



ERIC BERNAL

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Hockey Experience

- I have been involved in minor hockey in this city for the past 10 years
- Richmond Jets Board of Director (starting my 2nd year)
- Team Manager/Treasurer (6 years - won Senior Manager of the Year in 2012)
- Association Division Manager for H2-4, Bantam C and Rep (4 years)
- Assisted with various tournament website & social media committees

Board Experience

- Chair of the Branding Committee
- Co-Chair of Communication Committee
- Webmaster
- Technology (TeamSnap, TeamGenius, MailChimp, G-Suite)
- Coordinator of this year's Pink T-shirt/Anti Bullying day

Leadership Experience

- Successfully built and sold an Internet company
- Experience building strong organizations with an emphasis on people and process
- Over 20 years of experience working in small, effective, and efficient team environments.

Work Experience

- Entrepreneur
- Web developer & digital marketer (21 years)
- Team Leader

Why I am running for President

When my son was in first year Atom, I volunteered to be the Team Manager. This experience changed my life. I loved that I was able to help out my son's team, and for me that made the hockey experience that much better. I loved the volunteer experience. Ever since then I have always made a point to volunteer in our hockey association. I love giving back and I want to set an example for my children that giving back to your community is very important. Today, I am a strong believer that giving to others is the true road to long-lasting happiness.

As a team manager, I noticed that the balancing process in house always varied from year to year, and I saw first-hand how frustrating it could be for coaches. Although the Jets did introduce an association-wide balancing process, there were still some issues with its implementation. This was my main motivation to run for director in 2018. I truly wanted to be a part of the solution and help make our association the best that it can be.

Mergers are never easy. During my term as Director I have realized that in order for the Jets to truly succeed, we need to keep moving forward and encourage younger parents to get involved at the Board level and help create our future. I don't carry any baggage from being on a previous Seafair or Richmond Blues board, and I have a good working relationship with everyone on the current board. I am confident that I can help unite our board around common goals and positive leadership.

I want to help build a great minor hockey association that serves all the needs of its members, and provides young kids an exceptional youth sports experience.

Objectives as President

- Continue working on our COVID-19 "Return to Hockey" plan
- Lead by example and be active, engaged, and present
- Build a vision and strategy around the needs of our members and players
- Inspire our board to be fully engaged and do their best work
- Build trust within our working board and ensure we are working as a team for you and your kids
- Put better systems in place to measure our progress as a board and as an association
- Establish a leadership program/scholarship for young alumni coaches

A little bit about me

I have lived in Richmond, BC since I was 10 years old. I moved away in my early twenties and moved back to raise my family and I have called Richmond "home" ever since. It's an amazing community, and I love the diversity that our city offers.

I never had the opportunity to play hockey growing up, but I always loved the sport and once I had my own kids I wanted all of them to try it. Although my girls did not end up playing hockey, my son was hooked at Hockey 1. He loved every aspect of hockey and quickly became a fanatic. It is through his own experiences that I realized what an amazing and powerful sport hockey is. Through hockey, my son learned what hard work and dedication are. He also learned what being on a team is all about and has made some great friendships. But most importantly, he discovered what being truly passionate about something really feels like. My son is now in Midget.

As a parent and volunteer, hockey has been a very rewarding, social, and fun experience and I have had the pleasure of meeting a lot of great people. I don't think too many other sports can offer as much.