

The Downing Family Trust Scholarship

Facilitated by Patrick and Fuller Downing
In Partnership with the Parma Flyers Hockey Club

Purpose:

The Downing Family Trust Scholarship was created to recognize and support a standout player within the Parma Flyers Hockey Club who demonstrates exceptional character, leadership, and dedication—both on and off the ice.

This scholarship is deeply personal. It is facilitated by brothers Patrick and Fuller Downing, who both proudly wore the Parma Flyers jersey and carry those memories with them to this day. Our time with Parma hockey shaped the rest of our lives—through lifelong friendships and unforgettable experiences. From all the practices, games, and out-of-town tournaments to the small things—like getting McDonald's after a late skate, watching Fuller try to fit 46 ounces of slushy into a 44-ounce cup at Speedway, cheering at Cleveland Monsters games, dressing up for the team banquet, or spending weekends at Kalahari Waterpark with our team—it all meant so much to us. Hockey was the glue that held our family together.

This scholarship is our way of giving back to the community and the program that gave us so much.

Award:

One player will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship each season. The scholarship honors a player who embodies the spirit of the Parma Flyers both on and off the ice and upholds the core values of leadership, dedication, and humility. The scholarship funds will be reinvested directly into the selected player's hockey fees for the upcoming season. To ensure proper application, the funds will be issued directly to Michael A. Ries Ice Arena on behalf of the recipient at the following address:

Michael A. Ries Ice Arena
5000 Forestwood Dr, Parma, OH 44134.

Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible for the Downing Family Trust Scholarship, the player must:

- Be a current member of the Parma Flyers Hockey Club.
- Submit a written essay (details below).

Selection Criteria:

The ideal recipient will embody the following characteristics:

1. Leadership – Inspires others through actions, words, and effort.
2. Sportsmanship – Respects teammates, opponents, referees, and coaches alike.
3. Work Ethic – Brings effort and intensity to every shift, practice, and drill.
4. Accountability – Owns their mistakes and seeks to improve.
5. Team-First Mentality – Cares about team success above personal recognition.
6. Resilience – Stays positive through adversity and setbacks.
7. Mentorship – Leads younger or less experienced teammates by example.
8. Academic Effort – Demonstrates commitment to schoolwork and learning.
9. Community Engagement – Gives back to the team or local community.
10. Humility – Stays grounded in success and lifts others up.

Essay Requirement:

Each applicant must submit a 750-word, double-spaced essay in Times New Roman, size 12 font responding to the following prompt:

Essay Prompt:

“Describe how being a part of the Parma Flyers Hockey Club has impacted your life both on and off the ice. In what ways have you demonstrated leadership, character, and commitment to your team and community? Why do you believe you should be the recipient of the Downing Family Trust Scholarship? Are you or your family currently facing a financial hardship that may affect your ability to continue playing hockey?”

Essays should be submitted to the selection committee and copied to patrick.downing2121@gmail.com by the end of the current hockey season.

Selection Process:

The scholarship recipient will be chosen by a dedicated committee made up of respected members of the Parma Flyers community:

- Dale Kimpton
- Tim Hollo
- Chuck Knapick

The committee will review all submitted essays and consider player conduct, leadership, and impact throughout the season.

Contact Information:

For questions about the Downing Family Trust Scholarship, please contact:

Patrick Downing

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