



Billet Families:

Welcome to a season of fast-paced, exciting Junior A hockey in Pittsburgh. We hope you are just as excited about our upcoming season as we are and that that you will recognize the many opportunities that come with hosting a Pittsburgh Jr Penguins hockey player. Becoming a host family is a great way to get involved in the community as well as develop some very special bonds with the players and their families.

Host families provide a home away from home for our young athletes. For many of the players, this will be their first time away from home and they will need a stable living environment for their move to Pittsburgh. Players on the Pittsburgh Jr Penguins are between the ages of 16 and 20. Part of the commitment to our players and their parents is to provide them with a good home.

The players often become just like one of the family. These boys come into your lives at an early, impressionable age and leave as young men. Their time with the billet family is a very important time of their lives and Jr Penguins experience. They are away from their friends and family, so their billets become very important in their lives. The players arrive from all over the United States in mid to late August and will be here until the end of the hockey season in early April or sometimes even longer to complete their school year.

When a family volunteers to house a member of the team, they are required to provide room and board for the player. This includes, providing nutritious food that is available for him to prepare or for the billets to prepare for the player. In addition, billets must be able to provide the player with his own room.

Billets are expected to treat the players as "one of the family" and not just a "renter". The same goes for the player, as far as cleaning up after themselves and keeping their room tidy, etc.. We have team guidelines and policies that will be provided to you, and that the players must abide by to be within our organization. We expect our billet families to uphold and enforce these team rules. All billet house rules will need to be communicated to the organization, then the player when he arrives.

Some of the benefits of becoming a billet family:

- Each billet family is paid a monthly stipend to house a player in their home of \$300 per month per player housed.
- Generally, billets, players and the player's family develop very special bonds and remain close long after the player has left the Junior Penguins organization. We try to make it possible to make sure that this experience is a rewarding one for both the player and the billets.
- Free game tickets for each member of the billet family.

If you are interested in housing a player, please contact our Billet Supervisor, Janine Hovanec at 412-389-8012 or email her at JHovanec@comcast.net. We receive numerous requests and we will look for you to provide us with some basic information that will be helpful in providing the best placement for the player and the billet family. If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to meeting with you!