

Team Challenge: Adopt A Seniors' Home!

Meadowvale Minor Hockey's ME51 Atom Red issues a challenge to hockey teams across Canada to spread some hockey cheer this winter. Many seniors would love to come to hockey games, but need to be invited and given a schedule. Larger, reputable seniors' homes have a bus, trained staff and an Activity Coordinator to transport and accompany seniors who are mobile and interested in outings. If your arena isn't very accessible or comfortable, they can choose to watch away games. Seniors can attend on a drop-in basis, depending on weather.



4 EASY STEPS:

1. Call a Senior's Home and ask the Activity Coordinator/Manager if they've been adopted by a local hockey team yet. Larger homes may welcome more than 1 team.
2. The Manager or Coach should make an appointment to visit the Senior's Home to meet with the Executive Director and/or Activity Coordinator to introduce your team, and discuss expectations and policies. Pictures may not be permitted due to resident confidentiality.
3. Plan 2 visits with your team to the Senior's Home to chat and play cards and board games. Some homes welcome friendly, social dogs (dog therapy). Call first to find out.
4. Invite residents to watch some of your games this season. Your Manager or Coach should provide the schedule and revisions to the Activity Coordinator.

Getting minor hockey players together with seniors who love Canada's game is magical. Many seniors have played hockey in the past, or have fond memories of listening to hockey on the radio or watching games on tv. This is a win-win for youth and seniors.

The idea came from Liz Wilson-Ciconte, Meadowvale's Publicity Director, who approached the Board with the idea late last season. It occurred to Liz that if hockey teams "adopted" retirement homes, it would a great way to bring the generations together. Why stop at hockey teams? We challenge all sports/activity organizations to adopt as well. Soccer, baseball, dance, gymnastics... the sky's the limit. Let's get seniors out and about in our community having fun, enjoying activities, sharing stories and creating special memories with our kids.

"Involving our community has always been important to Meadowvale Minor Hockey Association," shares Steve Johnston, Acting President. "We firmly believe that connecting and building relationships at the local level makes Meadowvale a unique association. We invite teams across the country to embrace this initiative so that people of all ages can enjoy our great game."

Are you up for the challenge? Get your team onboard and make some local seniors happy this hockey season!

** Some retirement homes may want to remain anonymous for various reasons.*

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