

## **DRHC Developmental Selection Policy**

Whilst this policy is written for specific application within the Junior Section it should be read in conjunction with the club's general statement re Selection Policy which can be seen on the club's website at the Policy Centre.

DRHC is committed to the development of young players as an integral part of running a sustainable club and also as part of our broader contribution to hockey in general.

The Developmental Selection Policy is aimed at ensuring that our young members are given every opportunity to reach their full potential whatever level that may be.

Our policy is that:

1. We take a long-term view of the development of all our young players in line with the principles of Long Term Athlete Development adopted within EH's Single System.
2. We will ensure that no young person under the age of 13 (on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the season being played) plays in adult only competition.
3. We will enforce the EHL regulation stating that a player must have reached the age of 15 to be eligible to be registered to play in the EHL.
4. Young players will not be called upon to play in adult only competition until it is judged to be in 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. The Chair of the Junior Committee will make the final decision in regard to such matters if there is any doubt.
5. The club will abide by EH recommendations regarding player eligibility and competition rules.
6. The club will abide by the EH 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.
7. For young players eligible to be involved in adult teams there will be careful consideration to ensure that the distance travelled is proportional to the likely pitch time for the young player in addition to the experience to be gained from being part of an adult team.

8. 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 DRHC.

As much as practically possible, peer group teams at junior level will ensure that each member of the squad is given a fair amount of pitch time per match or per event to ensure every individual has the opportunity to develop.

To be selected for any team (adult or junior) you need to be a member of the club.