



WASP HOCKEY CLUB JUNIORS PLAYING SENIORS POLICY

This policy was reviewed and revised in June 2018. A further detailed document outlining management and expectations of junior players dependent on team selections is available by request to the Junior Vice President. That document will be circulated to every junior player (years 10 – 12) who expresses their interest in playing/trialing for seniors. Distribution of that document by the club ensures players/parents/guardians acknowledge the expected commitment at the relevant senior level.

INTRODUCTION

One of the many roles of the junior committee is to manage and monitor our players whilst also offering opportunities to develop and grow their skills within the junior club whilst preparing them for seniors. Every year the dynamics of teams in the senior club change and therefore opportunities may arise for junior players (years 10 – 12) to play in our senior teams. This is subject to parental support and the junior committee encourages and supports this wherever possible.

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure juniors develop as hockey players in an appropriate playing environment with the opportunity to extend and develop their skills in seniors where suitable and from time to time, where opportunities exist.
2. Establish consistent rules and a transparent process for the identification and selection of those players who wish to play seniors.
3. Establish rules and guidelines for junior players who are selected to play in senior teams.

SELECTION

1. Prior to the start of the senior season, the junior club will invite players (years 10 – 12) to self nominate if they are interested in playing seniors. Junior players interested will be required to attend the senior team selection trials where they will be trialing with senior players. Players wishing to attend the trials must advise the nominated junior committee representative who acts as the liaison between the senior and junior clubs.
2. Selection into senior teams/squads is at the discretion of the appointed senior club selectors.
3. Initial team/squad selections post trials may change throughout the season at the discretion of the relevant senior coaches.

JUNIORS PLAYING SENIORS

1. Junior players have a priority to play and train with their junior team and this shall take preference over playing and training with senior grades. With exception, talented players may be identified and asked to train/play with the senior Premier 1 and Premier 2 (top squad) teams. These selections are at the discretion of the senior club coaches and in these circumstances, senior club commitments may/can take priority over the junior club commitments.



2. Juniors are only permitted to attend senior selection trials and/or play in senior teams with the prior approval of the junior committee representative and/or the relevant year group coordinator.
3. Factors which may be taken into account by the junior committee when inviting junior players to nominate are shown below. These might also be considered by the parent/guardian/junior player prior to the decision to nominate to trial for seniors.
 - the player's hockey ability as assessed by their junior coach, year group coordinator and others as determined by the junior committee;
 - the player's performance and attitude within their junior team;
 - the number of senior games already played, if applicable;
 - availability for senior games/training, i.e. individual workload balancing hockey, school, family and other commitments.

PLAYING

Senior team selection occurs on a weekly basis at the discretion of the relevant senior coaches. Selection factors may include player availability, requests from other senior coaches for players and attendance at senior training.

Juniors who play in excess of 6 senior games will be required to pay additional fees to the club. This fee is determined by the senior club and advised prior to the senior trials/preseason training.

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