



# Team Selection Policy

## Team Selection Objectives

The Banbury Bulldogs Skater Hockey Club aims to provide an environment that nurtures and develops players from the youngest players through to the senior player representing the club. The club's development strategies during the formative years will largely influence and determine the young players' future in Roller Hockey.

The objectives of the team selection process are:

- ✓ To provide players every possible opportunity to reach their maximum potential.
- ✓ To ensure that the selection policy applies equally to all players.
- ✓ To aim for continuous improvement of all players and teams.
- ✓ To maintain open lines of communication and co-operation between coaches, players, parents and committee.
- ✓ To achieve success whilst conducting a manner that instils pride in our club and earns the respect of opponents and the community in general.
- ✓ To have in place a suitable process to handle issues arising from the team selection process.

## Team Selection Primary Focus

The primary focus of the club is to provide our players with every opportunity and assistance to develop to their full potential in an enjoyable and supportive environment. This will in turn provide the club with maximum opportunities for success.

It is generally accepted that as a player's age increases so too does the competitive nature of players and the competition. Success becomes more significant as it provides a source of player pride, greater enjoyment and satisfaction and builds respect for teammates and the club.

It is recognised however, that young players mature and develop physically and mentally at different rates and times. In recognising this transitional process the club aims to develop selection policies which see the focus of involvement move from the enjoyment and full and even participation in the younger age groups, to the more competitive skills and performance based culture in the older age groups.

## Standard Player Rules

The Club expects its players to be disciplined in their attitude to roller hockey and be respectful in their behaviour toward coaches, players officials, parents and volunteers.

In addition to the club's Code of Conduct policy and specific training and team rules set out by individual team coaches, the following criteria form the basis upon which team selection will apply.

Players are expected to:

- ✓ Regularly attend training sessions and advise the coach when they are unable to do so.
- ✓ Display a disciplined and respectful attitude at training, prior, during and after games and during events and functions run by the club.
- ✓ Endeavour to always do their best
- ✓ Be financially responsible and have registration fees and any other fees paid as required by the club, so as not to be in arrears.

## Team Selection Guidelines

### Under 8s, 10s and 12s

Significant emphasis is placed on learning, participation and enjoyment. Players are however, introduced to more team based concepts and environments. This provides players the opportunity to extend their basic skills both at an individual and team level so that players begin to understand basic roller hockey strategies and develop aptitudes towards positional play.

For players who pay club fees to play in a league, the team selection will generally be based on age. That is to say that you are guaranteed a place on the team of the players age group (based on their date of birth). This will mean that these players will be invited to attend and play in all club 'home league' matches relating to their age group and will be included in all games of the relevant age group.

The club encourages managers and coaches in this age level to use rotational systems to ensure all players receive equal opportunities to participate and to experience different positions of play during the season.

### Under 14 and 16 Teams

For players who pay club fees to play in a league, the team selection will generally be based on age. That is to say that you are guaranteed a place on the team of the players age group (based on their date of birth). This will mean that these players will be invited to attend and play in all 'home league' matches relating to their age group and will be included in all games of the relevant age group.

That said, with these age groups, the club aspires to provide players the greatest opportunity to perform to their highest level. It is also generally accepted that players place a greater emphasis on individual and team performance as competitiveness levels are enhanced.

The club's primary emphasis in this age group is to maintain competitive levels that keep advanced players developing and interested in the game and provide less experienced players with an environment that maximises contributions and opportunities to develop. The club encourages managers and coaches at these age levels to maximise player involvement and expose players to different positions to aid in their skill development and knowledge of the game.

## Movement within Team Structures

It is expected that players in all age groups relating to their date of birth will remain in that team for the season. The league registration membership fees cover all match fees for the season playing in the main/home league chosen by the club for that season.

Those players who are in their final year of their age group may be selected to play in a higher age group in line with the league rules as guest players. All players who may be selected to play up into an older age group are selected purely at the discretion of the team manager and coach of the older age group team. There is no guarantee of movement within the team structure. If selected to play up, the club will fund the additional match fees for that player in the older age group playing in the main/home league.

## Players Representing the Club in Additional Leagues

The Club League Player membership fees cover the cost of all training and match fees for the main/home league the club chooses to enter the teams. On occasion some team managers may choose to enter a team into a separate league. If this is the case, all players choosing to participate in this league do so at their own cost. This will require players to cover their own registration fees and match fees for all games. The selection of these teams will be purely at the discretion of the team manager and coaches of that team. There is no guarantee of participation in these teams and the team selection is by invitation only.

## New Players

All players who join the club during the season will be allocated a place on the team relevant to their age group and entered into the home league chosen by the club for that season.

## Friendlies and Tournaments

Player selection for friendlies and tournaments will be based upon availability and date of birth age groups. All players are encouraged to play at friendly matches. All players who may be selected at a tournament are selected purely at the discretion of the team manager and coach. Additional charges may be incurred.

## Policy Review

The Team Selection Policy will be reviewed annually and every effort will be made to ensure all those interested have access to this information. This policy forms part of the club's policy brief, which includes but is not limited to, the Codes of Conduct Policy held by the club.