

Johnathan Rubio



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6'1" 240 lbs

Anaheim, California

I'm so deeply thankful to the Cam Canterbury Hockey Fund for helping me continue to pursue my passion. This scholarship has not only allowed me to keep playing the game I love but has also shown me how hard work and determination can open doors to opportunities I never thought possible. Hockey has been more than just a sport for me, it's been a teacher, a constant source of growth, and a way to develop skills that I'll carry with me for the rest of my life. It's taught me discipline, teamwork, leadership, and the value of community.

Growing up in a military family, we moved around every 3-4 years. When we were stationed in Colorado, my mom took us to see Air Force Academy hockey games, and I instantly fell in love with the sport. Later, when we moved to California, my mom was looking for a way to keep us busy during the summer. At seven years old, she signed me up for in-house hockey, and that's where it all began. Ever since, hockey became the one constant in my life through all the moves. Through the years, my mom and I spent countless hours driving to practices, games, and camps. Those drives became our special time and created unforgettable memories—whether it was singing along to music or laughing about the small things, they brought us closer and taught me the value of commitment and perseverance. Along the way, I've made friendships that have lasted a lifetime, both stateside and overseas. Many of my teammates have become like family, and they've taught me the importance of teamwork, resilience, and supporting each other, both on and off the ice. I've played both Varsity high school hockey and travel hockey, going from A to AAA. When COVID shut down hockey in California, I got the opportunity to play on the East Coast. Although the military moved us around quite a bit, moving to the East was a whole new experience for me. Coming from Los Angeles, Bridgewater was a big change, but joining the Bandits in 2021 was one of the best decisions I've made. That's also when I met Coach Drevitch. Not only has he been an excellent coach, but he's also become a mentor who pushes me to reach my full potential. He's easy to talk to, and he always believes in me. The Bandits organization welcomed me from the start, and the staff and players made me feel right at home. Now in my third year with the Bandits, I've built strong bonds with teammates, created incredible memories, and learned the importance of leadership and accountability—skills that have shaped me not just as a player but as a person. I wouldn't be here without my mom and the sacrifices she made to support my dream of playing junior hockey. Her endless encouragement and belief in me have been the foundation of everything I've

achieved. I'm truly blessed to have had these opportunities and the people who've supported me along the way. I look forward to seeing where this journey takes me, both on the ice and beyond and I look forward to giving back to the sport that has given me so much.