NICOLAS BERNOLDI

Leading Goaltending Instructor & Ontario Certified Teacher

HUSA Hockey Inc.



Goaltending Experience (Levels): **AA (Stoney Creek Minor Hockey), AAA (Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs), Jr. C (Glanbrook Rangers - PJHL)**

OMHA Respect in Sport Certified: OMHA-8229872-1-T8G

About Me & Coaching Philosophy:

To me, playing in the goalie position is one of the most rewarding and mentally dynamic challenges in hockey. My approach to goaltending centers on building a solid foundation of core mechanics, tactical awareness, and mental resilience, all while instilling a lifelong passion for the game.

I believe every young goaltender learns differently and it must be embraced as such. By scaffolding complex movements breaking down fundamental skill sets into clear, manageable steps, I help goalies build confidence incrementally. Whether mastering basic balance and edge control or refining advanced post-integration and game-reading abilities, my goal is to guide each player to feel empowered, capable, and excited every time they step on the ice!

The Professional Educator Advantage:

As an Ontario Certified Educator with a Master of Science in Education with the Brant-Haldimand-Norfolk Catholic District School Board, my professional background deeply informs how I structure on-ice instruction. Coaching goalies requires much more than demonstrating drills; it requires effective communication, adaptive instruction, and active feedback tailored to individual learning styles.

- **Differentiated Instruction:** Adapting feedback and drills to meet each goalie's unique skill level, cognitive strengths, and developmental stage.
- **Positive & Constructive Feedback:** Cultivating a supportive environment where mistakes are viewed as essential steps toward growth and improvement.
- **Clear Conceptual Understanding:** Teaching goalies *why* specific techniques work, enabling them to make quick, smart decisions under game situations and most importantly have fun!

Instructor Snapshot:

- **Education:** Master of Science in Education (M.S.Ed.) | Bachelor of Arts (Brock University)
- **Instructional Focus:** Fundamental Mechanics, Edge Work & Movement, Puck Tracking, Game Read/Tactics, Scaffolding Skill Development
- **Coaching Style:** Supportive, structured, high-energy, and growth-oriented
- **Coach the Girls Varsity Hockey Team** at my respective school in secondary athletics focused on both academic and athletic success of students.

Ultimate Objective:

Above all, my ultimate goal is to ensure every young goalie falls in love with the game and steps off the ice with a smile. By creating a fun, encouraging, and highly supportive environment, I aim to help beginner goalies build strong foundational mechanics and transferable life skills, such as resilience and teamwork, all while making lasting friendships and enjoying every single moment in net!


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