



NURIOOTPA HOCKEY CLUB – GUIDELINES

The Nuriootpa Hockey Club values all members, playing and non-playing, and recognises that each has a role to play within the Club.

Nuriootpa Hockey Club is a registered Good Sports club and endorses the aims of the Good Sports Program.

The Nuriootpa Hockey Club guidelines will be adhered to wherever possible. The Club appreciates that this will not always be in the best interest of certain players/teams and there will always be exceptions.

Teams

- Full field teams will consist of no more than 16 players if possible in order to offer maximum playing time to all members.
- All members of a team will be considered as having an equally important role to play, regardless of gender, age, ability or position on the field.
- As near as possible players (in full field teams) should receive equal playing time throughout the season, dependant on attendance, reliability and attitude at training. During finals all players should be given a “fair go” and receive reasonable time on the field. The Club acknowledges that children play sport for various reasons and that a lack of playing time is a major reason for children “dropping out” of sport.
- All players in the Mini Juniors (U7, U9 and U11) competitions will have equal time on the field each game and will be given the opportunity to play in all positions throughout the season. While this may mean the loss of some games that could have been won the Club feels that the opportunity to participate is more important than winning at this level.
- Where the Club enters two or more teams in the same competition:
 - o those teams will be selected to be as even as possible,
 - o the selection of the teams will be made by the current coaches with input from previous coach/es, mini Junior and junior coordinators as appropriate,
- Junior players will be encouraged to play in their own age group and will only be offered a second match in a higher grade if insufficient numbers in that higher grade.

Coaching, Team Management and Training

- A team manager will be appointed for each full field team (whose role will be to assist the coach in whatever way possible – distribute information, fill in match cards and attend to first aid etc).
- Coaches of Mini Juniors and junior teams should make a personal commitment to keep themselves informed of the principles of growth and development of children.
- Specialist coaches should be utilised where possible, e.g. goalkeeping.
- Players playing their second match for the day will start on the bench if there are more than eleven other team members present.
- If a player is awarded a “yellow card” during the course of a match, that player, upon completion of penalty will immediately be benched for a length of time determined by the coach.
- Junior players regularly playing a second match should attend training for that second team if at all possible.
- Any junior coach with queries/problems during the season is to first approach the Junior Coordinator. Senior coaches are to approach the Club President.

Safety Issues

The Club will undertake to prevent injury to players by:

- ensuring that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and team managers
Capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skills;
- organising clinics in Sports Medicine, Injury Prevention and Management, First Aid, Coaching etc;
- Encouraging coaches, team managers, umpires, players and parents to attend these clinics to enable them to pass on the correct knowledge;
- providing a relevant, up-to-date first aid kit for each team - to be brought to each match by the team manager (along with ice);
- Regularly inspecting playing fields, training areas, equipment and facilities (including the change rooms and toilets) to ensure that they are safe;
- providing all goal keepers with suitable, modern protective gear and maintaining and/or replacing that gear as necessary;
- encouraging the wearing of mouthguards and shin pads by all field players;
- ensuring all players are taught skills appropriate to their age and ability level and are provided with the opportunity to play in a competition that matches those skills (this may include lobbying the BVHA to provide an appropriate competition e.g. modified sport);
- ensuring all players follow safe sport practices at training and matches (including warming up, stretching, cooling down, fluid replacement);
- encouraging players to maintain an acceptable level of fitness;

Life Membership

All Life Member nominations should be weighed up against current Life Members to see if they meet the standards already set by the club. Nominations must be in writing to the club secretary using the nomination form available from the club website.

General

- No trophies will be awarded at Mini Junior level. All mini junior players shall receive a participation award/medal. At other levels (junior and senior) three trophies only per team to be awarded. The naming of the trophies is at the discretion of the coaches.
- Players will be encouraged to watch other club teams' matches to engender a strong club spirit (e.g. juniors to watch senior games and seniors to watch junior/mini juniors games).
- Parents are asked to discuss any problems directly with the team coach. Failing a suitable reply, parents should contact the club executive.
- Nuriootpa Hockey Club players and supporters will respect umpire's decisions and not bring disrepute on the game by their actions on and off the field.

Failing to abide by any of the above mentioned rules may result in disciplinary action being taken and suspension from the club for a period of time.

Authorised and Endorsed by the Nuriootpa Hockey Club Committee 2022

Brad Fairey

President