



Selection Policy for City of York Hockey Club

This policy covers selection of players, in all senior sections, for City of York Hockey Club (COYHC). This is a working document and will be continually reviewed by the Selection Panel.

Objectives:

- Selection is made by the Selection Committee, detailed below.
- Hockey is a team sport. Selection will be based on creating a balanced team of players, acknowledging the importance of a combination of attitude and ability.
- Competition for places is encouraged and should inspire players to seek to improve their fitness levels and attend training regularly.
- It is expected that players will want to make selection to the highest team within their ability.
- The COYHC promotes the development of its young players through their inclusion into the appropriate teams; this is possible due to the supportive environment created by the captain and team members.

Selection Committee:

- The committee will be made up of: Senior Chair of Hockey, Men's and Ladies' Chair of Selection, Youth Liaisons, Head Coach, Team Coaches, Team Captains and Team Managers, where applicable.
- The committee will initially meet on a weekly basis until squads are settled, the frequency of meetings will then be decided as required.

Availability:

- All players must complete availability on the Club website, and keep it up to date, in order to be considered for selection. Failing to do so will result in the player being considered unavailable.
- Captains and Coaches will not be expected to pursue players to establish their availability.
- All players must be paid members of COYHC and registered on the club database to be considered available. (A paid member is one who has paid in full or set up an instalment plan).

Selection Procedure:

- The Club objectives will be reviewed continually, throughout the season, to ensure that the needs of each team are met, such as promotion and relegation chances.
- Selection of initial squads will be made in August to allow for pre-season matches to be played.
- The team you were in last year does not reflect the team you will be in this year.
- Trials will be held in September to allow students to participate. Selection of squads to start the season will then be completed.
- Initial squads will be selected as follows:
 - ✦ Men's/Ladies' 1s - 14 players
 - ✦ Other Teams - 13 players

This will allow for new players to slot in.

- Casual players will not be selected into a squad but will be available to play wherever they are required.
- Teams will be selected from the 1s downwards, with the most suitable match-fit players placed first.
- The balance of a squad is essential, with players selected on the team's requirement and not individual ability.
- All members of the selection panel will work together and offer input on what they have observed during matches, allowing for all players to have the opportunity to push higher.
- Where a team has a coach who attends matches they will make the final decisions for that team.
- Teams will be selected by Monday evening and input to Pitchero.
- Players will be informed which team they are selected for as soon as possible.
- It is recognised that, due to unforeseen circumstances, changes will need to be made at short notice, due to illness or injury. Changes to teams must be clearly discussed between Chair of Selection and the Captains involved, to ensure that everyone is aware, and player movement is within the league ruling.
- Full Squads will be selected as such:

✦ Men's/Ladies' 1s	-	16 players
✦ Men's/Ladies' 2s	-	15 players
✦ Others	-	14 players

Movement Between Teams

- All players should understand that selection decisions are made with the aim of improving the teams, and the overall goals of the club.
- All players should be willing and available to play for whichever team they are selected. Failure to do so could result in that player being assumed unavailable to play that week.
- It should be accepted by all players that movement between teams will occur, and that no player is guaranteed to be in a particular team.
- Where a player is returning from injury the selection committee will make the decision which team they start with, keeping within league regulations.
- It is expected that players respect the team captain's decision and join the team with a positive attitude.
- Where the selection committee agrees that a player needs to be promoted the higher captain will contact them.
- Players should be selected for the next senior team when being moved down, with their current team captain informing them of the decision and why.
- Decisions to move players must be communicated in person or by phone.
- No players should be moved up unless teams fall below:

✦ Men's/Ladies' 1s	-	14 players*
✦ Other teams	-	13 players*

*It is expected that there will be occasions where a team may require to take a squad of more, this will be reviewed on a week by week basis by the captains involved and the selection committee, to ensure that the impact on lower teams is minimal.

- Team captains should discuss between themselves before approaching players to move up. This is to ensure that the player selected fits the teams needs.

Integration of New Players

- It is expected that we will welcome new players to training throughout the season. No new players must attend performance squad training without invitation from the Selection Committee.
- It is expected that new players start at either 3/4s training or Club Training, to be assessed by the coaches. The decision about which training session they initially attend will be made by the Chair of Selection for the appropriate section.
- Any player arriving at a training session unannounced will be allowed to train and their details recorded. The team captains and coach will discuss, after the session, where the player should be training and the coach will inform them where to attend the following week. The coach will pass details to the relevant coach. This will allow for an even spread of players throughout the club.

Goalkeeper Selection

- Goalkeepers will all be assessed at the selection session and pre-season training sessions. The coaching team will work together to select the keepers into the appropriate team.
- Goalkeeper performance and training will be closely monitored, to ensure that all keepers have the opportunity to progress.
- Goalkeepers must move up and down one team at a time, unless agreed by the selection panel.

It is expected that all Captains, Coaches, Managers and Chairs of Selection work together to produce the best outcomes for all teams across the club. Communication, honesty and integrity are key to this being achieved.