

Grammar Hockey Overview

Key Personnel:

Master in Charge- Mr J Crooks

1st XI Coach- Mr T Kensington

1st XI Assistant Coach- Mr J Crooks

1st XI Manager- Ms M Nathoo

2nd XI Coach- Mr K Towns

2nd XI Manager- Mr W Buckingham

Senior Blue Coach- Mr B O'Connor

Senior Blue Manager- Mr C Porteous

Senior Gold Manager- Ms M McNeil

Under 15A Coach- Mr J Bonneywell

Under 15A Manager- Ms S Bluett

Under 15B Coach- Mr L Edmeades

Under 15B Manager- Ms J Proctor

Under 15 Blue- Mr J Doolan & Mr G Maguire

*Contact details can be found via the staff directory on the school website

At the trials:

At every trial there will be at least two of the following coaches; Mr T Kensington, Mr Bonneywell, Mr B O'Connor & Mr J Crooks. Other coaches will be present when they are available as well. Mr K Towns will be present when possible and Blackstick player Jonty Keaney will be helping out with some of the selections.

Boys are expected to turn up at least 10-15 minutes prior to the start and do their own warm up and stretches. Boys should all be aware that it is compulsory to wear shin pads and a mouth guard.

The trials will consist of a variety of games, most likely full field games for senior teams and half field/ quarter field small games for junior teams. This is simply due to numbers and turf availability.

(this was clearly stated to the boys before trials)

Key Performance Areas:

Coaches will be looking for the following areas during trials; basic receiving, basic passing, vision, footwork, game awareness, positional play, being a team player, physical fitness, speed and acceleration, use of a variety of key passing skills (hitting, sweeping, slapping, pushing, wristed passing), use of a range of on the ball skills (control, basic dribbling, 3D dribbling, left to right drag, right to left drag, protecting the ball), range of tackling techniques, defensive play, elimination skills, offensive play, goal scoring. (Not limited only to this list)

(these areas were strictly identified to boys at every trial)

After the Trials:

After trials, the coaches and selectors will get together and come up with lists for teams, lists for further trials, etc. These will be put up on the Hockey notice board at school. The teams have the ability to be altered slightly in some instances. If there are any questions or queries boys can firstly see their coach or secondly, see the Master in Charge- Mr J Crooks.

(this was unmistakably outlined at trials and in assembly notices)

Commitment to Grammar:

Boys must understand that they are making a commitment to the school by playing hockey. Also, everyone is expected to align with the Grammar values at all times. Boys are expected to play all games and make all training times (unless there is a legitimate reason). If this is not possible, it is the responsibility of each boy to communicate with their coach and/ or manager. It is acceptable to play club and representative hockey alongside school hockey. However, it is important that the right balance is found between these commitments. We do not want anyone to burn out and get injured half way through the season. Communication is crucial to allow this balance to happen- talk to your school, club and rep coaches to manage this as best as possible. It is also fine to play other sports codes, but similarly this must be communicated with manager/ coach (school policy is that summer sports take precedence in summer, and winter sports take precedence in winter).

(this has been significantly mentioned before registrations, at trials, and in assembly notices)

Parents:

We understand that parents have an interest in their children and their endeavours. It is important to allow the boys to play hockey without too much interference from parental input. This applies not only to trials, selections and teams, but also to support, coaching and management throughout the season. At Grammar, we are quite lucky to have a diverse range of coaches with extensive backgrounds in both playing and coaching hockey at a range of different levels. We do significantly appreciate the support you give your son(s) and the support that you give to the school and we continue to encourage this in the future.

Reminder:

Also, it is very important to note that our coaches involved in Hockey at Grammar are almost entirely made up of teaching staff. Grammar prides itself on teachers getting involved in extra-curricular activities. We aim to not employ private, specialist coaches. Academics, providing an education, inside and outside of the classroom coursework is our primary focus at Grammar. This is a friendly reminder that the coaches are giving up their time and effort for the benefit of providing an extra-curricular activity for the students. Sometimes, this can be forgotten by boys and parents/ caregivers. We are not paid, professional coaches who are 100% devoted to coaching hockey and only coaching hockey. We do very much appreciate support and assistance in any way possible.