

# Up North Strings

*Service and Sales of Stringed Instruments*

Ken McKay 935-4868 Traverse City

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Thank you for purchasing an Up North Strings instrument! I appreciate your business and want you to know that satisfaction is guaranteed.

Musical instruments are fine tools and need to be maintained. If for any reason your child is having trouble tuning or the instrument does not seem to play right, the instrument may need adjustment. *Please call Ken 935-4868. The best times to reach me is Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, day or evening.*

## **Young Person's Guide to String Instrument Care**

**Protecting Your Instrument** - Don't leave it in extremes of temperature or humidity. Never in the car trunk on a hot day! Always set it in its case. Close it securely before picking it up. And don't leave an instrument or bow in an open case on the floor - or on a chair for the careless or absent-minded to sit on or knock off. For cellos, beware doorways.

**Chin and Shoulder Rests** - These should let you play comfortably and securely.

**Cleaning** - Use the dry flannel cloth to wipe rosin off the instrument after use.

**Bow** - Don't polish the bow, or touch its hair, or wave it around. Don't drop or drag it on the floor, or touch anything but the strings with it. Tighten it just enough to play right, and loosen it after playing. Remove the bow before taking a cello or bass out of a soft case, and replace it after putting the instrument back.

**Strings & Tuning** - Tune the pegs slightly lower, then slowly up to pitch, no higher, pressing in slightly. If pegs slip or stick, have them checked by your teacher or corrected by me. After a while tuning pulls the bridge toward the fingerboard, which can make it warp or fall or affect the tone. The tailpiece side of the bridge must be kept vertical. Ask your teacher to show you how. If the tuner screws go in too far unscrew them and retune the pegs.

**Problems** - If the fingerboard, sound post, or bridge comes loose or breaks, or if you find cracks or openings, loosen the strings right away and call me. If the strings buzz or dig deeply into the bridge, or feel too high or too low, call. Never glue anything yourself.

**Enjoy!!! Ken**

