

Puppy Press #5 June/July 2020



Hello Junior Families and welcome to the 5th Puppy Press of 2020.

General News:

As announced last week, Hockey Victoria gained clearance from Sports & Recreation Victoria to allow us to announce the start date for the Junior season - its 17th July 2020!

I am also delighted to tell you Juniors are back to full contact training from the 22nd June! It's all happening!!

Along with this newsletter this week, Under 12's, Under 14's and Under 16's will receive invitations to join Shield, Pennant and District teams.

Due to the numbers we have received from our Return to Hockey Survey, we will be entering an Under 14 Mixed District team, to be coached by Pennant player, Jess Pratt. This is in lieu of the Boys and Girls Pennant teams that we had planned for at the beginning of the year.

As far as i'm concerned it is amazing that we are effectly only dropping off one team this year. We will be heavily recruiting over summer to entice players back to hockey at all age groups, and to ensure our position as the most outstanding Junior Club in The West (if not the state!)

Under 10's had their first training on Saurday with fantastic numbers attending. We are excited to be able to enter 2 Boys and 2 Girls teams into the U10 Hockey Victoria competition.

Under 6's and Under 8's will resume when we have the F2 lights fully operational and HV teams back to their normal training nights. We will also be looking at the spectator restrictions as I am aware that our smallest players appreciate the comfort and encouragement of their parents and guardians. As always I'll keep you informed of developments and what our Under 6's and 8's can expect when they return to hockey.

Training Schedule:

At the time of writing, the F2 lights are still out of action. We will continue to train to our ammended training schedule until the lights are fixed.

Monday:

- F1 FW End: Under 18's 5.30-6.45pm
- F1 Park End: Under 12 Girls 5.30-6.45pm

Tuesday:

- F1 FW End: Girls U14 Shield 5.30-6.45pm
- F1 PARK End: Girls U16 Shield 5.30-6.45pm
- The Cage: U16 District 5.30-6.45pm

Wednesday:

- F1 FW End U12 Boys Pennant 5.30-6.45pm
- F1 Park End U12 Boys Shield 5.30-6.45pm

Thursday:

- F1 FW End: Boys U16 Shield 5.30-6.45pm
- F1 PARK End: Boys U14 Shield 5.30-6.45pm
- The Cage: U14 District 5.30-6.45pm

As we are only 4 weeks away from the beginning of the season, I am encouraging teams to continue training through the school holidays. Its not a problem if you are going to be away, please just let your Age Group Coordinator know, so they can make your coach aware you will not be at training.

COVID-19 News:

As mentioned earlier, Juniors are allowed to go back to full contact training from the 22nd June. This means players can practice player on player drills, tackles and game simulations. Practice matches will be scheduled and advertised when confirmed.

Spectator restrictions are still in force, so we will continue to have no spectators at training for the time being.

Hockey Victoria have made spitting and "bushman's blows" cardable offences, so best get out of the habit now!

For the 2020 season, Coaches will be asked to nominate players to defend short corners each game. These players will be assigned a color coded, sterilised mask and only that player will use that mask for that game. Coaches will be able to make substitutions if not enough nominated players/players with masks are on the field.

- Please make your Age Group Coordinator aware if your player has their own face mask.
 - Please clearly name that mask and make it easily recognisable to your player.
- Parents are not required to purchase a facemask for their players if they do not wish. The club has enough for 5 per team. I will be making Red, Yellow, Green, Blue and Orange bags for each facemask so we have no confusion!

The Most Important Points:

- On arrival, members must use hand sanitiser, which will be located on a table at the entrance. (members may use hand sanitiser during training as they see fit).
- No parents/spectators are allowed within the FHC fences during training. If you are inside the facility, you will be counted as part of the 20 and we may exceed the 20 person per group rule. We ask that you wait in your car.
- Stick/equipment bags are not to be brought into the facility. Players are to arrive fully kitted up and ready for training. Stick in one hand and water bottle in the other. Mouthguards should be properly fitted to avoid being removed during training. Change rooms will not be open and toilets are not to be used for getting changed. If your child carries any personal items, they may bring a small backpack and place it on the undercover bench seats.
 - Goalkeepers are allowed to arrive 10 minutes early to kit up. They must keep their kit neat and tidy. Goalkeepers are allowed to keep their kit inside the gates. If GK's require parent help to kit up, that can be done prior to training starting. Parents must leave the fenced area after kitting up is complete.
- Toilets will be open, members are to wash their hands thoroughly and it is advisable to use hand sanitiser after using the bathroom.
- Players are **STRICTLY NOT** to pick up balls or cones with their hands. Coaches have been given their own set of balls and cones and they are the only people who are able to pick them up.
- **STRICTLY NO SPITTING.**
- Training is to end at 6.45pm sharp and the players are to leave the facility immediately. Parents are not to enter the facility to pick up their children, parents may meet children

outside the gate and walk them to their car. This is to eliminate overlap, contact and congregation of Senior Players attending their training sessions after ours. No junior player should be in the facility at 6.50pm

- Exceptions for GK who may take off their kit and leave when done, parents may assist children who are GK.
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I think thats it for now!

As always, if you need me you can call, message or email me at any time. Lets get as many kids as we can to training and have a great season!

Mel

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