

West Bridgford Hockey Club

The Role of Chair of Selectors

The Chair of Selectors should be appointed by the Club Captains at the beginning of each season. The role of the Chair is to inform and support the captains in their duties, which must follow the basic guidelines of the Club Selection Policy outlined below. The role of the chair is not one of selection, as that is the job of the individual captains. The role is a strategic one, ensuring that the goals of the Club as a whole are kept in focus while the captains deal with the operational process of selection for their team.

The key points are:

1: Players play for the Club not a team.

2: Players are selected on merit.

3: We ensure that the 1st team is the strongest possible.

4: Selection starts with the 1st team and proceeds down the teams, with each captain choosing their squad in turn from the players remaining.

Within that context the role of the chair is to ensure that the process operates effectively, that the policy is adhered to and that the captains are supported in making the selection decisions.

Playing Disciplinary Panel

The team selection panel, made up of the team captains and appointed chair form the disciplinary panel responsible for dealing with issues that arise from player related events before during or after matches. An example would be to issue appropriate sanctions to a player after a red card. The panel must report their actions to the Club full Committee.

A note on 1st team success

First team success is very important because it can bring in new players who want to play at a high level. This is an area where we have struggled in recent years as the Universities have grown in strength and depth. Both our first teams need to be attractive to players wanting to play post education, as we need to find ways of filling the void that occurs as our juniors leave us at 18. It is therefore vital that we put first team success very high on the agenda, and this starts at selection where we must all work towards supporting the Captain and coaches in raising standards.

WBHC Selection Policy

Selection will be carried out by the team captains who will appoint a chair (either from among their number or co-opted) for the season. They will follow the club's selection criteria which have been agreed by and are kept under review by main committee

1. Teams will be selected on merit except in specific circumstances set out here and posted on the club website;
2. Young (U18) players may be selected for a higher team based on potential as well as current performance. Such young players will be assessed and given feedback on their performance by their team captain;
3. Players selected for a higher team (ie promoted) will be given a run of at least 3 games in the team, except where the promotion was to meet a player shortage late in the week or by arrangement at the time of promotion;

4. No player will drop more than one team below the team for which he/she was originally selected the previous week without their consent - nb this clause does not apply to goalkeepers, although it will be applied to them as far as is practicable;
5. Captains must contact any player who is dropped, let them know about it and the reasons behind the decision urgently and before teams are posted on the club website;
6. Captains may take past and future availability into account in making selection decisions;
7. Captains will seek to make as few changes as possible, eg by selecting larger or smaller squads depending on availability and projected availability, conducive to allowing a flow of promising players through the club;
8. New members will be selected at an appropriate level, depending on their past experience, level of play, etc;
9. Any player who volunteers to, or is requested to, to umpire, will automatically be selected for their previous or higher team the following week;
10. Players who have not confirmed their availability by Thursday should be contacted directly by captains, who may take such conduct into account when selecting teams;
11. Captains are expected to deal with cry offs by playing with a reduced squad. However, where a replacement is necessary, they must consult those captains who will be affected before taking action;
12. Anyone who is not selected at all should be informed, either by the relevant team captain or, where appropriate, by the chair of selectors;
13. Sub para 4 will not be applied strictly at the start of the season and also during holiday periods.

This policy will be reviewed annually by main committee and is to be read alongside the more detailed Developmental Selection Policy which is specific to young players.