

Name: Craig Brickey

Position: Board Member at Large

Why I am interested in running:

My interest in serving on the Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors comes from a genuine passion for the game and the impact this organization has on kids and families. Hockey is more than just a sport—it teaches life lessons like teamwork, resilience, accountability, and confidence. OHC plays a huge role in shaping those experiences, and I would be proud to help support and guide that mission. Over time, I've had the opportunity to see OHC at all levels, from the Initiation Program (IP) through the Jr. Lancers, and that perspective has really stuck with me. Each level matters. Each step in a player's journey builds toward the next. When one level is strong, it lifts the entire organization. That's something I care deeply about—making sure every player, at every stage, feels valued and has a great experience. If I were given the opportunity to serve, I would approach every decision with one simple question in mind: "Is this what's best for our players?" Not just the top players, but every player. I believe strongly in fairness across all levels and creating an environment where every kid has the chance to grow, compete, and enjoy the game. I am also passionate about continuing to grow hockey in Omaha. There is so much potential here, and I would love to be part of building something even bigger—an organization that not only develops great players, but becomes one of the best and most respected programs in the Midwest. At the end of the day, I want to give back to a program that gives so much to others. I believe in what OHC stands for, and I would be honored to help move it forward.

What experience or skills could you contribute to the organization?

My greatest strength is my experience working with kids every day and my commitment to helping them grow. In my current role, I work closely with youth in a structured program setting, which has given me a strong understanding of child development, behavior, and how to create positive, engaging environments. I see firsthand how much consistency, encouragement, and clear expectations matter in helping kids succeed. In addition, I have been coaching youth sports for the past ten years. Through coaching, I've learned how to connect with players of all skill levels, communicate effectively with families, and balance development with having fun. I understand that every player's journey is different, and I take pride in helping each athlete build confidence, improve their skills, and feel like they belong. These experiences have also strengthened my leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills. I am comfortable working with a wide range of personalities, collaborating with other coaches and staff, and making decisions that keep the best interest of the players at the center. I believe in being approachable, fair, and consistent—qualities that are important both on a team and within an organization like OHC. Overall, I bring a perspective that is grounded in working directly with kids and families every day. I understand what they need, what motivates them, and what helps create a positive experience. I would use that perspective to help guide decisions that support all players and continue to strengthen the Omaha Hockey Club as a whole.

Any additional information you would like the members to know about you:

At my core, I am committed to showing up for kids and creating positive, supportive environments where they can grow and succeed. Through my work with youth and years of coaching, I've seen how important it is for players to feel valued, challenged, and part of something bigger than themselves. I believe in being approachable, listening first, and working collaboratively. I'm someone who will put in the time, ask thoughtful questions, and stay focused on what matters most—making decisions that are in the best interest of the players and the long-term success of the organization. I care deeply about OHC and the role it plays in our community. I want every player, at every level, to have a great experience and leave the program with both strong hockey skills and life skills they can carry forward. I would be honored to be part of helping OHC continue to grow and succeed.