

FACE OFF



EMPOWERING KIDS...ON AND OFF THE ICE

DECEMBER 2024 ISSUE

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Hall of Fame
- Austin Hatch's Inspiring Journey
- Volunteer Spotlight
- How You Can Help

SAVE the DATE

LEGENDS OF SPORT WEEKEND



THURS 1.16.24
YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC
START: 6 pm

FRI 1.17.24
CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
10 am SHOTGUN

SAT 1.18.24
YOUTH GOALIE CLINIC
START: 11:30 - 2:30 pm



SCAN TO
REGISTER

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year for the Ritchie Hockey Foundation, we are humbled by the incredible generosity and unwavering support of this amazing community. What began as a way to honor our son Jason's memory has grown into a powerful force for good, empowering young athletes to overcome challenges, achieve greatness, and lead with courage - both on and off the ice.



Donna and Bob Ritchie

Hockey is so much more than a sport. It's a teacher of resilience, a builder of character, and a unifier of people. These values defined Jason and continue to guide everything we do at the foundation. Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to ensure that no young athlete has to put their dreams on hold because of financial hardship. You've given them the chance to thrive on the ice and in life, and for that, we cannot thank you enough.



2024 Youth Goalie Clinic

expanded outreach programs that open the doors of hockey to even more children. Each success story - every goal scored, every personal triumph - is a testament to the difference your kindness makes.

Looking ahead we are thrilled to invite you to the Legends of Sport Golf Tournament on Friday, January 17, 2025. This special event is so much more than a fundraiser. It's a celebration of the incredible lives we've touched together, the opportunities we've created, and the hope we continue to spread. We are especially honored to welcome Austin Hatch as our keynote speaker for the tournament breakfast. Austin's extraordinary story of resilience and purpose reminds us of the power of determination and the strength of the human spirit.

None of this would be possible without you - our incredible supporters, donors, and friends. Your belief in our mission and your dedication to Jason's legacy are the lifeblood of this foundation. Together, we are changing lives, building brighter futures, and ensuring that the spirit of hockey inspires the next generation.



Donna and Jon Ritchie

Thank you for standing with us on this journey. Your generosity has been, and continues to be, a gift that keeps Jason's memory alive and creates opportunities that resonate far beyond the rink. We look forward to celebrating with you at the golf tournament awards dinner and continuing this important work together.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Bob and Donna Ritchie

Co-Founders, Ritchie Hockey Foundation

FEATURED: AUSTIN HATCH | G.R.I.T



Motivational speaker, Austin Hatch

Life often challenges us in ways we can't predict, but few have faced adversity as unimaginable as Austin Hatch. His journey from tragedy to triumph stand as a testament to the power of resilience, family, and unwavering determination.

Born in 1994, Austin Hatch grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he quickly developed a passion for basketball. Under the guidance of his father, Stephen, Austin honed his skills on the court and dreamed of one day playing at the collegiate level, University of Michigan, to be specific. His talent did not go unnoticed, and by the time he was in high school, Austin had already committed to playing basketball at his father's alma mater, University of Michigan, fulfilling a lifelong dream.

In 2003, Austin's life took its first devastating turn. A plane crash claimed the lives of his mother, Julie; his 11-year-old sister, Lindsay; and his 5-year-old brother, Ian. Austin, just 8 years old, survived alongside his father. Austin and Stephen worked to rebuild their lives forging an even deeper bond. However, in 2011, heartbreak would strike again, another plane crash claimed the life of Austin's father and his stepmother, Kimberly. Austin was the sole survivor, left with life-threatening injuries, including brain trauma that put his basketball future in jeopardy.

Following the second plane crash, Austin faced a long and grueling road to recovery. He spent weeks in a medically induced coma and endured months of rehabilitation to relearn basic skills like walking and speaking. For someone who had lost so much, giving up might have seemed like an easy choice - but not for Austin.



Austin Hatch with Bob Ritchie and RHF board member, Lisa Miller

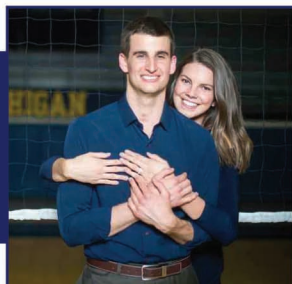
With the support of friends, family, and the University of Michigan community, Austin worked tirelessly to heal, both physically, and emotionally. His commitment to recovery was as much about honoring the memory of his loved ones as it was about fulfilling his own dreams.

In 2014, Austin joined the Michigan Wolverines basketball team. While his injuries limited his ability to contribute on the court, his presence inspired teammates and fans alike. Off the court, Austin became a symbol of hope, using his platform to share his story and motivate others.

Today, Austin lives in Michigan with his wife Abby and two children Hudson, and Marlie.

Austin a beacon of inspiration, traveling around the country to speak on his platform of G.R.I.T. We are excited to have Austin join us at the 2025 Legends of Sport Golf Tournament where he will speak about his story and his path to triumph at our sponsor breakfast. You do not want to miss out on this exceptional experience.

"We don't control what happens to us, but we do control how we respond. Every setback is an opportunity to come back stronger."



"Life is about purpose, not perfection. The greatest winds come from the lessons we learn through the hardest losses."



Helping teams & individuals overcome adversity

HALL OF FAME

The Ritchie Hockey Foundation serves student athletes like Jason who play their hearts out. These kids develop strength of character, selflessness, and drive through hockey.



SILAS GARY SAWYER GARY GAVIN ERICKSON CHARLEE TSCHIDA BRIGGS MILLER SONNY DELGADO PARKER DEDINI PARKER COLLINS LOGAN MADRID LILLIAN RENEY



CARTER HOWERTON ASHER COHEN ANABELLE RODRIGUEZ AIDEN WILLIAMS CHYNA TAYLOR LAWSON LILLEY GABRIEL MCCREARY CAGE INGERSOLL SIYEH BARLETT CARLOS ARRENDONDO



2024-2025 FRANK D'ANGELONE ELLA BANKS JACKSON BREAM TEDDY TANGEL CARTER MARSHALL QUINN BADEAU SHAYE MAYER LIVIA DEBNAROVA



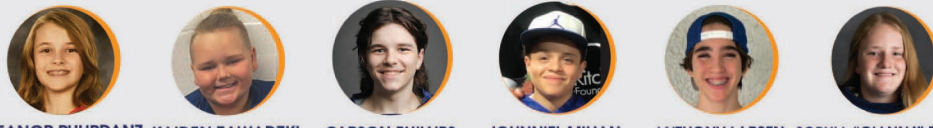
ASHER MAYER CAM DISBROW PILOT WAITS LIAM GALLAHUE TEGAN POKRYFKE RHYS KRAMER ZAKKORY SIMPKINS



AVA PROVENZO DERECK NAMLICK BEN JARDINE JAMES BROWN RAYDEN WHALEN RYKER WHALEN CALEB POWERS MASON LEGER KEVIN RODRIGUEZ CAMERON LEGER



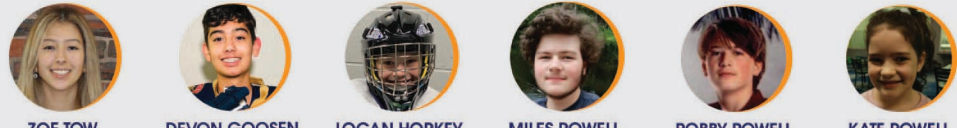
ANTHONY ALAHUZOS MICHAEL BOUTROS MIKAYLA BOUTROS JACKIE BOUTROS DANIELLA FISHER MCKENNA GERMAIN



ELEANOR RUHRDANZ KAIDEN ZAWADZKI CARSON PHILLIPS JOHNNIEL MILIAN ANTHONY LARSEN SOPHIA "GIANNA" ECKEL



JACKIE BOUTROS DEVON GOOSEN BEN ANDERSEN CAYDEN BROYLES JAMES BROWN TUCKER DERKS



ZOE TOW DEVON GOOSEN LOGAN HORKEY MILES ROWELL ROBBY ROWELL KATE ROWELL



HOPE WALINSKI NOLAN MCDONOUGH ETHAN HOOVER JAYDEN ATCHISON CALEB MORENO JERRY TARKIAINEN

2019-2020

2018-2019

2017-2018

2016-2017

2015-2016

2014-2015

2013-2014

2012-2013

2011-2012



DANNY CAVANAGH

KILEY ROBLES

CAM GENDRON

HAYDEN DALTON

JAYDEN YOUNG

JOSHUA GEORGE

ADAM LATARTE

LAUREN KELLY

NICK FOLAND

FRÉDÉRIC GIROUX

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

COACH STU GOULD
GOULD GOALTENDING



Coach Stu Gould has been a cornerstone of the Ritchie Hockey Foundation since its inception, serving as a dedicated board member, a passionate volunteer, and a mentor to deserving young athletes. Stu's love for hockey runs as deep as his commitment to shaping the lives of young goalies.

For years, Stu was a guiding force behind Jason's hockey journey, emphasizing teamwork, perseverance, and personal growth. Under his guidance, young athletes have not only honed their skills but also gained confidence, resilience, and a sense of purpose.

Stu's unwavering dedication and belief in every player's potential have left an indelible mark on not only his local community of Chicago, but in Tampa Bay. He's not just a coach but a role model, proving that the greatest victories happen both on and off the ice.

Coach Stu will be at or 2025 Legends of Sport Goalie Clinic on Saturday, January 18, 2025. If you have a young goalie, don't let them miss out on learning from Stu and his coaching team.



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[ritchiehockeyfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/ritchiehockeyfoundation)

The Jason Ritchie Hockey Foundation is a 501(c)(3) registered nonprofit organization.

Your contribution is tax deductible.

Our tax ID# is 26-4803477

HOW YOU CAN HELP

ONE-TIME DONATION:

Your one-time contribution, no matter the amount, will be greatly appreciated.

RECURRING DONATIONS:

Consider setting up a monthly, quarterly, or annual donation to provide sustained support.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Explore partnership opportunities for your business or organization to sponsor the golf tourney, goalie clinic or baseball clinic.

VOLUNTEER:

If you have time and expertise to share, consider volunteering with our foundation to mentor and inspire young athletes.

Donations may be made by cash, check or credit card.

**Please make checks payable to:
The Ritchie Hockey Foundation**



SCAN TO DONATE