

Greensborough Hockey Club Selection Guidelines

Background

The purpose of these guidelines is to clarify the basis on which players will be selected for open age teams only. Open age teams are selected on a hierarchical basis from the highest ranked open age team to the lowest ranked metro team.

The club aims to select the most appropriate team for each grade based on the criteria, each of which may be given different weighting depending on the team's circumstances.

Pre-season

This is when we develop fitness and skills. The formation of training groups/squads or the selection of teams for practice games should not be taken as a decision on the level that the player will play during the season.

Pre-season will be used as an opportunity for coaches to assess player skill and potential with different groups of players. Training or playing with a group must not be taken as an indication that a player will not be considered for selection in a different player group.

All players with the intention of playing in the next seasons open age competition are welcome to join pre-season and they should not wait for a specific invitation to attend.

During the season

Squads will be announced prior to the commencement of the season but during the season, movement up or down over the duration of the season could occur.

Secondary School Students

The club recognises the physical restrictions placed on students due to schoolwork, school sport, GHC junior hockey and state/zone training requirements. Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss workload, injuries, and any other relevant matter with the coaches at the beginning of each season and during the season.

Selection Objectives

The club has the following main objectives

- Players chosen for Premier League are at the highest possible standard to enable the club to achieve the best possible results
- Players chosen for Premier League Reserves are at the highest possible standard to enable the club to achieve the best possible results but also with consideration given to creating opportunities for the development of improving players
- Players chosen for Pennant teams are chosen
 - Maximise the potential for the team to win games
 - Avoid relegation
 - To provide opportunities for developing players to gain suitable experience playing open age hockey
 - Promote appropriate club culture

- Players chosen for metro grades
 - Maximise the potential for the team to win games
 - Avoid relegation
 - Recognise players could have work or family commitments that restrict playing or training times
 - To provide opportunities for developing players to gain suitable experience playing open age hockey
 - Promote appropriate club culture
- Successfully transition junior players into open age hockey
- Identify, nurture & develop talented younger players showing potential to play in higher grades

General Criteria

Team selection for any grade will consider

- Physical aspects, strength, fitness, mobility, skill, and game performance
- Mental aspects, attitude, discipline, teamwork, decision making and ability to read the game
- Ability to take direction – does the player display an ability to act on feedback from the coaching staff and in particular, follow the game plan, style and attitude and play the game in the spirit expected by the club
- Team balance
- The form of individual players
- Training attendance and performance of the individual player (if the player is unable to attend club training, they must undertake some form of training during the week with the aim of maintaining their fitness levels)
- Skills of the individual player
- Player availability
- Injury management
- Development opportunities

The club comes first, there may be times where team balance and development take precedence. Player attitude, ability, development potential and training will be considered.

At all times, players must play by the rules, respect officials, opposition, and teammates.

Important considerations

- Players cannot assume they are playing for the same team each week
- Player welfare takes precedence
- Movement of players up or down will be influenced by the goals of each team and must be within the Hockey Victoria rules
- Last minute change could result in variations to the normal process

Communication

Communication between the player and coach is essential.

Requirements

- When a player is demoted, the coach from the higher team must ensure the player is given the reason for the demotion and is given clear areas to improve – email and text messages are not suitable and should only be used as a last resort
- The club encourages ongoing communication between coaches and a player regarding the player's progress
- The player must communicate to the coach before Thursday midday if they are unavailable for the following game and the reasons why
- Selected teams will be sent by email to all players by 4:00 pm Friday
- Unavailability or late notification without a valid reason may impact on the players selection for the next game

Team Rotations

Juniors and/or double up players will be considered part of the normal team squad for the team and they will receive a fair share of the game time as part of the normal team rotations. This requirement applies to all teams except Premier League and Reserves where the coach can inform the player, they will only have limited game time or play as a reserve in case of an injury.

Eligibility for Selection

All players must

- Be financial members or on an agreed and current fee payment schedule at the time of selection
- Take on appropriate duties as required to maintain the operations of the club (e.g. canteen and umpiring duties)
- Be mindful of any sponsorship arrangements the club may enter