

Tom White Biography for Detroit Lakes Youth Hockey Board Candidacy

PLEASE LET THIS SERVE AS NOTIFICATION OF MY INTENT TO RUN FOR A BOARD POSITION

TOM WHITE

Why run for the board? Quite simply, CHANGE. My belief is that the current direction of our hockey program does not produce the proper results, which should be a desire to help develop good people, while at the same time, develop good hockey players. That said, skating is the most important part of a hockey player's skill foundation and is not being developed properly under the current direction of this program. As well, there seems to be a focus on individual skill development, which is fine, but needs to be done in conjunction with team development. In my opinion, change is necessary within our association in order to properly develop our young athletes, and I intend to promote and help install the changes that I can see are needed at this time.

I also plan to support a culture where the opinions and ideas of ALL members of our association matter, and deserve consideration. I would hope the board will be able to operate with an "open door" policy so that members can feel comfortable coming forward and discussing any number of ideas related to hockey, fundraising, concessions, scheduling, arena concerns etc.

I think that it is possible to do all of the above in a friendly, non-combative atmosphere with the ultimate goal being what's best for the kids. If everyone remembers that we are all doing this for our kids, I sincerely think it will be possible for all members to look forward to coming to the arena and have fun while there, every single time.

HOCKEY BACKGROUND

I have been a member of DLYHA since moving my family to the Detroit Lakes area in 2013. During this time, I have spent various seasons coaching and helping in other aspects of the association.

- My personal hockey journey started at the age of 2. At this age, I was placed on the ice by my father, who was not a hockey player or a skater, and shoved out to fend for myself.
- From there, my first organized hockey began at the age of 4 in the Edina Youth Hockey Association. While in Edina, I completed my second year of Squirt hockey before my family moved to the Denver area.
- In Colorado, I became a member of the Littleton Hockey Association. After finishing my second bantam season, I moved on to play high school hockey for Cherry Creek High School in Englewood, CO. During my junior and senior season I was captain of the team, voted on by my teammates.
- Two weeks after graduation from high school, I headed off to British Columbia, Canada to train and prepare to play junior hockey for the Abbotsford Falcons in the BCJHL. I completed 1 season in the BCJHL, then decided to set my sights on playing at the college level.
- Following my time playing junior hockey, I went on to play college hockey for Fredonia State University in the SUNYAC (State University of New York Athletic Conference). While at Fredonia, I was voted by my teammates to be captain of the team each season.
- Upon completing my 4 year degree with a major in economics, I went back to Colorado to begin my career and continued playing and coaching hockey for approx. 20 years before relocating my family to Detroit Lakes.

Seeing a smile through a hockey mask from a young boy or girl is one of the great joys in my life. If you honor me with your vote, I will try to help create those smiles every day.

THANK YOU!

TOM WHITE