**WINCHESTER HOCKEY CLUB**

**JUNIOR SECTION**

**2024-2025**

**GIRLS U12 GROUP**

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**VISION**

We aim to offer an inclusive and welcoming environment where we can provide hockey for as wide a range of children as possible, whilst also stretching those who are driven to achieve their full potential.

**OBJECTIVES**

* Provide a combination of an inclusive participation offering and talent development.
* Ensure training and match environments are always safe and fun.
* Enter 4 teams into league & cup competitions, one as a performance team, and the others as development / participation teams.
* Actively manage development of all players, continually assessing which is the right environment for the player.
* Ensure the performance team remains one of the premier Hampshire U12 teams – target top 2 position in Hampshire League 1 & in-2-hockey competition, and qualification for the regional in-2-hockey competition.
* Encourage hockey participation in our local area.
* Continually enhance the quality of coaching to all members.

**SQUAD STATUS**

We have experienced exceptional demand for places in the squad. Our current membership includes 62 players that will be eligible for next season’s U12 girls squad comprising:

* 21 existing U12 players that will still be U12s
* 27 current U10 players that will move up to the U12s
* 14 players on a waiting list, most of whom have been training with our introductory group

We expect more membership enquiries as a result of our recent competitive success (performance team) and our ongoing outreach activities (participation teams).

**SQUAD STRUCTURE**

At the start of the season, following an assessment period (2 weeks), players will be allocated to one of 2 sub-groups.

* **Performance squad** (maximum 35 players) - players in this squad will be expected to train regularly and be available for matches. Training will take place on Tuesday evenings (Kings 6.30-8pm) and, on weekends with no fixture, Sunday (Bar End, 9.30-11am). Players from this squad will be selected for one of the following teams:
  + Team Black – our performance team; entered into the Hampshire league 1 & in-2-hockey championship; friendlies against top clubs in the south of England.
  + Team Yellow – our 1st emerging players team; entered into the Hampshire League 2; explore the possibility of entering in-2-hockey championship; friendlies against top clubs in Hampshire.
  + Team Purple – our 2nd emerging players team; entered into the Hampshire League 2; friendlies against development sides of local clubs.
* **Development squad** (maximum 35 players) - Training will take place on Sunday (Bar End, 11am-12.30pm) for players not taking part in fixtures. Players from this squad may be selected for one of the following teams:
  + Team Blue – our 1st development team; entered into the Hampshire League 2; friendlies against development sides of local clubs.
  + Team Red – our 2nd development team; occasional friendly fixtures against other local development teams.

Selection for fixtures will be made up to 2 weeks in advance by the squad lead coach in conjunction with the assistant coaches and manager of the relevant team.

Players will be continually assessed and moved into more appropriate squads where necessary during the course of the season. Players joining during the season will be allocated to a squad based on discussion with their parent & an assessment if necessary.

**COACHING & MANAGEMENT**

Girls Section performance coach: Andrew Howard

Squad lead coach & manager: Nick Tout

Performance squad – Lead Coach: Nick Tout – Assistant Coaches: [ ] [ ]

Development squad – Lead Coach: [ ] – Assistant Coaches: [ ] [ ]

Team Black – Manager: [ ]

Team Yellow – Manager: [ ]

Team Purple – Manager: [ ]

Team Blue & Red – Manager: [ ]

The squad manager will be responsible for overall co-ordination of the GU12 group, and each individual team manager will be responsible for fixture planning, selection and other issues that relate to their team.

The squad lead coach & the girls section performance coach will be responsible for supporting all team coaches so that all training sessions deliver a high level of coaching.

**COACH DEVELOPMENT**

The junior section director of coaching will arrange regular coach education sessions, with the aim of developing confident coaches who can deliver high quality training sessions to all of our players.