



Avoca Hockey Club

Junior Players Selection Policy

Purpose

To ensure that the selection process for all junior teams is just and fair. Maintain the balance, where required, between prioritising the development of each individual player and the development of the junior section as a whole. Avoca Hockey Club's goal in relation to selection is to insure every child is playing at a level suitable for their individual potential

Selection Panel

Avoca Hockey Club will utilise Selection Panels in order to maintain fairness, equity and transparency with the selection of junior players. The Selection Panels will endeavour to be as fair and reasonable as possible, without compromising what it considers to be best for the club and the individual teams.

The Selection Panels will consist of the following individuals:

Junior Girls Team's Selection Panel:

- A team coach
- A team manager
- B1 team coach
- B1 team manager
- B2 team coach
- B2 team manager
- Lead coach or Junior Head Coach

Minor and 1st Year Girls Team's Selection Panels:

- A team coach
- A team manager
- B team coach
- B team manager
- Lead coach or Junior Head Coach

Boys Selection Panel:

- U16 team coach
- U16 team manager
- U14 team coach
- U14 team manager

It is important that players and parents recognise that if they are asked to move up or down a team it is intended to be in the best interest of the club development and player. Movement within the teams should become an accepted part of selection and players should not expect to be guaranteed a place on a particular team. This should be borne in mind when players return from injury or other lengthy absences.

Players all develop at different rates and stages. If the Selection Panel believes that a player has been overlooked or has demonstrated a significant improvement they can nominate them to attend different training sessions for assessment.

Selection Criteria

- Attendance and performance at training and matches
- Technical Ability
- Mobility and fitness
- Decision Making
- Attitude

Selection method

The coaches have primary responsibility for the selections in their own team. Each player will be discussed with the Selection Panel. Selections will be made with regard to the club's selection criteria, strategic goals of the junior section and individual team at the time.

Selection objectives

The primary selection objective is to select the best available players utilising the club's selection criteria. The secondary selection objective is to recognise the potential of athletes to participate at their best level and to assist those athletes to achieve their individual potential.

Parents

At Under 13, 14 and 16 levels, we select on merit and request that parents respect the coaches decisions in this regard. Players are assessed through fitness and mobility, basic hockey skills, advanced hockey skills, attitude as well as decision making, team and tactical play and availability for and performance at matches and training. There is an expectation at this level to attend coaching every week. We ask that parents always recognise the value and importance of the officials and volunteers who provide sporting and recreational opportunities for your child. Please do not publicly question their judgment or honesty.

Avoca promotes mixed ability hockey within the Under 8, 10 and 12 age groups in conjunction with other Clubs playing hockey. The emphasis is on enjoyment, participation and learning skills in a fun environment.

Grievances Related to Selections

In the first instance, if a player has a grievance in relation to the selection process they should first contact the manager of the team they are currently selected in. If after doing this they still feel aggrieved they should contact the Boy's/Girl's Chair or Junior Head Coach.