



Crawley Hockey Club

Developmental Selection Policy for Junior Players

This policy demonstrates Crawley HC's commitment to the development of young players and that the Club will always act in the best interests of the individual. This policy aims to ensure that our young members are given every opportunity to reach their full potential whatever level that may be (national, regional, county, social or otherwise).

The Club takes the long-term view of the development of all its young players in line with the principles of, and adopted within England Hockey's Single System. All selection will be made in line with the principles outlined in the EH Equality Policy (Found within the Code of Ethics & Behaviour-Respect) and EH Safe D (Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy) and adopted by CHC.

For players under 12, as much as practically possible all players will be given equal amount of pitch time at training/coaching and games/matches to build their confidence and support their development. Players will not be selected by ability, but by attendance and effort. The main emphasis is on participation and learning, and not winning.

For age groups 12 and over, players may be grouped by ability into squads. As much as is practically possible, each member of the squad is given an equal amount of time per game/match or per event to ensure every individual has the opportunity to develop. The standard of the opposition will be carefully considered, and where possible chosen, to challenge players' development but also give fair competition. Winning is important but is a short-term gain, learning and confidence building are the priorities.

The Club will abide by the EH centralized calendar and the priority this provides to ensure that young players at each stage of their development are given the opportunity to train at the right level for them without being overplayed.

Juniors playing in Adult Leagues

The Club will enforce that a player must have reached the age of 13 to be eligible to play in adult only competition.

The Club will enforce all minimum age regulations as they pertain to adult leagues.

Young players will not be called upon to play in adult only competition until it is the best interest of the young player. If an adult team is short and the only option is a young player who is not ready, either physically, mentally or socially, then the adult team will play short.

For young players eligible to be involved in adult teams, careful consideration will be given to ensure that the distance travelled is proportional to the likely pitch time for the young player. As a guide, it is suggested that players who will play less than half a game should not travel for longer than 60 minutes (normal travel/road conditions).

November 2018

To be reviewed 2020