unless you otherwise authorize.

Players will have to make their own spending money. Please do not lend them money.



## **THE SEASON**

The season begins in late-August and continues through April. However, the possibility of playoff games may extend the season through May. The majority of the Players will head for home immediately after the season. However, there will be some Players who may be required to remain a couple of extra weeks to finish up classes or meet other obligations. If this is the case, discuss this early enough to make mutually agreeable arrangements. Additional money for housing during these weeks should be worked out between the Host Family and Player.

## **MEDICAL CARE**

Hockey related injuries and treatment will be handled by the team. If a Player has any other medical problems, please call the Housing Director for further direction. In any case, if there is a medical emergency, call for an ambulance and notify the Housing Director as soon as is practical thereafter.

## **LEGAL ISSUES**

Should the Player become involved in any legal problem of any nature, you must notify coach Mike Flanagan and/or the Housing Director immediately.

## **COMPUTER**

Use of the Host Family's computer by the Player should be limited to 30 minutes daily unless more time is needed for school or work related projects. Internet privileges should be discussed between the Housing Family and the Player.

## **SLEEPOVERS**

At times Players will ask permission to spend the night at another Player's home. The Kenai River Brown Bears coaching staff feels that this would not be beneficial to the individual Player and the team. Therefore, sleepovers will not be permitted.



## **SCHEDULE**

Players are required to report and sign in every morning at the rink for a team workout. There will also be an afternoon practice every weekday. These times will be made available to the Players. If a Player is unable to attend practice for any reason, it is his responsibility to contact the coach and notify him. Please refrain from any personal training or coaching of the Players.

## **SCHOOL/WORK**

The Team will attempt to house high school Players in the same school district. The Host Family must follow the school district's rules and regulations. Advanced arrangements should be made with the school district concerning absences due to team travel. All Players taking classes must meet with the Team Academic Advisor and provide a copy of their grades monthly to Coach Flanagan.

All non-high school Players are required to attend college classes or maintain a part-time job. Players must provide the coaching staff with a copy of their work and/or school schedule once a month. With regard to college-aged Players, it is the responsibility of the Player to register for his college courses when he arrives in town.

Kenai River Brown Bears will help locate work for Players. However, Players are urged to seek their own employment opportunities. If any of you are in a position to offer jobs to the Players, please let the Housing Director know of this information as soon as possible, so that we may facilitate employment for the Players. Employment must be flexible to accommodate the Player's schedule.

## **VACATION**

In the event the Host Family is going to vacation or is required to be away from the Host Home overnight, unless other arrangements are made in advance, the Player will stay at the home of another Host Family for the duration of the absence. All arrangements must be made in advance through the Housing Director and initiated by the Host Family. The Player should be given reasonable advance notice by the Host Family in the event of such absence.



## **HOUSING CHANGES**

There will be an adjustment period for all parties involved. At times there may be problems or conflicts that develop. If a major conflict or problem arises, call the Housing Director immediately. If the problem or conflict is relatively small, try to work it out directly with the the Housing Director. In some instances it may be necessary to arrange a meeting between you, the Player, and the Housing Director.

The team reserves the right to make any housing changes it feels are appropriate for any reason. If the removal of a player is necessary, but you would still like to house a different Player, we will try to arrange this.

Additionally, the roster may change during the year due to Player trades, cuts, injury, or other unforeseen circumstances. Roster changes can occur quickly. We realize that many of you will become close to the Players, but roster changes are part of Junior Hockey.

We hope you enjoy having a Player in your home for the season. It can be a wonderful experience for you and the Player. Hopefully this manual will provide you with answers to any questions you might have had. Always feel free to call the Housing Director with any questions. With your help we can look forward to a winning year!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT OUR  
COORDINATOR AT: [ADMIN@KRBBEARS.COM](mailto:ADMIN@KRBBEARS.COM) OR CALL 888-435-4560  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.KENAIRIVERBROWNBEARS.COM](http://WWW.KENAIRIVERBROWNBEARS.COM)**