

Victorian Underwater Hockey Commission

Parental Consultation Meeting - 19/04/26



Date: 19/04/2025 **Time:** 2pm **Venue:** Virtual (via google meet)

Attendees

Alison Cooke, Becky Wheler, Emma Le-Mar, Gabrielle Hatty, Lachie Riseley, Lucy Pearce, Meegan Kepple, Mitchell O'Connor, Peter Dunlop, Richard Rowe, Sandra Hadrian, Tim Ogden

Apologies

Item	Agenda Item	Minutes
<p>Welcome and session overview</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose and objectives of the session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explained to everyone that meeting was being recorded and checked everyone agreed with that ○ Explained this sessions goal is to open up communication with parents and to receive feedback on upcoming events
<p>Age determination policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of the UHA Age Determination Document ● Clarifications and parent feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Age determination policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This can be found on the UHA website ○ This will be continually updated and reviewed by the UHA ○ Discussion on club level and state level definitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interpretation was that inter-club competition was 'state level', UHA has since clarified that 'state level' refers to competition between states ■ Explained the VUHC was working from the definition that best suited the competition ■ Discussed the difference between Victorian hockey and other states where clubs may know each other a lot more than here ○ Asked if anyone had any questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meegan Kepert - Will this be different for different grades or just the base level for all competitions? ■ Tim Ogden - This will be the minimum, but we will assess the competitions individually ○ Explained that this policy provides the minimum standard that the VUHC will be abiding by
<p>Upcoming events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The League <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussed the current layout and plan for the event ○ Child Safety actions for League games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consent forms required for U18 players ■ Teams to be informed that U18s are participating ■ Referees will be present for all games ■ SIA Modules required ○ Discussed the cut off for the open division (+15yrs) and reasoning for the decision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Explanation that we do not have the infrastructure to safely give dispensations safely, hopefully in future we will increase referees etc to make this a possibility ■ To be discussed this at our next committee meeting

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Junior Super Sessions ● May Mash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Junior Super Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explained the plan for the session - guest coaches, splitting for drills, playing a game ○ Age range (10-15yrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Concerns about 10 and 15 year olds playing together ■ Could the sessions be split further to be suitable ○ Discussed the importance of equity of training opportunities for players planning to try out for U19 Nationals ○ Some parents required more information about the event before committing ● May Mash <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explained how this best fits the definition of a “State Level” competition as defined in the age determination document ○ Interest in exploring dividing up the junior division further <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Concerns again raised about 10 and 15 year olds playing together ■ Explained this could be split but that would mostly depend on attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This would make a much more meaningful competition for participants ■ Further information about the junior division may be required before players sign up ■ Possibility the splitting division into 10-13 and 14-16, giving fluidity between age brackets depending on abilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consider not allowing players to play the junior and open division ○ Exemption options are limited for this competition as we will not be able to meet dispensation guidelines required ○ Suggested that a few hours of drills and skills may be more approachable for young players rather than a full day competition
<p style="text-align: center;">Nationals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Potential divisions ● Approximate timeline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nationals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion about the possible large number for U19's trying out this year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Feedback requested for preference between B team or a U19 women's team ■ Consider that there is not a guaranteed space for a B grade team ○ Discussion about people playing multiple division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Player welfare should be considered when deciding on allowing players to represent 2 divisions ■ Consider how that affects the results of the team at competitions ○ Discussion about if U19 women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Importance of ensuring the women's team does not feel like a B grade team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure conversations around the U19 women's teams are positive from everyone on the U19 open team ■ Consider if the girls being able to play in the U19 open division as well to prevent feeling pushed out ■ Ensure female in official role for girls to come and speak to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consider this being a neutral party i.e. team manager and not coach ■ Consider combining two states may be easier than taking in players from lots of different states ○ Manager and Coaches expression of interest will be going out early next month

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Accomodation<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Group accommodation can be great but we should require booking this soon■ Important that expectations are presented in advance■ Expense is the biggest thing to consider
Future junior training camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Possible training camp in August (coinciding with selections)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● August training camp<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Overview about possible two day training camp○ Concerns raised about the mounting costs - especially with rising fuel costs○ More information would be required for people to commit
Other Business		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Lucy Pearce - asked about the next steps<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Minutes and recording will be sent to everyone that attended○ Committee meeting minutes will also be shared with attendees○ Further discussion and feedback will occur over email and at our next parental consultation meeting

Meeting closed at: 3:30pm