

## Hockey Albury Wodonga 16s Competition 2017

### Principles

Age is used as a common framework of convenience for competition and education, however while it is easily defined there are many factors that could be considered if there was a choice. It has been deemed in the best interest of the clubs, the teams involved and the Hockey Albury Wodonga association to maintain a viable upper age Junior competition.

To do this some allowances have been made to include players that are 16 before 1 January 2017. These allowances are:

- In 2017 the under 16s competition will be referred to as a 16s competition.
- The age group of players eligible for 16s will be any child born in the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and later.
- Children born in the years 2001 and 2002 will have none of the restrictions listed below placed on them. These are the true age eligible players.
- Junior # rules still apply to players born after 2002 if they play in u14s and 16s.
- Clubs are encouraged to ensure priority of team spots for 16s be given to players born 2001 and 2002 and then if required available playing spots can be filled with players born in 2000
- Players born in 2000 will have some eligibility restrictions to ensure that the 16s competition is played within the spirit of the game, and that the safety of all players is not compromised.

### Restrictions

1. No player born in 2000 can remain in the 16s competition if they are currently playing Capital League, Division 1 or be a State representative player for Hockey Victoria, Hockey NSW or Hockey ACT. (Please see special considerations for clubs that have limited teams and or senior divisions)
2. Should a player play Division 1 as an asterisk player, the following week they will not be able to take place in 16s without communication from clubs to the association as to that players further requirements for Division 1. For example, if they played as a one off only the club must resubmit a permit for player to continue in 16s. If the player will continue to play Division 1 they do so with knowledge they are now ineligible for 16s. Clubs are advised the development of a player in senior divisions should not be withheld, to retain that player as 16s player.
3. At a maximum of every 5 rounds a 16s permit review group including HAW board members (President and Director of Competitions) will observe the 16s competition and provide feedback to clubs on any concerns regarding permitted players. Players born in 2000 may have their permits reviewed should their presence be dominating the competition.
4. Clubs are encouraged to lodge concerns they may have with players on permit (born 2000) on round by round basis with HAW Operations Manager, HAW Director of Competition or HAW President.
5. Clubs must lodge a group permit for all players born in 2000 listing players hockey history, and reasons as to why they are required, or have chosen to stay in the 16s competition. It is noted that managers are to carry an approved list with them should opposition teams raise questions in regards to players.



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6. Teams will be given a notice of concern regarding a player and this will have effect in a maximum of two weeks once that decision is made.
7. Players born in 2000 will be entered into match books with a (P) beside their name to ensure they can be identified.
8. Players born in 2000 are not eligible for Best and Fairest votes

### **Special Consideration**

Where junior clubs do not have a Division 1 team and a player is playing Division 1 with another club, an Intra club permit is still available should both clubs agree for said player to play 16s with their junior club to ensure the club can remain in the competition. If club then becomes dominant in 16s based on the above allowance a review will occur.