

## **WHY HOCKEY IS OUR FAVOURITE FAMILY WEEKEND PASTIME**

When there is an opportunity to appreciate a human being for their compassion, helpfulness and sincere innocence to Canada's favourite "family weekend pastime"-hockey, I can not pass on the chance to acknowledge it and share it with the hockey community AND when that human being is also a beautiful little girl, a sister, a friend, this opportunity is too important to miss and be observed by just one mere hockey mom!

You see that little girl is an inspiration for us all.... she noticed today that in my scurrying to run all over the Sportplex arena to sell tickets for a team fundraiser, I dropped both my pen and clip holding all the money that I had thus far collected for the team. She proceeded to immediately pick up 1st the pen, then the clip and gently give each one to me. Then she made sure I had each in its right place before producing the biggest, brightest smile that lit up her whole face! Upon which caused me in return to give her perhaps the most genuine smile I have ever given anyone...

And then she continued doing what she had been doing and does each and every week: cheer on her brother at every game and being the best little fan a team and a brother could have and want. By the way this little girl who was the only one in the whole arena crowded with hockey fans to notice someone in need of a 'little assistance' is a cancer survivor, as well as a former poster child for MacMaster Children's Hospital -an innocent child displaying real compassion, thoughtfulness and the true spirit of a hockey fan. So to her, my little helper, a heart-felt THANK YOU for reminding me of one of the main reasons why hockey moms and fans put up with the very COLD yet inspirational environment of the arena and why hockey is truly our favourite family weekend pastime...

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