



"This will be our fourth year in hosting a Mallard and we've always had a positive experience in providing for a player. It's a very special experience for our son Zac who is an only child and really looks up to the hosted player as being a big brother-type." – Frey Family

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"We started hosting in 1999 and it has been a positive experience. The players were a good influence for my son who was 10 years old when we started. They have been goal oriented and hardworking young men. The players and their families have become members of our family and that has been an extra reward for Judy and myself!!"

– John Harrington



Host Families



The Northwoods League believes that its Host Family Program is an integral cornerstone of the Northwoods League.

From the League's inception in 1994, generous families and individuals have warmly offered their homes and provided welcoming food and lodging for student-athletes traveling from the far and wide.

This has created an immediate "booster club" and a dedicated fan base within each Northwoods League community. The Host Family Program has been so popular that "waiting lists" of interested host families exist in some of our member cities.

"The opportunity to make an impact on a young man and support his dreams is truly a terrific experience. During the past four years we have had an extremely satisfactory and enjoyable experience hosting a player for the summer. The only challenging part of being a host family is that the young men ultimately leave at the end of the summer." – Bakich Family

Numerous lifetime relationships have been forged between NWL players and their Host Families over the years and we expect more to develop in each future season. Graduations, weddings and holidays have all been shared by Host Family members and NWL players. Children of Host Families have been fortunate enough to receive "baseball tutelage" and view NWL players as role models not available to most youth.

Along with the many intangible benefits of acting as a Host Family, there is a reasonable degree of personal responsibility. The NWL players are often many miles from home, in a strange city, and, are in need of the structure that a Host Family is designed to provide to them. The NWL player's expectation of his Host Family are almost always similar to the structure that the Host Family provides, did provide or would provide to the Host Family's own children. It really is a temporary extended "family."



Prior to becoming eligible, (or if you are currently a Host Family), as a corollary to your responsibility, we encourage you to personally review your coverage under your respective home insurance or umbrella policies or contact your insurance carrier to insure that you and your invited NWL player guests are covered under your insurance coverage.

The Northwoods League does not recommend supplying alcohol to any hosted player.

It is recommended that if during the NWL Season you leave town and the player is not then under authorized adult supervision, for any length of time, that you contact your hometown team's General Manager (or Owner) and Coach to inform Team Management that your Hosted Family NWL player may be alone in your home and may have individual needs or concerns that should be taken care of during your absence.

"We've always enjoyed young people and having had only one daughter of our own, we think of these young men as the "sons we never had." Housing baseball players fills a void in our empty nest and we have met some great families along the way also. We still keep in touch with several of the players that we've housed over the past few years. We enjoy going to the Bucks baseball games, but it's even more fun and takes it to a more personal level when you have someone special to cheer for!"

– Ketter Family

Finally, we wish to recognize and convey our sincere **"Thanks to You"** for your valuable contribution to Northwoods League baseball.

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