



Footscray Hockey Club Inc.
Founded 1934

Welcome to the FOOTSCRAY HOCKEY CLUB (FHC).

Welcome to hockey, and, more particularly, the Footscray Hockey Club. Our Club is gearing up for its 76th winter season, and new recruits are as welcome as always! Winter season competitions are conducted for U7 (Minkey)/U9/11/13/15 and U17 age groupings, with eligibility being determined by how old a child is on January 1 going into that new year. From U13 and up there are separate leagues for 'mixed' teams (boys and girls) or girls only.

Junior hockey is played on either Friday nights (U17, U15, U13 mixed) or Saturday mornings (U13 girls, U11, U9, Minkey). All grades of hockey (except Minkey – it's always at Footscray) are played on a 'home and away' basis, meaning that each alternate week our teams play at Yarraville, but travel to 'away' venues on the in-between weeks. Travel distances vary depending on which clubs are in a particular grade, but with one or two exceptions per season, away venues are generally quick and easy to access.

Training / Match Times

Note: These training times are typical, but not guaranteed. Depending upon the coach's availability, these nights may vary. Will be resolved over the next few weeks. Training begins from the first week in March, and will include weekend trials / practice matches for all age groups from U11 up.

Under 7's ('Minkey'). This program is for younger children (say – 6 yrs and under?) best served by a less competitive program. This will run on a Wednesday afternoon (5.30 to 6.30) and Saturday morning (11.00 to 12.00 midday).

Under 9s – Train 5.30 to 6.30 Wednesday nights, play 10.55am to 12.00 Saturdays,

Under 11s - Train 5.30 to 6.30 Wednesday nights, game times vary Saturdays am,

Under 13 girls - Train 5.30 to 6.30 Tuesday nights, play Saturday mornings,

Under 13 mixed - Train 5.30 to 6.30 Thursday nights, play Friday nights,

Under 15 Girls - Train 5.30 to 6.30 Tuesday nights, play Friday nights,

Under 15 mixed – Train Thursday nights 5.30 to 6.30, play Friday nights,

Under 17 Girls - Train Tuesdays 5.30 to 6.30, play Friday nights

Under 17 mixed – Train Thursday nights 5.30 to 6.30, play Friday nights.

Eligibility

The cut off date for age groups is 1st Jan each year. An example would be: if your child turns 11 on 2nd Jan or any date after that, they are still eligible to play in Under 11s team that year.

Under 9's:

The Under 9 game is played cross-ways on half of the full field. This smaller area allows the kids to get the idea of hockey games without having to cover the distances of a full field. Teams have 7 children on the ground at once, a goalie and 6 field players. Under 11s and older teams have 11 players on the full field at once. FHC's policy on team selection for U9's is to select multiple teams of roughly equal ability, factoring in friendships and car-pooling needs.

2010 Season Dates:

Rd 1 commences the first weekend of second school term (Friday April 16, Saturday April 17).

Registration Form:

Once we have received your child's rego form, that child is covered by HockeyVic insurances.

Equipment

Each player requires a stick, mouth guard and shin pads for both practice and games. During our Come 'N Try clinics, FHC provide sticks and shin guards on loan. Each child should bring their own labelled drink bottles, and once the season starts a mouthguard is compulsory. Younger aged kids normally use the moulded styled mouth guards available from chemists for about \$10. The older children typically use individually moulded mouth guards. A specialist dental technician will be at the club on a chosen night during the pre-season period (date to be advised). A fitted mouth guard typically costs around \$70.

New starters may borrow a stick and shin pads from the club. If you wish to purchase your own stick and shin guards you can buy "starter packs" for the younger ages from sports stores such as Ascot Vale Sports and Trophies (Epson Rd Ascot Vale), Just Hockey, Rebel Sport or Adrenaline Rush for approximately \$30. Sticks for older children range in price from \$30 up to several hundred dollars depending on the style and quality of stick you choose. Parents please note for beginning players, they do not need a really expensive stick (despite what they think!)

Please also note that club sponsor Adrenaline Rush will have their mobile sports store at FHC on an arranged evening during the pre-season period (date to be advised).

Fees

FHC fees are possibly the lowest in Melbourne. U7 and U9 player fees are substantially reduced, partly because these programs utilise less field space. Their fee is \$60 for the winter season. For U11 players and above, the season fee is \$180. For siblings in the same family, this drops away to \$110 for the second / third / etc child. U17 players also playing seniors need to pay an additional senior levy of \$100.00.

Uniforms

Uniforms can be obtained / ordered through our Uniforms Coordinator Heather Shaw once pre-season training commences. Heather will be at the grounds most nights through the pre-season period. U9 players (because of our multiple teams at that level) will have their own shirt reflecting different colours – red/white/gold/etc). U7 will have their own t-shirt also.

Parental Involvement

FHC is a community-based club in which we all pitch-in where possible, whether it's occasionally helping in the kiosk, serving as a team manager, helping at working bees, etc. At minimum we require parents to be positive at all times when attending games – acknowledging efforts from both teams playing, and respecting all players, coaches and officials.

Questions: Any questions, just call our Junior Secretary Brendan Sheehan on 0405061536.