



# TIGERS HOCKEY

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## Be Part of A Dream ~ Host a Billet Player

Billeting is a hockey tradition and an integral part of the Tigers AAA program. For more than 20 years student athletes have been coming to the Pikes Peak region from all over the world to further their hockey careers with the Tigers organization. Tigers families have hosted players from across the US, Canada, and Europe.

The billeting experience is as rewarding for the host family as it is for the player. Many lifelong friendships between families are forged through the tradition of hosting a player.

By opening your home and heart to a player, you are providing a young man with the opportunity to achieve his dreams.

A few words from a Tigers billet family:

*"To say billeting is a reward would be an understatement. To bring one of these young, determined athletes in your home is a gift. It breaks your day to day from stagnant or complacent to exciting and new. Billeting is bringing new life, energy, and changes to your home. You will learn new recipes, create new traditions, and become family to people you never knew existed. You will create a bond with this person that will last a lifetime."* ~

Matt, Tanya, Nathan, and Chase Bender



And a few from a first-time billet player:

*"This past season I was fortunate enough to play for the Colorado Spring Tigers U18 AAA program. Having never left home before to play far away from my family, I was initially concerned by the great distance between me and my family.*

*Uniquely, I was placed in two loving and caring billet homes for the season. My first host opened his family's home to me while my final billet's house was being built. Although he had not*



originally planned to billet a player, my first host family treated me like a family member and made me feel at home.

When I moved into my second billet home halfway through the season, I instantly was part of the family. There was no adjustment period or need to get used to being in a new environment. My billet family was accommodating and wanted me to have the best experience possible. Between making sure the house was stocked full of food that I both liked and needed to succeed in hockey and having all the little things that made living with their family feel like home, I could not have been happier. Further, I was lucky enough to have a teammate live with me, creating a lifelong friendship and allowing me to share the experience of living away from home with a teammate.

Overall, throughout my first year with a billet family I grew a lot as a person and learned many valuable life skills. My billet family helped me navigate transitioning from always being reliant on my parents to learning to do things for myself, while still guiding me and helping me along the way. Without living with such a loving and supportive family during my first year away from home, I do not believe I would have had as successful and joyful experience.

As a billet family, you open your home and heart to aspiring hockey players, and get to help and support them grow, develop, and mature as players, students, and people.” ~  
Shai Blattner 18U AAA

If you are interested in hosting a player or learning more about becoming a host family, don't hesitate to contact our Billet Coordinator, Jennifer Taylor at [billetcoordinator@tigershockey.club](mailto:billetcoordinator@tigershockey.club), or our Operations Manager, Kline Donley at [kline.donley@csaha.com](mailto:kline.donley@csaha.com).

For more information on billeting please visit the [Tigers AAA Hockey/Recruiting & Billeting](#) web page.

Thank you for considering becoming a billet family. See you at the rink!

A few billet family photos:

