

Alton Hockey Club

Selection Policy



Adult Teams

The following selection criteria will be applied to all adult teams:

1. Teams will be selected according to ability from players who are paid up members.
2. To be considered as available for selection for the Club, players must indicate availability by noon of Sunday using the facility on Teamo. This will enable Captains to review availability against attendance and performance at training. Players who indicate only partial ability are not guaranteed a game.
3. Training expectations differ between teams to reflect the differing objectives of teams e.g. To be primarily competitive/developmental/social etc. Attendance at training will be taken into account for selection as follows:
 - Mens Section:
 - 1st XI & 2nd XI = expected
 - 3rd XI = preferred
 - 4th XI = encouraged
 - Ladies Section:
 - 1st XI, 2nd XI, 3rd XI = expected
 - 4th XI = encouraged
 - The Club understands that members have other work/school/life commitments and that it isn't always possible to attend training, but would request that you inform your Captain of expected absence.
4. Effort, performance and conduct at training and in previous matches will be taken into account.

Junior Teams

The following selection criteria will be applied to all Junior teams

1. All players that are available and willing to participate and have reached a suitable standard as to be confident in a match situation will be selected.
2. Where there are more players available than positions on the team (including subs) the following criteria will be applied:
 1. Rotation of selection to enable all available players to have a chance to play
 2. Attendance at training
 3. Effort and conduct in training and in previous games

'Playing-up'

It is the aim of the Club to provide age-appropriate development opportunities for all junior members to enable them to enjoy both the social and competitive side of hockey. With this in mind, junior players 'playing-up' to older age-groups or senior teams should be the exception, not the rule for selection.

The following guide will be applied to juniors playing in the age-group above or in senior team matches:

1. Junior players will play in age-group as a priority unless there is a suitable development opportunity in an older age-group or senior team.
2. Juniors 'playing up' will not be available for selection in their normal age-group as well, unless their normal age-group will be unable to field a full team without them. This is to ensure there are not instances of some players getting 2 opportunities to play on a weekend and others getting none.
3. Selection of players for older or senior teams will be based on emotional maturity and confidence as well as ability and captains will discuss selection with the player's parent/guardian before approaching the player directly.



Fairness, Player Development and Opportunities for All

The club will take the following steps to ensure fairness, player development and competitive opportunities for all:

- * Team selection will aim for a balanced team
- * Captains are encouraged to talk to players if they indicate they are only available for 'home' games.
- * Captains to also speak to players who are not selected and explain why, especially younger players.
- * Men's selection will be the responsibility of the Men's Selection Committee, comprising the Captains of each team
- * Ladies selection will be coordinated between the Captains
- * Junior selection will be agreed between the coach(es) and manager for each age group and will not be the sole responsibility of one individual
- * Players who live partially away from home (eg students at university or people working away from home for significant periods) will generally be selected for the team most appropriate to their ability. This will be at the discretion of team captains who will also take into account the basic principles of fair selection.

If you have any issues or concerns about selection, please speak to your Captain in the first instance, or the relevant Section Club Captain or Junior Chair