

Basingstoke Hockey Club Selection Policy

Selection Policy

This policy supersedes any previous policies. This document will outline the policy for all teams within the club and must be adhered to at all times. The selection policy is based upon a club structure where the 1st XI have the authority to select their chosen squad (of up to 16 players) followed by the 2nd XI etc. The squads will be the basis for team selection. Not all squad members will be selected for the team. The 'overlap' of players will play for the team below. The squads will be reviewed every 4 weeks at the Playing Committee Meetings (PCM), and adjustments will be made as necessary. Movement between squads at any other times is NOT possible, unless agreed by the Ladies/Men's Section Captains and the Director of Hockey (DoH).

All squad lists must be posted on the club website before the first league game.

1. It is club policy that the highest teams play with the best players. No team should play with a shortage of players when there are players available from a lower team to fill in.
2. All teams playing in South Leagues must, whenever possible take a squad to cater for the rigours of the modern game.
3. Each team will be selected from their squad that are available on a Wednesday or at a selection meeting held before the Thursday preceding the playing Saturday.
4. Selection of players will be carried out in order of the clubs teams starting with the 1st XI and working down to the last 11. No Captain running a lower side can refuse the promotion of a player to a higher team (unless prior agreement has been made with the DoH and or the higher teams Captain) with the exception of the men's and ladies development sides whose selection wherever possible should be ring fenced,
5. In the case of late selection due to player shortage the order of selection will be with the highest team. It is the duty of the Captain that is short of a player or players to inform the lower team captain as soon as is possible. The Captain who will lose a player must select from the next lowest team until the lowest team has been selected from.
6. Players promoted on merit will be given an opportunity to prove their worth over a period of not less than 4 games unless sanctioned by the DoH.
7. Captains asking a player to play in a lower team or squad must explain the reasons to the player prior to the selection committee meeting.
8. As all teams within the club are playing league hockey it is essential that every captain cooperates with the club policy. A selection panel chaired by the DoH will sit in arbitration, when required, the selection panels word is final.
9. The Playing Administration Chairman will control playing administration. Details of players who have not paid their subscriptions or owe the club funds will be relayed to the DOH; **PLAYERS WILL NOT BE SELECTED** until all payments due are made.

10. Any player returning from suspension will not automatically return to the team or squad they have previously played for. The length of suspension served and the nature of the offence should be considered together with any directives given by the disciplinary board.

The Selection Process

Playing Committee Meeting takes place once per month, date defined by the Section Captain, to determine squad selection. The meeting is chaired by the Section Captain and/or the Director of Hockey. A representative from each team (Captains and/or Vice Captain) must attend and come prepared with player availability for the next month and any player performance feedback. From the pool of available players, Captains will select the strongest possible squad for all league matches from the 1st Team downwards.

External Selection Criteria

All league players must be paid members of Basingstoke Hockey Club to be eligible to play. Players in the 4th team and below can be 'Social' members and are eligible to play provided they have not played more than 4 games.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria (in no particular order) will be used during the selection process:

- Availability
- Commitment
- Fitness
- Ability
- Tactical/team awareness
- Temperament
- Training attendance (especially for the 1st and 2nd eleven squads)
- Selection, post injury or illness see below.

What Happens if a Player is returning from Injury, Illness etc

A player who is returning from injury, illness, etc should play for a team one level lower than was previously selected until their fitness has been proven.

What happens if a player is promoted or relegated between squads?

A player who has been selected for a lower or higher squad will be informed of the decision and the reason by the senior captain. Players will normally be promoted or relegated one team at a time.

What happens when a new player joins the club?

Normally, a new player will be introduced to a team consistent with their previous playing record, or one lower, dependent upon circumstances. This will be agreed at Playing Committee Meeting or by the Section Captain with the relevant team Captain if timing is outside of the monthly meeting.

Players' Responsibilities

- Players must provide captains of their availability for a month in advance, and are responsible for informing their captain of any changes as soon as possible. It is not the Captains responsibility to chase players
- Players must advise their Captain on return from a period of unavailability
- All players must pay their annual subscriptions prior to the 30th September
- All players must pay their match fees on the day
- Players should notify their captain of any planned absence during the season at earliest opportunity to allow the playing committee to plan/prepare for these absences
- Players should be prepared to assist the club when necessary and have a desire to be competitive at a higher level within the club structure

General Selection Points

In the case of players dropping out on a Friday night then it is that Captains responsibility to organise the replacement for all lower teams.

Players should not assume they have been selected in their favoured position or team / squad. The selection of players will be to ensure the strongest team / squad is available and players are requested to assist with this process.

Guidelines for Selecting Juniors

Basingstoke Hockey Club aims to operate a fair selection policy allowing for all junior members to have a chance of playing in a fixture for the Club and adhere to the following guidelines regarding selection:

- The Club will take a long term view of the development of all its young players in line with the principles of Long Term Athlete Development adopted within England Hockey's Single System.
- A junior member is one under the age of 18, unless that player is above the level of the players in the 1st team squads then they will not be considered as being a junior player.
- The Club will enforce that no young person under the age of 13 is to play in adult only competition..
- Junior members playing in junior teams will in theory all be given a chance to play in a fixture. Generally there is only one junior team per age group.
- Junior members playing in senior teams will be picked at the PCM in consultation with the Club Coaches and the DoH. Once again it is the aim of the Club to give all members a game when possible. Basingstoke Hockey Club aims to give junior members confidence to enjoy and play to their best ability in matches which can result in (especially in senior teams) players being dropped to a lower team if they are not performing well to give them their confidence back and allow them to rebuild their skills.
- The Club will abide by the England Hockey centralised calendar and the priority this provides to ensure that young players at each stage of their development are given the opportunity to play and train at the right level for them without being overplayed.
- 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.
- All selection will be made in line with the principles outlined in the EH Equity Policy and EH Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy adopted by this Club..
- Where a younger player is close in ability to another player in the team then consideration of dropping a senior player will be made based on the Selection Criteria outlined above.
- Where a youngster has good commitment AND shows potential to be as good as or better than the senior player by the end of the season; and that junior is likely to be at the club for the next season then the junior player should be retained and the senior player dropped when captains are considering their squads.

Internal Selection Discipline

Any player bringing the Club into disrepute may be subject to disciplinary action by the Club Disciplinary Committee. As a guideline, any player receiving 3 or more yellow cards in half a season will be expected to attend a disciplinary meeting and may be subject to further action.

Safety

As a club, we recommend the following for safety reasons:

- * Warm up and stretch before a match
- * Warm down after a match
- * Wear astro trainers, shin pads and a gum shield
- * Remove jewellery such as earrings, watches etc
- * Bring a drink to avoid dehydration



* All Captains shall carry First Aid kits.

*****Please enjoy playing for the team you for which you've been selected and support your club, your captain and team members.*****