

### *Club Vision:*

To maximise participation in hockey in this area by offering players the opportunity to participate in the sport at both elite and social levels of competition; provide a pathway of performance for junior players interested in competing at local and regional levels; and by mixing a friendly, welcoming, family atmosphere with the development opportunities that *allow individuals to fulfil their playing potential.*

### *Considerations for Player Development and Selection*

- BHHC will employ the '4 Corners' model to assess the development of players as they progress through age groups and eventually into adult teams. This model considers:
  - **Technical** – encompassing skills and tactical understanding
  - **Psychological** – considering individual motivation, attitude in a team environment and willingness to learn.
  - **Physical** – encompassing attributes such as speed and strength.
  - **Social** – considering relationships with others, personal organisation and respect for the values of hockey.

Players that display ability and improvement across all 4 aspects will be nominated by the club for Sussex Junior Development centres and invited to join the club's Junior Performance program from U14.

- Paid membership of BHHC is a prerequisite of selection for teams but not the solo justification. Junior players are expected to wear their shoe tags for all training and matches.
- Team Managers will consider attendance at training, confirmation of availability and most of all quality of the opposition when selecting teams.
  - It is a requirement of all the junior league competitions the club enters to ensure each individual game remains competitive.
  - Each team manager will endeavour to create a fixture list that ensures all squad members get an opportunity to play competitively, but please note that not all clubs in Sussex offer junior hockey in age groups as early as BHHC so we may be restricted by the availability of opposition.
- For age groups squads with more than one team, selection for teams will remain fluid as the season progresses, this will reflect the differing speeds that players develop, individual player form and the need to address specific development needs. Training sessions are aimed at skills development so allocation to any particular training group is not an automatic reflection of team selection.

### **Team Selection Process**

- *As soon as available* - Date, Timing and Location of matches will be posted on Pitchero as and when the Team Administrator receives information.
  
- *By Friday – 2 weeks before the game* - Parents need to post their availability on Pitchero.
  - 'Maybe' players will only be asked for further clarification of availability if there are insufficient players available from their squad. Players with a 'Not Responded' status will be assumed to be unavailable.
  - Changes in availability status to players between this deadline and confirmation of team selection on the Sunday before the game must be notified by parents to the Team Administrator via text or email as well as changed in Pitchero.
  
- *By the Sunday before the game* - The Team Manager will confirm the team selection on Pitchero.
  - If a selected player becomes unavailable after the publication of the team on the Sunday before the game, this must be notified by parents to the Team Administrator via text or email as well as changed in Pitchero.
  - If a previously unavailable player or those marked as 'Maybe' becomes available after the publication of the team the Sunday before the game, this must be notified by parents to the Team Administrator via text or email as well as changed in Pitchero. Only in exceptional circumstances will this player be added to the already selected squad.
  
- *By 3 days before the game* - Parents need to reconfirm attendance & transport requests if needed to the Team Administrator via text or email.

### **Selection for Teams with Specific Requirements**

#### *For U16 and U14*

- For Saturday development leagues (Gulls, Starlings & Flippers) when an excess of players are available for matches, priority will be given to those players who would not otherwise have match play opportunities that weekend.
  
- Players in these age groups can be invited to the Junior Performance program based on their progress v the 4 Corners model. The Junior Performance program is subject to a separate selection policy that will be shared with the parents of players invited to join.