



### AGE GROUP GUIDELINES FOR WASPS

1. Junior hockey grades in WA are based on school year groups (rather than age).
2. **Generally, the Junior Committee does not encourage juniors to play above their school year group permanently during the season. We believe that it is important for juniors to play with their peers to maximise their enjoyment of hockey and also make close friendships for the future. We believe that there is great value in stronger players learning good team leadership skills amongst their peers.**
3. If a junior player would like to play in a higher year group, a request will need to be made in writing to the Junior Committee each year, before the season starts. The Junior Committee will assess each request individually, taking into consideration the ability of the junior to play up, as well as implications for the affected year groups. The players wishing to play up will need to attend the higher year groups grading sessions and be evaluated with that cohort.
4. If a permanent position is not offered, the junior player may still have the opportunity to play in the higher year group for a maximum of six (6) times as per the Hockey WA Junior rules.
5. From time to time junior players may play in a higher grade as a second game for the weekend. The Junior club will make every attempt to share this amongst eligible players and each Age Group Coordinator will work to find the best fit for requests.
6. Some players from Years 10, 11 and 12 will want and have opportunities to play with the top senior squads. Opportunities to play in senior grades are managed by the Junior Committee appointed Representative. A player's junior match will always take precedence. Guidelines and more information can be found in the Juniors Playing Seniors Policy, located on the website.