

Debbie Barrie

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Debbie Barrie is employed by **Cove Church** and serves as the IT Director there. Prior to that, she served in the United States Army since 1986 and retired as an Aviation Officer rated in the UH1H, OH58 A/C, and UH60 A/L aircraft. After her retirement, she went back to work as a programmer for Computer Sciences Corporation and started a web design/ development company in Huntsville, AL in 2007.

Debbie Barrie grew up very active in multiple sports from an early age. She was an All-State Swimmer in High School and ran Cross Country in college. During her college years she was very active in the triathlon circuit. When a botched knee surgery ended her military career, she discovered that skating was possible with her nerve injury and she started playing hockey. At the time, there were no resources for adults to learn to play the game. Debbie called the Huntsville Amateur Hockey Association (now NAHA) and a local hockey coach allowed her to jump in with a group of 10U girls. About that time a newly formed women's program was formed and women from all over North Alabama learned to love the game of hockey. As players would transition in and out of the program, more men became interested in learning the game and the women's hockey program soon became the **Adult Development Program** which is thriving still today. Since then her involvement in the North Alabama Hockey Association as a player/ coach/ manager and league director for both the youth and adult programs continued to grow. Not shortly after Debbie started playing hockey, her two young sons began to play. Both boys started in the NAHA Learn to Play Hockey program, House League and have been on Travel teams ever since. Debbie has spent the last twelve years actively involved in both the Youth and Adult Hockey. Below are just a few of the contributions she has made over the past twelve years:

ADULT LEAGUE CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2007 -Joined the newly formed women's program to learn the game of hockey.
- 2008 -Joined the NAHA Senior Open League.
- 2009-2016 –Served as a team captain for the Senior Open League (SOL).
- **2009- Present** – Built/maintains the website for the Senior Open League (SOL).
- 2010-2016 – Served as the Division Representative for the SOL (both D2 and D3)
- **2014-Present** – Develops the schedule, budgets, stats and standings, manages scorekeepers, and organizes and runs league championship tournament for all three divisions in the Senior Open League. (between 20-22 teams)
- **2016-Present** - Served as the SOL Director and is working to transition this role in hopes to help grow the adult hockey ranks and USA Hockey participation from the SAHA level.
- **2010 –Present** – Organizes a weekly pickup game for adult players who want to play hockey during the week. Fight Club as it has been called over the years is quite often the first skate new to Huntsville hockey players attend and most of our Fight Club players have gone on to coach in our Adult Development Program, Adult Development League, Captain teams in our SOL, as well as coach in our youth house and travel programs. It has literally become the gateway to hockey for new to hockey adults and for experienced players who are new to

Huntsville.

- **2016- Present** -With hockey coach Mike Kiene, started the Adult Development League 1.0/2.0. Now we have a step by step path for any adult who has never played hockey to play and enjoy the game. Our lowest division in the SOL which historically only sees 1-2 new players a season back in 2009/2010 and could only field 4 teams every fall, is now between 8-10 teams because of our adult development programs and the energy and enthusiasm of our adult coaches every week. Since the beginning of our Adult Development League, more than 200 new to hockey adults have joined the North Alabama Hockey Association and many of them started playing hockey well before their children. Now we have very active Adult Development players and their kids playing hockey in North Alabama!

YOUTH HOCKEY CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2009 - 2012 -Became a Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 coach with USA Hockey.
- 2009 – 2014 -Coached and managed Youth House League teams for 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U.
- **2013 – Present** - Managed youth travel teams for 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U.
- 2009-2011 - Volunteered and helped coach Learn To Play Hockey.
- 2014- Meet and teach /train travel league managers / Help facilitate solutions to problems they have during the season.
- **2015- Present** - Orders/ Coordinates the practice jerseys for the entire travel league.
- **2015 Present** – Designed/ Manages/ Coordinates/ Orders the game jerseys and for all the travel teams.
- **2015 –Present** - Works with the travel director and hockey director in scheduling of practices/ games for youth travel teams.
- **2011–Present** - Continues to be there for anyone who needs help getting answers and solve problems for hockey families, coaches and managers.
- 2013 – Initiated the movement and helped facilitate our travel teams growth from one travel team per age group to two travel teams per age group.
- **2014 – Present** – Organize and runs a youth pickup game for four different age groups during the off season.

ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

- **2012- Present** - Elected to three (3) consecutive terms to the North Alabama Hockey Association Board of Directors
- **2013- Present** - Serves as Secretary for the NAHA board and Webmaster for NAHA Website/ SOL Website.
- **2016-Present** - Present - Served as the DDR chair/ committee member for both youth and adult league hockey disciplinary hearings.
- **2011-Present** - As a private renter of ice, rented has rented more ice than any private group outside of the North Alabama Hockey Association in order to build and grow our USA Hockey ranks for youth and adults.

ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Board of Directors/ Secretary - Huntsville High School Soccer Boosters
2015- Present
- Board of Directors/ SOL Director/ Secretary/ Webmaster - North Alabama Hockey Association
2012-Present
- Small Group Leader – 9th Grade Boys – Cove Church
2018 -Present
- Coach/Manager – Huntsville Eastern League – Youth Soccer
2009-2011
- Coach/Manager – Huntsville Eastern League – Youth Tee ball/Baseball
2008 -2009

PERSONAL

Debbie Barrie is fifty-one years old, and has been married for 20 years to Col Robert Barrie Jr. They have three kids, Robby (17) Jack (15) and Molly (12). Their family enjoys spending time together on the road with hockey, football, soccer, lacrosse, wrestling and gymnastics. Debbie also enjoys restoration and bodywork on cars.

SERVING ON THE SAHA BOARD

I have been interested in serving on the SAHA board and to represent the state of Alabama for several years. While it is true that I did not grow up playing the game of ice hockey, I know that no one is more passionate about growing the game of hockey than I am. My primary focus is to build our USA Hockey ranks and to serve the players and parents who need support. My family has spent the better part of the last 12 years at an ice rink and traveling all over the country, and our hockey community has become our extended family. When I walk into the rink and see a sheet of ice full of new to hockey kids or adults it only energizes me to continue to do what we have been doing. While I am proud of what we have accomplished at a local level, I feel that our NAHA board is ready for some fresh ideas and that by serving on the SAHA board I can continue to make our program stronger across the entire SAHA region.

Thank you for your consideration.