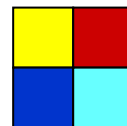


15/02/2007

**Southern United Hockey Club Inc**  
Men, Women, Veterans & Juniors

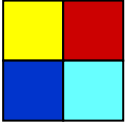


# Junior Section

## Selection & Rotation Policies

Approved by:

Date:



15/02/2007

## **Selection of Teams Policies**

Importantly selection in any team regardless of skills includes adherence to the clubs player code of conduct.

### **Higher Grades** (A and Pennant A grades)

A and Pennant A grades are designed to be the pinnacle of the competition grading and therefore are competitive in their selection methodology. The club will set up an initial selection panel at the start of each season to enable the selection not only the best individual players but the best fit for the particular team. These teams are not set in stone and during preseason and the regular winter season movement is possible

Importantly, the following criteria will be followed in the selection of our top graded sides.

- Physicality – does the player possess the attributes for that particular age group.
- Skills – technique and tactical awareness
- Coachability - ability to take feedback and direction
- Training – availability to train

Other attributes:

- Previous form
- Performance at training and games
- Potential

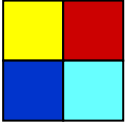
Each age group will publish a set of physical and technical standards for players to be assessed against. See Age group co-ordinators for details.

### **Similar Grades** (Pennant South /South grades)

Many of our teams play in grades that are quite similar in skill level. As a result the dividing of players by skill level is designed to balance teams and maximise the chances of each team gaining success during the season.

### **Other important influences in selection of players into teams**

- Social groups – trying to allow friends to play together
- Transporting consideration – sharing of transportation
- Training availability – finding a time/side that best suits the player
- Player game time availability – can the player make games



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## **Playing up a grade**

It is possible for a player to be selected to play up an age group. Players will be selected in their age related grade unless exceptional circumstances arise. In the event that a player is to play up permanently, a written request is to be submitted to the junior committee for consideration. In general this is a club not an individual issue. Wanting to play with your friends does not qualify for exceptional circumstances.

When considering a player playing up an age group the club takes into account several factors:

- Physicality – does the player possess the attributes for that particular age group.
- Skills – technique and tactical awareness
- Player and parent personal desires – no one should be forced to play a grade they do not want to.
- Will this effect the lower age groups competitiveness.

## **Girls playing in mixed teams**

Southern United H.C. is inclusive in its selection of teams and encourages girls to play to their full potential. Girls can play both Mixed and Girls grades in the same round without penalty from Hockey Victoria. Finals qualification rule restrictions are not carried across the grades.

At U11's and U13's girls physicality is an advantage due to their earlier growth cycle in general. So girls are a strong part of many teams. At U13's the club runs girls teams to cater for the players who wish to play in a girls only competition.

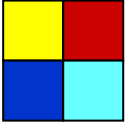
At U15's boys physical size and strength start to dominate. At U17's the club strongly recommends girls to play in an all girls competition and the club will strive to offer the highest available. Girls are permitted to play U17 and U15 mixed as a selection policy. The player's ability to cope with the grades physical and strength needs will be taken into account. It is important to note that the club has a duty of care to not place players in situations where serious injury might occur. Refer to the "other" selection criteria for extra selection parameters.

## **Appeals against selection decisions**

It must be noted that the selection process is difficult and confronting for players, parents and coaches alike. Southern United attempts to be objective in its selection of teams but by the nature of player assessment and selection, subjective decisions are made.

If a player believes he/she has not been treated fairly in the selection process they have recourse via selection appeal through the age group coordinator then the coaching committee. All coaches will give honest feedback on selection decisions. Players who wish to be selected in a higher grade should be aware they need to accept the feedback in the openness it is given.

Teams are not permanently set at the start of the season and unable to be changed. The club will work with players on areas of improvement and reassess players regularly.



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## **Selection methods for junior teams**

### **Overview**

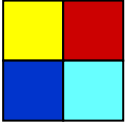
Where Southern United enters higher graded teams in a age group the club will enter into a streaming of players prior to the winter season. The club will run a trial process to form teams (and squads) of the top players from players in that age group, who are eligible and make themselves available for selection.

### **Principles**

- Selection is open to all registered players who are eligible to play in that age group and want to play in the top team(s).
- Selection will be based solely on a player's ability to contribute to the teams with their technical ability, tactical ability (game sense), attitude, fitness and stamina.
- Selection will be undertaken by three selectors to create objective results.
- Players will be given due notice of trials.
- Eligible players unavailable for trials can ask selectors to consider their previous performances when considering their request for selection.
- The highest graded team will be selected first with consideration for the removal of players from next graded side on the team's competitiveness.
- The next graded side will be selected second with consideration the impact of removing players from the lower grades' competitiveness and so on.

### **Trials**

- Trials will be convened in early March for the winter U17, U15 and U13 age groups. U11's will be selected through the normal preseason training.
- The format of the trials will include small 'indoor' style games and full field games.
- Players are requested to bring a white and black tops to the trials.
- All players must be registered members of Southern United H.C. to trial for a team.



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## **Player rotation policy**

### **Principles**

- Every member pays an annual membership fee so expects equal game time or training attention in total as an average over the season.
- The club philosophy is that a team wins games not individuals. So all team members should be given an equal chance to develop game / team skills.

### **Implementation - Policy**

- No player should start consecutive matches on the interchange bench
- All players will take their turn on the interchange
- No player shall be on the interchange bench to the extent that they are regularly playing substantially less than a full game in any lower graded teams.
- The exceptions to the policies above are goalkeepers. Obviously the rotation of goalkeepers during a game is restrictive unless there are two kitted keepers.
- At U11 and U13 South every player will take a turn at being goalkeeper for a game during the season
- Every new player to hockey should have a chance to try out a least 3 positions during the season.
- Players who are selected to play in a higher grade need to be aware that there is a chance they will have less game time. If players wish more game time they will be allowed to drop down a lower grade to do so.