

## **Brooks DeZellar – Candidate for Player Development Director**

Hello, my name is Brooks DeZellar. My wife, Brooke, and I are proud parents of two children Sidney (6) and Violet (4). Family is at the center of everything I do, and many of the values that guide me today were first shaped on the ice and reinforced at home by my parents.

I began skating at just two years old, learning the fundamentals from my father at Forest Hills Park here in Eden Prairie. What started as time spent outdoors with my dad quickly developed into a lifelong passion. I continued my development through the Eden Prairie Hockey Association, where I gained not only technical skills, but also a deep appreciation for teamwork, accountability, and perseverance.

During my youth career, I had the honor of serving as captain of the Bantam AA team, an experience that first introduced me to leadership responsibilities and the importance of setting the standard through work ethic and attitude. I later won the 2005 State Championship with the Academy of Holy Angels, a defining moment that reinforced the value of preparation, unity, and commitment to a common goal.

Following high school, I advanced to junior hockey, competing in both the United States Hockey League (USHL) and the North American Hockey League (NAHL). Playing at the highest levels of junior hockey challenged me to elevate every aspect of my game physically, mentally, and emotionally. It also exposed me to elite coaching structures, advanced development systems, and the importance of long-term athlete planning.

### **Value**

My experience from youth hockey through high-level junior hockey has provided me with a strong foundation in player development, leadership, and fostering a positive team culture. I am confident that this background equips me to contribute meaningfully and effectively in the role of Player Development Director. I am seeking this position to give back to the community and the game that helped shape the person I am today.

My goal is to help young athletes maximize their potential not only as hockey players, but as individuals. I want to instill habits such as preparation, coachability, teamwork, and mental stamina and resilience that will serve them long after their playing careers conclude.

### **Goals/ Initiatives**

1. Implement a set of (age-appropriate) core staples "On-Ice and Off-Ice"
2. Create a Comprehensive "Eagles Playbook"
3. Invest in Coach Development and Alignment
4. Emphasize Culture and Character

Thank you and I look forward to this opportunity.

Brooks DeZellar