



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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GET TO KNOW YOUR BGHC BOARD MEMBERS

Mike and his family moved to Burlington in 2010, where they quickly discovered a tight knit community with a passion for the game of hockey. In 2018, his daughter, Bianca, began her hockey experience in the Cudas IP program and Mike volunteered to help, joining her on the ice. Bianca has since developed her own love of the game and is currently team Captain for one of the Cudas u13 Rep teams. Mike strongly believes that the solid foundation of skill development and fun that we laid out in the IP program, contributed to her continued pursuit and enjoyment of the sport.

Mike spends his days working for Scotiabank, focused on Strategy and Operations, skills he leverages to help further the BGHC and some ambitious initiatives including Grow the Game where 250 girls under the age of 7 will have the opportunity to participate in a full season of hockey at zero cost.

Recently Mike has been instrumental in the newly launched House League BurlOak Challenge Cup, a partnership initiative formed with the Oakville Hornets

whereby House League teams from both organizations engage in 'crossover' games one weekend a month, accumulating points for their respective organization.

Mike has coached in both the BLOMHA and BGHC organizations over the years, but was looking for a way to contribute more broadly to the future of the women's game in Burlington. Mike joined the BGHC Board in 2023 and is currently serving as one of our House League Directors, with a focus on growing the House League program, which serves as the foundation for girls hockey in the City.



MIKE MERKLEY

BGHC IN THE NEWS

The BGHC Board Members delegated at Council this month after the discovery of inequity in the ice allocation between the boys' hockey clubs and the BGHC. To read about what the Mayor and Council had to say check out the [Burlington Gazette, linked here.](#)

**THE LATEST BGHC MEDIA
CAN BE FOUND ON OUR
WEBSITE
[HERE](#)**

THE BURLOAK CUP

After 3 weekends of competition, Burlington leads Oakville 49-47 (overall points). The final weekend of the Burloak Cup will be the weekend of January 20th and 21st when it will be determined which organization takes home the inaugural Cup!



We'd love to see all Cudas out cheering on our teams!!

Check the BGHC calendar to see when and where the games are!



Looking for a fun and helpful way to spread the love of hockey? The BGHC is making it easy - Sponsor a girl to play hockey by following the QR Code. Once your donation is complete you will receive a certificate.

DONATE HERE



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Burlington Girls Hockey Club

REMINDER FOR COACHES, ASST COACHES + TRAINERS



COURSE NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED BY JAN 1, 2024

The BGHC has implemented the Respect Group course Keeping Girls In Sport as mandatory for all bench staff beginning January 1, 2024. This course will build our volunteers understanding of how to:

- address common motivators and barriers for girls in sport;
- navigate the ways girls and boys experience sport environments differently throughout their development stages;
- foster positive sport environments for girls; and,
- ultimately keep girls engaged in sport.

DID YOU KNOW?



If you require information on how to complete this course please connect with your HL or Rep Directors

THE JR CUDAS

Three Jr Cudas have been named to Canada's National Women's Under-18 Team!

Hockey Canada has announced the 23 players who will wear the Maple Leaf with Canada's National Women's Under-18 Team at the Jan. 6-14 in Zug, Switzerland. Included in the roster are three Jr Cudas: Sara Manness, Charlotte Pieckenhagen and Claire Murdoch.

The Canadians open the tournament against Germany on Jan. 6 at 2 p.m. ET. They will also face Czechia on Jan. 7 at 2 p.m. ET before their preliminary-round finale against Finland on Jan. 9 at 2 p.m. ET.

