

Swindon Skater Hockey Club



Entry to club and training up policy

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INTRODUCTION

The aim of Swindon Skater Hockey Club is to develop each of its members skills and abilities to their greatest potential, so to enable them to enjoy and participate in the sport of Skater Hockey.

The club will seek to enter teams in all age groups in recognised leagues, subject to there being sufficient members to make such a team viable.

The club will seek to encourage and foster the growth of skater hockey both locally and nationally.

Membership is open to all persons willing to support the above objectives, irrespective of political belief, nationality, colour, religion, sexual orientation or age.

Membership of Swindon Skater Hockey Club may be refused or recinded at the discretion of the Committee.

The above statements are all contained with the Swindon Skater Hockey Club Constitution.

Due to the continued success of the club, issues have arisen in managing new members joining the club and also managing existing members aspirations to train up to another team. There is a need to have an open and transparent policy to guide the Coaches, Committee and Managers on how to manage new members, and existing members who wish to train up into another team.

This document aims to address the above, whilst managing the legitimate expectations of existing club members.

Joining the Club

Open Team Trials, which are held annually are, and will remain the primary entry point for players wishing to join Swindon Skater Hockey Club.

However, to recognise our sport's growing popularity locally and to facilitate access to skater hockey for all those wishing to participate, the following procedure will apply to persons wishing to join / take up the sport outside the Open Team Trials:

To facilitate entry into the sport, the Club offers interested individuals up to three *guest* sessions, which are to be attended within one month, which is calculated from the individual's first attendance at a training session. On completion of the *guest* sessions the individual is required to apply for membership of the Club and register with BiSHA for insurance purposes.

All individuals under the age of 16 wishing to join the Club will be required to attend one beginner's session at no charge (this session is to be considered as the individual's first *guest* session) to be assessed by the Club. Individuals over the age of 18 will be required to attend a seniors training session to be assessed.

When assessed, the Club will identify the most appropriate training sessions for the individual to attend dependant on age and ability.

The individual would then be allowed to attend two of the identified training sessions as a *guest*, which must be attended within one month (to be calculated from the date of the initial beginners/assessment session). The training fee for the *guest* sessions is determined by the Committee and is currently £3.00 per session. On completion of the *guest* sessions the individual is required to apply for membership of Swindon Skater Hockey Club and register with Bisha for insurance purposes. *Guest* players will not be permitted to take part in challenge games.

Where an individual has been assessed as being competent to train in a particular age group, where two Club teams exist in the same age group, the individual will commence training with the development side of that age group irrespective of skill and ability.

Where an individual is assessed as competent to train in a particular age group and that the league team representing that age group be fully subscribed (18 registered players in total, including age-option players and net-minders, in accordance with BISHA rules.) Club membership will only be available on a non-league playing status.

Where team places become available in an appropriate league team during the league season, preference will be given to non-league club members over new players. The selection process will be conducted by the Club, after consultation with the team coaches and managers, and will be based on ability, attendance and commitment.

Should a dispute arise over the selection of a non-league Club member for a team, the matter is to be resolved by the Club's Committee. The individual will not be permitted to register as a team player until the dispute is resolved.

Training-Up

Training –up is defined as both training across teams within the same age group and/or training across age groups.

Eligibility to train-up into another team/age group shall be in accordance with B.I.S.H.A. rules.

Training-Up is seen by the Club as a privilege and not a right and as such can occur by invitation ONLY, and will be based on ability, attendance and commitment.

The invitation to train-up is to be issued by the Club, after consulting with the team coaches of both teams.

Should a dispute arise as to the availability, suitability or appropriateness of an individual for training-up the matter is to be resolved by the Club's Committee and the individual in question will not be able to train-up, until such a time as the matter is resolved.

Any Club member may be invited to train-up by the Club on a casual basis, which is defined as no more than one invitation per individual per month. The invitation to train-up on a casual basis does not imply an entitlement to train-up on a regular basis and should be seen as a method of ensuring effective training sessions when circumstances dictate. A dispensation should be granted for net-minders who, in order to ensure effective training sessions, may be invited by the Club to train either "up" or "down" without any constraints regarding the number of invites per month.

Training-up on a casual basis shall be free of charge.

Individuals can be invited by the Club to train-up on a more regular, weekly basis and in this event additional training fees as set by the committee, currently £5.00 per month, are applicable.

Any invitation to train-up does not imply automatic selection for any team and should be seen as an invitation to train ONLY.

Team selection for those individuals training-up will be at the discretion of the in conjunction with and by agreement of team coaches.

Where an individual is invited to become a registered team member in the next age group a, once off, fee of £10.00 is payable to B.I.S.H.A. for (Age Option) insurance purposes.

As the invitation to train-up is considered by the Club to be a privilege, the Committee reserve the right to recind the invitation at any time.