



## WELCOME TO THE 2017 HOCKEY SEASON

Hi everyone and welcome to the 2017 Hockey Season! My name is Colleen Bentley and I'm your new MCHC VP (Junior Co-ordinator) filling in big shoes left by Emma Bell. Thanks to Emma for her hard work over the years especially the last 2 and I'm glad to say she hasn't left us completely and will still be around as our VP Assist along with Janine Tate. We have a great committee again this year who without the club would not run so thanks to them. Remember you don't have to be on the committee to help out, so if you can please do!

This Newsletter contains some **VERY important information** for the start of the Junior Season so please read carefully and add the important dates to your diary!

### REGISTRATIONS:

Registrations should be up and running anytime now - please check our website regularly so you can register ASAP. It is very important that we have accurate player numbers because the Club must nominate the number of teams we have to Hockey WA. Team nominations must be made within the next few weeks, so please check @ [www.melvillehockey.com/register](http://www.melvillehockey.com/register).

Once we nominate our teams, and they are full, we will be unable to take more players, even if they have played with us previously.

If your child is NOT intending to play this year, it would really help us if you could please send an e-mail to [juniors@melvillehockey.com](mailto:juniors@melvillehockey.com) so we can remove you from our database AND NOT bother you!

### WE STILL REQUIRE A YEAR CO-ORDINATOR FOR BOTH J5/6 GIRLS and J7/8 BOYS

Please contact [juniors@melvillehockey.com](mailto:juniors@melvillehockey.com) if you are interested.

### GRADING PROCESS FOR 2017:

The first grading session for the pre-season will begin on Monday 20th February (please see below for the days that apply to your age group).

The Junior Committee has been happy with the development of the Junior programme the last couple of seasons with 12 of our 21 teams finishing in the top 4 last season. With 5/6's not playing finals we had 9 teams who did, with 8 of them making the Grand Final. A huge effort from everyone involved. The Junior Coaching Development Officer (JCDO) and the Junior Player Development Officers' (JPDO) roles will continue this year with Mathilda Carmichael again leading the way. As you may know already, Tilly is the captain of our Women's top squad and has spent the summer playing for the Hockeyroos as well as the Scorchers in the WBBL, so we are lucky she is willing to put so much time and effort into our Junior programme.

See club website for detailed explanation of the support structure for both players and coaches.

Grading sessions, especially for younger players, will be skills sessions and structured game time to get everyone back “into the groove” after a summer lay-off for many. Players will be put into groups for ease of management. These groups will **NOT** be your child’s final team. Players will be carefully watched by our selectors who will assess them in training and game time during these sessions and also consider coaches’ comments from the previous year in determining grading for this season.

Time is very tight for each junior group. Please try and arrive with your mouth guard and shin pads - dressed ready to start play – **15 mins prior** to your session START time. Don’t forget a water bottle and sunscreen! If you cannot make your training session(s) or are going to be late, please contact the Year Co-ordinator for your age group. See Junior Contacts on the Club’s website: <http://www.melvillehockey.com/contacts-juniors.php>

### GRADING TIMES

<b>Mon 20, 27 Feb &amp; 13, 20 Mar</b>	J5/6 BOYS	4.45 - 5.45pm <b>(Arrive 4.30pm)</b>
	J5/6 GIRLS	5.15 - 6.15pm <b>(Arrive 5.00pm)</b>
<b>Tues 21, 28 Feb &amp; 7, 14, 21 Mar</b>	J7/8 GIRLS	4.30 - 6.00pm <b>(Arrive 4.15pm)</b>
	J9/10 BOYS	5.00 - 6.30pm <b>(Arrive 4.45pm)</b>
<b>Wed 22 Feb &amp; 1, 8,15, 22 Mar</b>	J7/8 BOYS	4.30 - 6.00pm <b>(Arrive 4.15pm)</b>
	J9/10 GIRLS	5.00 - 6.30pm <b>(Arrive 4.45pm)</b>
<b>Thurs 23 Feb &amp; 2, 9, 16, 23 Mar</b>	J11/12 GIRLS	5.00 - 6.15pm <b>(Arrive 4.45pm)</b>
	J11/12 BOYS	5.15 - 6.30pm <b>(Arrive 5.00pm)</b>

### GRADING CONFIRMATION DAY - 25th MARCH 2017:

All Junior players must attend the final Grading Day (times will be allocated soon). On this day players will have last assessments to finalise the teams for the season.

**TRAINING NIGHTS FOR THE SEASON** will be decided **after** the Grading Confirmation Day (25th March) when teams for the 2017 season have been finalised and coaches appointed. All of our coaches are volunteers, so team training nights will vary according to their work/study/family commitments.

### MOUTHGUARDS ARE COMPULSORY FOR ALL GAMES & TRAINING

Shane McCamish, from Custom Mouthguards will be at the Club rooms (dates below) to take impressions for ANY players wanting a custom-fitted mouthguard. If you are interested please complete the order form and bring it with you. Players training on those nights can take a short break from training to be fitted, but Shane will be there before training to make sure that no-one misses out. If you have HBF cover, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses. If you are with another Health Fund, please check your level of cover with them.

### MOUTHGUARD FITTINGS

**Mon 27 Feb, Tues 28 Feb, Wed 1 Mar and Thurs 2 Mar - Order forms to follow**

## UNIFORM SHOP:

Melville City Hockey Club gradually introduced the new uniform last year and from this year it will be compulsory for every player (Senior & Junior) to be wearing them. The uniform shop will be opening on extra days during pre-season to accommodate those new to hockey and new to our club. You will be notified of opening times soon.

## J5/6 GRADING CARNIVAL - SAT 29th APRIL 2017:

J5/6 teams from ALL clubs in WA are required to play in a "Grading Carnival" organised by Hockey WA to ensure that all teams are placed in the right grade before the season starts. This carnival is played at Yokine Reserve with games running throughout the day. It is essential that we have ALL J5/6 players available and we will contact all families once we have a timetable for the day.

## ROUND 1 - 28th, 29th, 30th APRIL 2017:

Your team's manager will inform you of game times and locations when they are known.

- J5/6 games commence Saturday 13th May (J5/6 have a bye after the Grading Carnival)
- J7/8 games commence Saturday 29th April
- J9/10 games commence Sunday 30th April
- J11/12 games will commence on either Friday 28th April (A & ARes) or Sunday 30th April

## RON WILSON CUP - Fri 31st MARCH & Sat 1st APRIL:

Every year the 'A' team from each age group play a tournament against Vic Park to honour Ron Wilson who was involved in coaching Juniors at both clubs. His son Craig also played for Melville as a junior and coached Vic Park's MTL Men's side. Game times are as follows

Friday	5/6 Girls	5.00pm - 5.55pm	Saturday	9/10 Girls	3.00pm - 4.05pm
	5/6 Boys	6.00pm - 6.55pm		9/10 Boys	4.10pm - 5.15pm
	11/12 Girls	7.00pm - 8.05pm		7/8 Girls	5.20pm - 6.25pm
	11/12 Boys	8.10pm - 9.15pm		7/8 Boys	6.30pm - 7.35pm

## KIDSPORT:

Club members holding a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card, may be eligible for a KidSport grant to assist with the costs of playing Junior sport, including hockey. Under this program, up to \$200 can be claimed per child per calendar year. You need to apply to your Local Government (e.g. City of Melville, City of Cockburn, City of Canning) for a voucher. You then give the voucher to the Club to cover your child's fees. If you need more information, there is web page for parents (<http://clubsonline.dsr.wa.gov.au/information-for-parents> ).

## COACHING:

If you are available to coach a junior team this season, please contact us as soon as possible. We are anticipating that we will again have about 20-24 Junior teams, so finding enough coaches for all of those teams is always a challenge! We are grateful for any offers of help. We have some coaches who have already offered to help us out this year, which is fantastic.

## CALENDAR DATES:

<b>FEB</b>		<b>MAY</b>	
20 - 30	Grading Wk 1 & 2	13	5/6's Round 1
<b>MAR</b>		<b>JUN</b>	
7 - 23	Grading Wk 3, 4 & 5	3 - 5	SW Junior Champs - Bunbury
25	Grading Confirmation Day	<b>JUL</b>	
25	MTL Men Round 1	3 - 16	School Holidays
31	Ron Wilson Cup - 5/6's & 11/12's	<b>AUG</b>	
<b>APR</b>		18 - 20	Juniors BYE
1	Ron Wilson Cup - 7/8's & 9/10's	18	5/6's Turf Round
10 - 23	School Holidays	<b>SEPT</b>	
28 - 30	Juniors Round 1	1 - 3	Junior Semi Finals
29	5/6's Grading Carnival	8 - 10	Junior Grand Finals
		15	Junior Presentation Night

## NOTE:

Please note that the clubrooms are still in the control of the cricket club and they are not in our possession until Saturday 1st April, so please respect the cricket club in the clubrooms and the surrounding grounds. Thank you.

There will be another Newsletter coming out soon with more information about Grading Day, the Uniform Shop, and plans for the season. Look out for it in your inbox!

Cheers



**Colleen Bentley | Junior Co-ordinator | MCHC**

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