

## **Chester HC - Selection Committee; Principles of Operation**

- Each Selection Committee should be chaired by the respective Club Captain, or in their absence by an appointed deputy.
- The Selection Committee should comprise the respective Club Captain and team captains (Coach's views to be represented by the team captains).
- Selection Committee should take place every week and be attended in person. If the team captain is not available he/she should appoint a deputy to attend in their place.
- Discussions and decisions should take into account the overall aims of the club as well as the particular progress of an individual team.
- Decisions should be arrived at by general consensus or by a majority decision in the event of a vote been taken.
- The democratically made policies and decision of the Selection Committee should be strictly adhered to.
- In the event of a split decision the Club Captain will have the casting vote.
- Any changes made to teams after the selection meeting must only be made with the agreement of all parties concerned. (I.e. normally the Club Captain and other team captains affected).
- Selection should consider the protection of youth players participating in adult fixtures. If the safety of the youth player is in question they should not be selected for any adult team.
- Selection should be open, fair, encourage youth development and provide opportunities for players to move between teams as appropriate.
- Visibility of future availability / unavailability of players in all teams should be shared as soon as known with all Selection committee members.
- **Squad sizes:** teams at higher levels may wish to select a large squad, but this should only be done when player availability means that all teams are able to field strong sides. As a general principle first teams should have a squad of 13, second teams 12-13, and 11-13 for lower teams. The final decision about squad size will in practice be made week-by-week by the Selection Committee, whose decision is final.

- **Players** returning from absence: Where players have missed a significant number of matches and training sessions (e.g. through injury, 3 or more), their return match shall normally be for the team below which they previously played in (unless tied by league rules).
- **New Players:** A player's ability shall initially be assessed by determining what level hockey they have played within the last two years and by a judgement of the members of the selection committee at the first training session.

In order to maintain morale of players throughout the club & manage new player expectations, a new player should be selected in a team (& training) below which it is thought they may eventually play. The captain should explain to the player that this is the club policy. If the feedback from the captain and vice captain of that team is positive, the player may then be selected for a higher team for the following match.