

NHMI NEWS

The newsletter for supporters of NHMI and Safe Sports Network

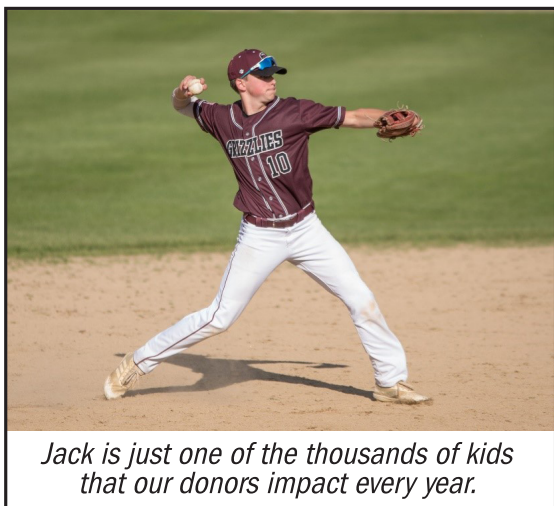


Fall 2023, Volume 29, No. 1

SUPPORTERS' DONATIONS IN ACTION

Keeping kids “in the game” even when they can’t play.

Sometimes it isn't safe for an athlete to return to their favorite sport.



Jack is just one of the thousands of kids that our donors impact every year.

Jack went through a lot over his high school career. He suffered two concussions during his freshman hockey season. He had Covid-19 during his sophomore year. And when he was finally able to return, he sprained his ankle in his first game.

Junior year saw more concussion trouble. Then right before his senior-year hockey season, Jack had *another* concussion.

Absent the vigilant protection from the Safe Sports Network program, Jack likely would have played more hockey—despite the very real and significantly grown risk of *long-term* health consequences, were he to suffer another head injury.

Although he couldn't play hockey competitively, Jack worked with his Safe Sports athletic trainer frequently so he could at least get back on his skates and get back on the ice to help out his teammates and the goalies at practices. He went to every game, almost every practice, and was a great

teammate. He worked hard on strengthening his neck and improving his balance, hoping he could get the okay to at least play baseball in the spring.

As you can see in the photo, Jack's positive attitude (and your support!) helped him through years of injuries to the baseball field - safely protected and monitored by his Safe Sports athletic trainer.

Participation in sports - in part, because of the adversity that kids often encounter - helps kids develop into determined and resilient adults. You help ensure that their safety and long-term health are not costs they encounter along the way. Jack is just one of the thousands of kids that our donors impact every year.

Thank you to our many partners and supporters!
You help sustain the protection and care of local student-athletes.

SUSTAINING SPONSORS	SILVER SPONSORS	BRONZE SPONSORS
GOLD SPONSORS		

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

During the 2022-2023 school year,
Donors enabled:

9,911 hours
of onsite staffing

1,539 new injuries
evaluated

35,428 treatments
provided

\$1.56 million
value of free care
to kids

SAFER ATHLETES

COVERAGE *VERSUS* CARE



Across America, more than 10 million adolescents and teens are ramping-up for the new school year's sports seasons—and assuming typical-year injury frequency, roughly two million of them will sustain injury this school year, ranging from mild to severe.

How students are protected and cared-for for those injuries varies widely—nationally, and more locally in New Hampshire, too. Currently, nearly half of New Hampshire's 122 high schools (public and private) are without an athletic trainer in either a full-time or part-time capacity. Despite the NHIAA requirement that a licensed medical provider (physician, athletic trainer, EMT) be provided by host schools for all interscholastic football events at all levels, that standard is often not met. And for all the other sports, it's even more likely that their practices and competitions are occurring without medical coverage.

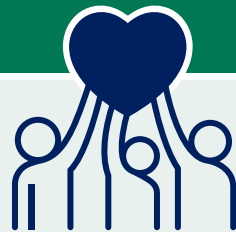
And that's just *coverage*—specific to a scheduled event or date. But when teams leave a sporting event, who will then ***care*** for those students' injuries? And who's screening or monitoring kids for potentially serious health risks before they even compete? For too many students throughout the state and country, sadly, the answer is nobody.

But locally, in and around Manchester and our partner schools, kids get consistent coverage—and care—from the Safe Sports Network athletic trainer that is on-site at their school every day. They know their athletes—and students know they care about them.

Coverage versus care. Coverage is largely about protecting schools from the liability associated with inadequate response to a serious injury—institutional needs. Care is about the kids—kids' and families' needs.

The Safe Sports Network program is predicated on the idea that kids deserve to be protected and cared for—and that such investment in them pays much greater long-term dividends than the costs of providing that protection and care. Put simply, our standard of care is care, not coverage. It's our caring and generous community that enable and sustain that.

PLANNED GIVING



Consider appreciated stocks, IRAs, life insurance, your will...

Cash gifts each year sustain us. But savvy donors can extend and amplify the impact of their giving—and leverage tax-advantages, and even create new tax-sheltered retirement income. Consider donating from IRAs, donating appreciated stock, naming NHMI/Safe Sports Network as an insurance policy beneficiary, or adding a simple codicil to your will. Gift planning arrangements can help sustain the protection and care for local student-athletes, and can be an important part of your personal legacy of community impact.

Please contact Jim Hamel, Development Director,
at jim@nhmi.net or 603-627-9728
to discuss any of these options, or to learn more.

BECAUSE OF YOU

SAFE SPORTS STUDENT AMBASSADORS — MAKING AN IMPACT ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Now in its fifth year, the Safe Sports Network Student Ambassador program has engaged hundreds of local student-athletes in learning to leverage the characteristics they learn in sports to become skilled and confident community leaders. Student Ambassadors learn to advocate for, and champion the Cause of youth sports safety and athletic health care for student-athletes, and learn vital safety skills and knowledge too, further helping to protect students when serious or life-threatening injuries occur.

The 2022-23 cohort of Ambassadors—numbering nearly 100 from our nine partner schools—participated in range of leadership programs and activities throughout the year, learning more about why and how safety and thoughtful prevention efforts matters—not just in sports, but in countless businesses and industries.

SAFE SPORTS STUDENT



A compelling introduction and orientation to how one local company, Eversource, integrates safety mindedness into its overall business practices, was just one of the learning highlights for students from the year.



SUSTAINING MONTHLY DONORS!

Kids need our protection and care. And we need your support to sustain it. Please help to grow the ranks of donors who support this work month-in, and month-out. You can help to provide a reliable base of funding via automatic monthly gifts, to sustain the protection and care kids need every day.

We celebrate and thank these donors, and invite you to join them too!

Amy & Steven Aubertine
Lisa & Art Burns
Steve & Tammy Coburn
Laura Decoster & Charlene Hayes
The Dugan Family
The Hafeman Family
Jim & Jude Hamel
The Hollingworth Family
Dr. Marjorie King
Dr. Keith Loud
The Snow Family

Scan here to easily
setup your automatic
monthly donation.



THANK YOU!

— DONOR SPOTLIGHT: — LANDON COMEAU

GEAR UP
— BEDFORD —



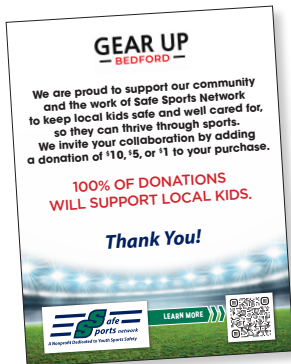
Landon Comeau
Co-owner of Gear Up Bedford



Co-owner, Landon Comeau, is a fan: "We do love our Bulldogs! Gear Up Bedford is all about it! To say we're a fan of Bedford youth athletics is definitely an understatement; we're raving fans!"

And as raving fans of Bedford youth sports, Landon knows how much value the Safe Sports Network Athletic Trainer, Eric Gelin, brings to the school and its athletes. Eric is beginning his 15th year as the steady presence on-site at Bedford High School, every afternoon of the school year, and on the sidelines at hundreds of games and practices each school year. "The kids love Eric - they know he's got their backs - and ankles, and knees, and everything else!" And Landon knows that's only a small part of the impact of the Safe Sports Network program.

"We want this whole community to know about Safe Sports and all the good it does - not just for Bedford, but for thousands of local area student-athletes, and we're thrilled to play a role in bringing more awareness and support for the program."



That's why Landon is newly inviting patrons to add a small donation to their purchases at Gear Up Bedford. 100% of the donations will support local kids to keep them safe and well cared for!

We so appreciate Landon's collaboration in this way, and hope his example inspires other supportive business leaders to similarly consider ways they too can help to keep kids safe and thriving by helping to sustain the Safe Sports Network program.



THANK YOU TO OUR

GOLF SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS!

It wasn't a perfect weather day, but that didn't diminish the enthusiasm of the 100 plus participants for Safe Sports Network's inaugural Golf Classic, presented by the NH Fisher Cats and NH Fisher Cats Foundation. Thanks to their sponsorship, our other generous supporters and our golfers, more than \$20,000 was raised to help sustain the day-to-day care and protection of local athletes.

PRESENTED BY



SPONSORED BY



Save the Date
JUNE 3, 2024

and reserve your foursome
or sponsorship early
by emailing jim@nhmi.net.

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www.safesportsnetwork.org

THANK YOU TO OUR FOUNDATION SPONSORS



SPORTS & REHAB

