

CBS HOST AND PLAY BY PLAY ANALYST CHRIS HASSEL



GETTING STARTED

Hassel was a Bears fan growing up in Iowa and has had a passion for sports since he was seven years old. His father used to mute the television to hear the local radio hosts broadcast his beloved Bears, and that is when he knew this profession was one he could get into.

FOOT IN THE DOOR

Hassel's first position was not paid, he interned at a local TV station just doing behind the scenes work which is required in the beginning stages if you want to eventually reach the broadcasting position. He then began reporting to a local radio station at the prompt time of 5 AM to read the news, weather, and traffic updates while still enrolled in classes at St. Ambrose University.



GETTING ACTIVE



When Hassel acquired enough film, he sent his resume along with game recordings to 10 different agencies. Of the 10, one of them responded saying they liked what they saw and wanted to bring him in for an interview. That one agency believed he was skilled enough for the major sports broadcasting network ESPN and sent his tape. They loved him just like the agency knew they would and they brought him on board.

BUSINESS IN BRISTOL

Hassel earned a position at the ESPN campus in Bristol, Connecticut in 2013. He described the onboarding experience explaining that he was not thrown into the fire but was slowly getting acclimated to the business climate of ESPN HQ and after two weeks of shadowing was ready to get on air and be an anchor.



LIVING HIS DREAMS



Although Bristol's environment was a place Hassel could see himself thriving in, he was not doing exactly what he dreamed of doing. Since he was a boy, he dreamt of doing play by play but did not receive that opportunity being a host at ESPN where they take a more analytical perspective of sports. CBS would be his next calling where he received the opportunity to do what he always wanted, calling play by play with all of the emotion and enthusiasm professionally permitted.

CHARACTERISTICS AND TIPS

Hassel thanked his ability to work with others and not having the biggest ego in the room for his success. Being a helpful team player that assists his peers has propelled him to being the host and play by play analyst that he is today.

