

# Appalled by actions of House League parents

To the editor,

I am writing in response to a letter in the paper last week in regards to a 12-year-old not being happy with the house league hockey this year.

As a person who is a bystander of the game and has spent many hours in the arena watching I do feel for the child if he feels he is being treated unfairly; however I also have watched for years as the parents of all the children who are in this sport seem to become more involved in the politics of what should be a friendly game for their children and ruin the spirits

## Letters

of the kids who are playing.

It is an absolute disgrace to watch as parents of 8-12-year-olds watch the game and scream and shout at the coaches, refs and their own children throughout the game. If the parents would take a step back and let the kids just play and enjoy what they are doing instead of nitpicking, I guarantee most of these kids wouldn't even notice if there was a double shift or someone played 2 minutes longer than someone else...the kids are there because they love hockey and just want

to have fun!! The parents are too involved in the game and all need to step back and give these poor kids some time to enjoy the game.

Let's not forget also that the coaches and assistants are all volunteer and take time out of their day to coach your children while you all get to sit and watch and apparently think it is ok to abuse the very people who make it all possible to even have a league for these kids to play in. I myself coached soccer for many years, and with no children of my own took time out of my already busy days to coach the kids because

I was asked due to lack of volunteers, I will also say I loved coaching. However, after three seasons I found myself splitting parents of 6-year-olds apart, telling parents to have a seat when they would get on our case because they felt their child hadn't been played enough that night. The last straw was when a grown man almost had me in a choke hold because he felt his son deserved to play more time...This kid was 6 and I'm sure could have cared less about the amount of time he was on the field.

That was the day I gave my whistle and my clipboard to that

parent and told him if he felt he could do better, then it was all his.

Unfortunately for the league they lost a volunteer that day and I lost out on something that I loved to do!!

There obviously will always be issues with competitive sports but frankly as the years go on it seems the supposed "adults" cause more problems and disruptions during the games than the players. How many of those same parents will be the ones to step up to the plate when all the coaches this year, just throw the towel in...

my guess one maybe two!!

My suggestion to all parents: step back and let these kids have some fun playing the game!! I can't imagine the way these kids are feeling on the ice...I sit in the stands and am disgusted by the way some of the people up there scream and yell and rant and rave. It's embarrassing.

I would love to sign my name but as I have relatives who have children in the league I wouldn't want to see the kids singled out because of my comments.

*Yours Truly,  
Appalled at the actions of  
parents in the league!!*



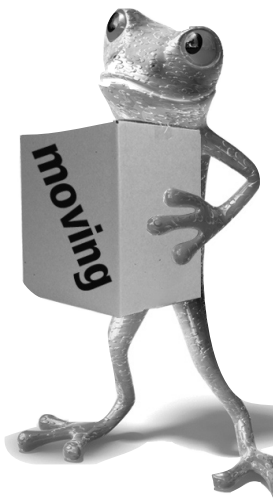
## The Regional Municipality of Halton [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca)

### Moving?

**If you are moving out of a house,** leave your GreenCart, Blue Box and Waste Management Guide & Collection Calendar behind for the new home owners.

**If you are moving into a new subdivision,** Halton Region will provide you with two Blue Boxes and one GreenCart once the homes on the street or subdivision are substantially completed. Contact your builder to confirm they provide garbage collection until the Region can safely access your subdivision.

**If you are moving into a resale house,** you can get two free Blue Boxes, one free GreenCart and Kitchen Catcher, and a Waste Management Guide & Collection Calendar by visiting the Halton Waste Management Site, 5400 Regional Road 25, Milton, Monday to Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



More **Blue & Green** for a Better Planet

### Winter Tips



Put waste at the curb by 7 a.m. the morning of your collection day, but no sooner than 5 p.m. the evening before.



Containers and bags should weigh no more than 23 kg (50 lbs). Items that are too heavy will not be collected. Do not put material out in cardboard boxes.



23 kg (50 lbs)

Stack your Blue Boxes and place heavier items such as phone books and magazines on top of loose papers, or bundle and tie papers.

Flatten and tie large cardboard boxes and place securely underneath or between your recycling boxes. Tie cardboard in bundles no larger than 76 cm x 76 cm x 20 cm (30" x 30" x 8").



During the winter, ensure material is free of snow and ice and is visible to the collection crew. Do not place material on top of snow banks.

### Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)

Seminars for Parents of Teens and Pre-Teens



#### Parents, have you ever:

- Wanted to improve your relationship with your teenager?
- Struggled with handling your teenager's difficult behaviour?
- Questioned if you were doing the right thing as a parent?

#### You're not alone!

All parents can benefit from additional support. Halton Region is offering Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) **free of charge** to parents. The program is delivered by accredited Triple P practitioners.

#### What is Triple P? Triple P helps you:

- Manage your child's behaviour in a constructive and caring way
- Develop good communication and strong relationships with your children
- Learn positive parenting skills that may be applied to a broad range of parenting situations

**Children and youth who grow up with positive parenting are more likely to feel good about themselves and develop to their full potential.**

**Who can attend?** Parents/caregivers of teens and pre-teens

**Where:** Georgetown District High School, Library  
70 Guelph St. Georgetown

**When:** Wednesday, January 28, 2009  
Session 1: Raising Responsible Teenagers  
Wednesday, February 11, 2009  
Session 2: Raising Competent Teenagers  
Wednesday, February 25, 2009  
Session 3: Getting Teenagers Connected

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

#### Registration

To register for any or all of these Triple P seminars or for more information, please contact Halton Region.

