



# AMHA NEWS

## LIFETIME MEMBER AWARD - MIKE THIBEAU



Mike Thibeau – A Snapshot in time, these smiling faces capture the essence of what it’s all about!

### A Tribute From one Lifetime Member to Another

With only three Lifetime Member Achievements ever being awarded with the Ayr Minor Hockey Association, with all its countless volunteers over the years, it’s fair to say that there is something extra special about Bob Cortnage, Tim Hart, and most recently added, Mike Thibeau.

A message from Tim Hart,

*“I recall when Mike joined the Board. Mike showed great passion and desire to improve AMHA in everything he did.*

*Mike has a special passion for Community events to promote AMHA. He loves hosting and supporting the athletes with hometown tournaments.*

*I remember the call one night when Mike indicated we are close to closing in on the final decisions of obtaining The Silver Stick Tournament, which continues to be a high recognition for AMHA.*

*Mike’s efforts and time he volunteers never waivers in anything he does.*

*As President of AMHA, Mike has guided and developed a solid cast of Board of Directors volunteer group. Although the role comes with managing conflict, Mike has always kept his decisions objective in nature and focused on the athlete first mantra.*

*Mike is truly deserving of a Lifetime Membership with AMHA. As one of three individuals that hold this distinction within our organization I know myself and Bob Courtnage will embrace and be proud to have Mike stand with us in the future.*

*Congratulations Mike, your friend Tim Hart.*



THIBEAU FAMILY – Mike Thibeau, his wife Lisa Thibeau and their sons, Jack and Simon.

### Family – Friendship - Memories

Mike began volunteering with Ayr Minor Hockey when his son, Simon, started his first Novice Year. Thibeau was working closely with Tony Pys and as Mike’s wife Lisa recalls, “Tony told him, *if you are going to manage my team, you need to learn how to skate.*” Mike learned how to skate and so began a seventeen year commitment to all things hockey in Ayr. Fast forward a couple of years and Mike and Lisa’s youngest son, Jack started playing hockey as well. Mike’s involvement and dedication was unwavering throughout every year that his boys played hockey for AMHA; whether as Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Trainer or Manager, Mike was there.

Ayr Minor Hockey holds a special place in both Mike and Lisa’s hearts. Truly a, “hockey family,” Lisa has also spent many season’s managing teams and being on the bench with their boys and team mates. To this day, players will stop by the Thibeau’s home to reminisce, laugh, and thank Mike for being a wonderful coach, and a great guy, because that’s genuinely who Mike is.

And we cannot forget, Mike along with Dave Weaver, were largely responsible for bringing the AE Silver Stick to Ayr. They bought this prestigious tournament to Ayr, which has been a huge contributor to our town and our local businesses.

It was through Mike’s persistence and determination that he petitioned the Silver Stick Board, prepared and presenting a proposal to bring the Novice Silver Stick to Ayr at their Annual General Meeting. It was due to his preparedness and success of the previous AE Silver Stick that it was unanimously granted. The very first tournament was scheduled for March 2020 and unfortunately, it was unable to come to fruition due to the Covid 19 Pandemic and subsequent restrictions.

A family man, Coach, mentor and all around outstanding human being. Congratulations, Mike on your much deserved Lifetime Member Award!