

LABRADOR SPORTS CLUB INC.

“Families Growing Together in Sport”



JUNIOR PLAYER HANDBOOK

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This is a must read document containing important information for all members.

A review of our Club policies is available in the Clubhouse or on our website www.tigerstix.com.au.

WELCOME

Congratulations on joining or returning to the Labrador Hockey Club family. We hope that your time here will be most enjoyable and your contribution mutually rewarding.

This handbook has been compiled to provide you with information to answer most of your questions that will arise during the hockey season. All information is correct at the time of printing.

Any suggestions for further inclusions in future editions should be put in writing and passed onto a committee member.

CULTURE OF APPRECIATION

At Labrador Hockey Club, we compel all members and supporters to develop a culture of appreciation towards all our volunteers. Any time you notice someone assisting you in any way, thank them. It costs nothing and the recipient may enjoy the experience enough to continue volunteering their time and expertise to help you.

Should you need to resolve a problem, please approach the appropriate volunteer in a respectful manner with concern for all persons affected.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of this Club is to provide quality services and facilities to maximise the opportunity for all participants to reach their potential and to encourage all members to contribute to the wellbeing of the Club.

CLUB MOTTO

“Families Growing Together in Sport”

CLUB OBJECTIVES

1. To foster and develop Senior Hockey catering for men & women and Junior Hockey catering for children, boys and girls, from 4 through to 17 years of age.
2. To provide appropriate and progressive hockey skill development programs for each participant.
3. To foster and develop coaching, umpiring and administrative expertise through the parent body and senior players. (Various forms of assistance are provided for parents and players who assist with team coaching and umpiring.)
4. To promote good sportsmanship, teamwork, team and Club loyalty at all times.
5. To administer the Club in a caring and professional manner with consideration for all members' needs.
6. To develop a spirit of a caring community by the encouragement of player and parental participation wherever possible.
7. To provide enjoyable experiences and friendship development opportunities for all players and parents.

BENEFITS OF PLAYING HOCKEY

- Having fun.
- Making friends.
- Developing interpersonal relationship skills.
- Improving self esteem.
- Developing a balanced attitude to competitiveness.
- Learning the value and responsibilities of being part of a team.
- Participate in safe, healthy, physical activity.
- Develop hand eye coordination with extension skills.
- Improve fitness and body development.
- Maybe one day go to the Olympics, World Cup, or Champions Trophy.
- A game to play for life.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Location: KEITH HUNT PARK. 131 Musgrave Avenue, Cnr Musgrave Avenue & Hockey Lane, Labrador.
Email: secretary@labradorhockey.org.au
Postal Address: PO Box 499, Labrador Q 4215
Web Site www.tigerstix.com.au
ABN: 70 271 422 807

Email addresses and phone numbers for Club Administrators are posted on Club website www.tigerstix.com.au/Contacts and available at the Clubhouse.

VOLUNTEERS

All Labrador committee positions are voluntary. Your assistance to help spread the workload will be most welcome and valuable in providing quality service to our players.

HOW PARENTS CAN GET INVOLVED

As part of Labrador Hockey Club, parents are encouraged to become involved in the Club. You can assist in any of the following ways:

- Support children in a positive way.
- Coach a Club team.
- Manage a Club team.
- Umpire matches.
- Manage the tech bench for your child's team.
- Coordinate parent team and social activities for your child's team.
- Join the Club's administration team.
- Assist and support your team's coach or manager.
- Promote our club within your community.
- Recruit children's friends, other players and friends to our Club.
- If you notice anybody at our Club doing something worthwhile, thank them personally.
- Pay all fees promptly as they become due.
- Assist in gaining any form of sponsorship and donations in kind.
- Refer any fence advertising possibilities to Club management for follow up.

Thank you for your support.

COURTESY

Please inform your coach any time you cannot make games or training giving as much notice as possible so alternative team arrangements can be made. Advise your Coach if you change phone number, email address or street address during the season.

Update your Online Registration if you change any contact information so that we can continue to contact you.

PROBLEM RESOLUTION / CHILD & YOUTH RISK MANAGEMENT

If any problems arise please see your coach/manager in the first instance. If the problem remains unresolved contact your Junior Coordinator, if still not resolved contact the Player's Representative. Club policies for Healthy & Safe sport and Child & Youth Risk Management Strategy can be viewed online on our website and in the Coach and Manager Handbooks.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TIGERSTIX CUBS AND TIGERSTIX ROOKIES HOCKEY

The hockey game is modified in our junior development programs making it ideal for children to learn how to play hockey. Emphasis is placed on participation, safety, enjoyment and skill acquisition. Premiership points are not kept in this skill and knowledge development phase of hockey. Tigerstix Cubs and Rookies are suited to children from 4 to 6 years and 6 to 8 years approximately.

A Tigerstix Rookies session at Labrador consists of 20 minute skill drills and a game of two 15 minute halves. Field size is reduced to one quarter of a hockey field played across the width of the field. Ideally, a Rookies team has 6 players on the field at one time.

The Tigerstix Cubs program is less structured to cater for the younger age group to be able to experience some hockey skills in a fun and safe environment. For both Tigerstix Cubs and Tigerstix Rookies we prefer to allow all players to participate fully in the game, with the proviso that we create even numbers on both teams. Players should rotate through positions during the game/season. Specialisation is to be discouraged.

TIGERSTIX TENS

Tigerstix Tens play an intermediate game providing transition from Tigerstix Rookies into full field Junior Graded hockey. Tigerstix Tens are played across a hockey field using one half marked with scoring circles. It is ideally suited to children between the ages of 8 and 10. Emphasis is placed on all children playing in every game, position rotation, introduction to goalkeeping, further development of basic skills and positional play. Premiership points and trophies are not awarded in this skill and knowledge development phase of the game. Every player will receive an award at the end of season presentation at Labrador.

AGE REGULATIONS & JUNIOR DIVISIONS

Cut off date is the 1st of January. eg. if you turn 17 on or after 1 January, you are under 17 for that year.

Generally Opens teams (14-17) play Friday night hockey and Under 14s and lower play Saturday morning competition in their relevant age groups.

Strict age divisions are not enforced for our Junior Development which is based loosely on level of skill at the time of registration. General age guidelines are:

- Tigerstix Tens (approx under 10 years)
- Tigerstix Rookies (approx under 8 years)
- Tigerstix Cubs (approx under 6)

SAFETY

All players are strongly encouraged to wear shin pads and a mouth guard. Tigerstix Cubs players are taught not to raise their sticks above the knee in training and Tigerstix Rookies and Tigerstix Tens players are taught not to raise their sticks above the shoulder in training or games as this can lead to dangerous play. Please familiarise yourself with our Healthy & Safe policy in this handbook, on our website www.tigerstix.com.au, Information for Players, Club Policies - and available in the Clubhouse.

TRAINING

Training for Junior Development teams is included in their Saturday morning sessions. Tigerstix Tens players are encouraged to attend optional transitional training during the latter part of the season. You will receive an email about this during the season.

For Juniors aged under 12 and up, team training is usually on our synthetic turf field. Junior teams are usually allocated time slots on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday afternoon/evening. A training timetable will be published as soon as coaches are appointed.

To ensure that each team gains the maximum benefit from their allocated time, it is expected that teams will vacate the turf promptly at the end of their session.

Families are invited to use our Clubhouse and deck during training.

FIXTURES

Your coach or manager will advise match times as soon as they become available from Gold Coast Hockey. You can also find match information via the link on our website www.tigerstix.com.au, or the Gold Coast Hockey website www.goldcoasthockey.com. Generally, Junior fixtures are on Friday nights for older children, and on Saturday mornings for children up to 14 years old. Note, it is the player's responsibility to find out your game time and venue well before the event.

Draws for Tigerstix Cubs, Tigerstix Rookies and Tigerstix Tens will be issued on the second week of competition. Games are always on Saturday mornings at our synthetic or grass field. Match times will also be posted on our website www.tigerstix.com.au.

Match details for Senior teams can also be found on the Labrador and GCHA websites, and BHL matches (Our top men's teams competing in the Brisbane competition, but playing locally some Saturday afternoons) are posted on the BHA website www.bha.org.au.

WET DAYS/NIGHTS

Generally matches on synthetic turf are not cancelled due to rain unless there is lightning or significant flooding. Grass fields may be deemed unplayable due to wet weather when there has been significant rain.

Club administrators will inform coaches immediately decisions are made. Please **contact your coach** for details of possible cancellations. Ensure you **record your coach's phone number somewhere safe once you are allocated to a team**.

Tigerstix Cubs, Rookies and Tens matches will be transferred onto synthetic turf if the allocated grass field is deemed unplayable due to wet weather.

VENUES

All Junior development fixtures are held on synthetic turf or grass fields at Labrador. Occasionally due to hockey events, junior development may be moved to other venues. You will be given plenty of notice of any changes.

Graded Junior competitions (under 12 and up) are held on a rotational basis on grass fields and synthetic turf fields at Labrador and occasionally at the Nikki Hudson Hockey Centre, Runaway Bay.

Some under 14s or older competitions may include some Intercity matches against Tweed Border Hockey association teams, depending on the format of the draw. This may result in some fixtures (usually on very limited occasions) being held at Tweed Border fields at Murwillumbah.

Your manager will have address details for Runaway Bay and Tweed Border Hockey synthetic turfs, and address details will also be shown as links on our website.

SUPERVISION

The information about supervision below forms part of our Child & Youth Risk Management Strategy (RMS) – please ensure you adhere to the guidelines which have been developed to keep all players safe. The CYRMS can be viewed or downloaded - see the link for Information for Players - Club Policies on our website. Written copies of the CYRMS will also be in Coach and Manager Handbooks for all Junior teams.

PARENTAL SUPERVISION:

Child Under 11 - It is expected that a parent or a parent authorised adult of children under 11 will remain at training and the game venue while their child is participating.

Drop Off - A parent or parent authorised adult is not to drop off prior to the designated commencement time of training or game warm up time without remaining on site to supervise their child. Parents are to ensure their child's coach or manager is on site and ensure their child's arrival is brought to the attention of the coach or manager.

Pick Up – A parent or parent authorised adult is to be at the training or game venue to collect their child at the designated conclusion time. On the very rare occasion that a parent or parent authorised adult should be unavoidably delayed for pick up, the child's coach or manager will remain with the child or ensure that a suitable club representative does so until the parent arrives to collect the child.

'Designated Pick up Area' – This area is signed as the Designated Pick Up Area and is at ground level to the north of our Clubhouse and office area (paved area with tables).

Children are not to wait in the carpark. At other venues, children should wait as close as possible to the playing field entry area. The car park is not a suitable area for child pick up.

What we ask parents/guardians or authorised adult to do

Parents/Guardians of children under 11 are expected to remain at the game and training venue while their child is participating.

Pick your children up on time or make other arrangements.

Inform the coach about any changes in arrangements for picking up your child.

PARENT TEAM

At Labrador Hockey Club, our motto is "Families growing together in sport" and we encourage all teams to get to know each other and the club community through organisation of team (or combined team) social activities throughout the season. Please help your coach and manager by either volunteering as a parent team 'captain', or by supporting activities organised by your parent team.

Sport is not just about competition, but also about the camaraderie created as team members and their families get to know others within the team or club.

BAR

Junior players and families should be aware that the Club fees do not cover all running costs. Families are encouraged to purchase their softdrinks and other beverages from our bar in the Labrador clubhouse as profits made are used to subsidise our running costs.

SMOKING

Smoking is banned at under 18 sporting events and within 10 metres of viewing and playing areas at matches and training. Please be aware of these regulations and abide by all Non Smoking signage in the hockey precinct and **only smoke in designated smoking areas**. Your respect for this important health policy is appreciated.

MEETINGS

Where possible, committee meetings are held at the Clubhouse on a regular basis. Times and dates are subject to change depending on our volunteer committee members' other commitments. Contact the secretary via email secretary@labradorhockey.org.au or check our website www.tigerstix.com.au to confirm dates. Everybody is most welcome.

UNIFORMS

All team members are to be fully kitted in club socks, shorts/skirt and shirt by their second fixture match. Uniform items are available for purchase from our Uniforms officer at set times. In 2022 Labrador Tigerstix are developing an online uniform shop which should be available after Easter.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINING

Reversible training singlets will be provided to players inclusive of your fees. This is a Covid-19 initiative to reduce opportunity of cross contamination for good health. Players will be able to reverse shirts to vary training groups in teams or squads without the need for 'bibs'. It is expected that players will wear their singlets to each training session. In cold weather, this may be with a T-shirt or long sleeved shirt underneath.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR MATCHES

Boys and girls must wear Labrador shorts and Labrador skort/skirt respectively.

Tigerstix Tens players must wear Club shirt and socks. Tigerstix Rookies players are encouraged to purchase a Club shirt.

All uniform orders will be paid for at point of sale, including face to face or online.

TEAM SOCKS FOR JUNIORS

Where there is more than one Labrador team in a division, teams are named and differentiated by sock colour as follows:

2 teams:

Gold team = Gold socks

Black team = Black socks

3 or more teams:

Teams will be named Gold, Black, White, Green.

All uniform items are available for collection at times designated by our volunteer Uniform Officer. Hours and phone number are advertised in the Clubhouse and on our website. For further information contact our volunteer Uniform Officer direct. Members will be updated once the uniform portal is online.

UMPIRE UNIFORMS

Umpires for Graded Juniors (under 12s and up) are expected to wear a fluorescent green umpires shirt, and long black pants or black skirt.

CONDITIONS OF TURF FIELD USAGE

In order to maximise the life of the surface, reduce maintenance costs, keep playing and training costs to a minimum and ensure your playing enjoyment, the following conditions apply to usage of the synthetic fields.

Labrador members are expected to comply with all directions for field usage given by Gold Coast Hockey Management Group staff (the facility managers). Any queries or concerns in this regard should be directed to a Labrador Committee member if further guidance is required.

The user will ensure that:

- *The field is watered before use.*
- *All field users enter and exit only via the designated water bath.*
- *Training is conducted across the field unless team exemption has been granted by executive.*
- *Goals are returned to sideline positions if moved from there.*
- *Appropriate footwear is worn. Only soles approved for the use on synthetic grass surfaces are allowed to be worn on the turf. Hard cleat soles are not approved.*
- *Footwear is brushed and washed clean prior to entry.*
- *Only water is taken into the enclosure to drink.*
- *Sports drinks are left outside the synthetic turf enclosure.*
- *All food is left outside the synthetic turf enclosure.*
- *All litter on the field and in the dugout is removed from the field and placed in the bins provided.*
- *Chewing gum is placed in a bin prior to entry.*
- *Users do not spit on the synthetic surface.*
- *All jewellery is removed and taped. Small Sleepers and necklaces without any dangerous points are permitted.*
- **All bobby pins are removed** – only hair slides or ties are approved for use on field.

Care for this facility is in your hands. Treat the surface as you would the carpet in your own home.

These conditions of turf field usage apply to all fields at Gold Coast Hockey Centre and The Nikki Hudson Hockey Centre, Gold Coast Performance centre, Runaway Bay.

NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE PERIMETER FENCE AT EITHER VENUE.

NO SMOKING IS ALLOWED INSIDE THE PERIMETER FENCE AT EITHER VENUE.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES

It is expected that all fees will be paid upon registration or an instalment plan will be completed. Fees are due and payable in full by end of May each year. Participation in fixtures beyond this date will be restricted until players are fully financial.

As we are a family club who try to make hockey affordable for everyone, we will work with players experiencing genuine financial hardship provided that their alternative proposed payment plan is discussed with the Registrar.

Our fees are set each year after careful budgeting and are kept to the absolute minimum. The club fee does not cover all running costs. Our Club income is supplemented by your support of the bar, fundraisers and corporate signage around the synthetic turf. If you have any contacts, please refer them to the club's management committee.

The current fee schedule and payment options can be viewed on the Club website <https://labradorhockey.org.au/fee-and-payment-options/>.

Any variations required to the preferred methods of payment need to be referred to the Registrar registrations@labradorhockey.org.au for approval prior to payment.

Labrador do offer corporate partnership packages that provide credit to cover player registration fees. If you, a family member, a friend, or an employee wish to play for the club and can introduce a corporate partner this may provide you with an economical way to enjoy your hockey season. Please ask a committee member for our corporate partnership packages if you are interested.

Parents become members of the club upon payment of junior fees. Please ensure that parent details are completed correctly and fully on the online registration form. Be sure to include an email address so that you can be included in Club emails and newsletters.

Non playing members or parents of children who are 18 or over may become ordinary members (social members) by payment of the relevant nominal fee.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT MEMBERSHIP FEES

As we endeavour to cater for our younger players by offering significantly reduced fees for the year, it is expected that all Junior Development fees (Tigerstix Cubs, Tigerstix Rookies & Tigerstix Tens) will be paid upon registration. Junior Development players who are trying hockey for the first time will be given a two week trial period, after which it is expected that their fees will be paid in full. Please refer to the policy below for further details.

Training and match fees are included in Up Front Sign On costs.

LABRADOR TIGERSTIX CLUB POLICIES

As a club affiliated with Gold Coast Hockey Association, Brisbane Hockey Association (BHL teams only), Hockey Queensland and Hockey Australia, Labrador adhere to governing policies and are bound by local government, state government and federal government laws.

Labrador Tigerstix also have a range of club specific policies many of which are linked to Player Wellbeing. Links to Hockey Australia Member Protection Policy and Labrador Tigerstix specific policies can be found on the next page.

THE FOLLOWING POLICY INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE,
<https://labradorhockey.org.au/club-policies/>
OR CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR SPECIFIC POLICIES

HOCKEY AUSTRALIA (HA) MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

Labrador Tigerstix as a club affiliated with Hockey Queensland adopts and is bound by the HA Member protection policy. All members, and in particular club officials are required to familiarise themselves with the [HA Member Protection Policy](#) which aims to ensure that everyone involved in hockey can enjoy their sport in a healthy, safe way, and is aware of their rights and responsibilities. This Policy also provides the procedures that support our commitment to preventing and eliminating bullying, intimidation, discrimination, harassment, abuse or other forms of inappropriate behaviour.

As Australians we greatly value the importance of sport in our culture and our community, and we all have the right to enjoy our sport at whichever level we participate. This is part of our commitment to ensuring safe and harassment free sport for all of our participants, competitors, coaches, officials, administrators, volunteers and supporters.

LABRADOR TIGERSTIX COMMITTEE ROLES:

[Tigerstix Committee Position Descriptions 2021](#)

CLUB CULTURE POLICIES:

[Tigerstix Junior Match Time Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Senior Match Time Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Junior Team Selection Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Senior Team Selection Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Sportsmanship Expectations for Players 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Spectator Behaviour Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Junior Codes of Conduct and Etiquette Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Senior Codes of Conduct and Etiquette Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Complaints Handling Procedure 2022](#)

SYNTHETIC TURF USAGE POLICY:

[Tigerstix Conditions of Turf Field Usage Policy 2022](#)

PLAYER WELLBEING POLICIES:

[Alcohol Illegal Drugs Policy 2021](#)

[Tigerstix Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Child Drop Off & Collection Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Healthy and Safe Sport Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Player Injury Insurance Policy 2022](#)

[Concussion Policy 2021](#)

[Concussion Recognition tool 2019](#)

[Concussion Flowchart on field 2019](#)

[Concussion Management flowchart 2019](#)

[Concussion Flowchart off field 2019](#)

[Concussion return to sport Under 18 2019](#)

[Concussion return to sport Over 18 2019](#)

GENERAL POLICIES:

[Tigerstix Senior and Graded Junior Payment Policy 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Player Loyalty and Financial Commitments Policies 2022](#)

[Tigerstix Refund Policy for Registration Fees 2022](#)

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**Support of our corporate partners helps them
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