



## **Junior Competition Information Guide**

**ADOPTED FEBRUARY 2014**

**LAST UPDATED FEBRUARY 2023**



# Contents

<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2023 Junior Winter Competition Playing Calendar .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2023 Junior Timeline .....	4
2023 Age Eligibility .....	5
<b>2023 Team Entry Fees.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2023 Team Entries.....	5
<b>Team Withdrawals.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Re-grading Applications.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Dispensation being considered in 2023 .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Under 18 Competition Guidelines.....</b>	<b>7</b>
2023 Competition Structure & Format .....	7
<b>Quick Links .....</b>	<b>9</b>



## Introduction

This information has been compiled by the HV Competitions Department and released for use by Club Administrators and Junior Coordinators. This document details all the relevant information relating to the Junior competitions for the 2023 Winter Season. Please note this document should be read in conjunction with the HV Rules and Regulations Documents, as well as Schedule 1 and Schedule 2.

Should there be any amendments or additions to the information, an amended version will be sent to club secretaries and junior coordinators along with a summary of changes made.

This information is to be kept and used by HV affiliate committee members and not for distribution amongst the general hockey community.

The main objectives of the Junior competition grading in 2023 are to:

- Allow opportunity for Junior Players to successfully participate in the game;
- Have clubs graded at an appropriate competition level
- Maintain Competitive grades
- Not disadvantage clubs who have large numbers in one specific age group and not the depth in another (two-year age groups).
- Allow for all teams to play each other in an equitable and fair manner.

Maximising participation at the junior level is crucial and the following adjustments to the 2023 Rules and Regulations are focused on ensuring games progress on a weekly basis, and furthermore fixtured teams remain in the HV Competition, providing certainty to competing teams and limiting walkovers and byes in competitions throughout the year.

- Special Circumstance Playing Permits
- Age Player Permits
- Number of Players

We look forward to welcoming back players to the game for an exciting 2023 Junior Season and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Joshua May  
Competitions Coordinator

**Please Note: This information is to be read in conjunction with Hockey Victoria Rules, Regulations and Schedules documents.**



## 2023 Junior Winter Competition Playing Calendar

### 2023 Junior Timeline

Date	All Grades
Friday, 24 February 2023	Final Shield Gradings & Junior Team Entries Open
Sunday, 26 March 2023	Team Entries close
Thursday, 30 March 2023	Pennant/District Draft Gradings Distributed
Sunday, 2 April 2023	Pennant/District Gradings Feedback Due
Tuesday, 4 April, 2023	Pennant/District Gradings Finalised
Friday, 14 April 2023	Draft Fixtures Released
Sunday, 16 April 2023	Draft Fixtures Feedback Due
Friday, 21 April 2023	Shield/Pennant/District Final Fixtures released
Friday, 5 May 2023	U14/U16/U18 Comp Commences
Saturday, 6 May 2023	U10/U12 Comp Commences
Wednesday 17 May 2023	Re-grading Forms Due
Tuesday 23 May 2023	Re-grading and Updated Fixtures Released

*\*Please note these dates are subject to change*

Administration Penalties / Fines	
Late payment of Team Entry Fees – (Terms on invoice)	\$50 / team
Team Withdrawn (All Grades) (at re-grade period)	Full Team Entry Payable + Match Costs Payable
Team Withdrawn (District or U10) (at re-grade period)	No Penalty. Match Costs Payable
Team Regraded (All Grades) (at re-grade period)	No Penalty. Match Costs Payable
New Team Added (at re-grade period)	No Penalty. Full Team Entry Payable.
Team Withdrawn After Regrading Period (after round 3)	Full Team Entry Payable + \$200 fine.



## 2023 Age Eligibility

For the purposes of determining player eligibility the following shall apply for the 2023 HV winter competitions:

Under 10 competition: Born on or after 1 January 2013

Under 12 competition: Born on or after 1 January 2011

Under 14 competition: Born on or after 1 January 2009

Under 16 competition: Born on or after 1 January 2007

Under 18 competition: Born on or after 1 January 2005

## 2023 Team Entry Fees

Competition Type	2023 Team Entry Fee
All HV Outdoor Full Field Competitions	\$665
All HV Outdoor Half Field Competitions (term-based)	\$185 per term

## 2023 Team Entries

In 2023, team entries will all be entered through one form.

Competitions	Grades Offered	Entry Form	Closing Date
Outdoor	Under 10 Mixed & Girls District* Under 12 Mixed & Girls District* Under 12 Boys & Girls Pennant Under 14 Boys & Girls Pennant Under 14 Mixed District Under 16 Boys & Girls Pennant Under 16 Mixed District Under 18 Mixed & Girls Pennant Under 18 Mixed & Girls District	<a href="#">2023 Junior Team Entry Form</a>	Entries close 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2023

**\*Please note that all clubs in the Central Flames Zone are expected to continue to run their own Under 10 products and programs. This includes Hawthorn, MCCHS, MHSOB, Powerhouse/St.Kilda and TEM.**



## Team Withdrawals

Any withdrawal of a team nomination (or team once competition has commenced) is to be submitted through the [2023 Junior Team Withdrawal](#) Link. This will allow for receipt of any withdrawal. We encourage clubs to keep an open line of communication with Hockey Victoria to ensure the best outcomes for the club and competitions.

## Re-grading Applications

In 2023, the process for teams to enter or change competitions will be the same as the process was in 2021.

All team movements (in, out or re-grade) will occur between Round 3 and Round 4 of the season. Clubs will be required to apply to Hockey Victoria for a re-grading change. This process will provide an increased degree of certainty to all participants. For clarity – teams entered and fixtured will not be able to be withdrawn or re-graded until the re-grade period.

A team being withdrawn at the re-grading point will not be fined for being removed. They will simply be required to pay the associated fees with the first 3 Rounds (either ground hire & umpire costs or forfeit fees if game is not played). **It will remain the responsibility of the club withdrawing to notify teams for the first 3 rounds that games will be forfeited as per normal walkover rules.**

Similarly, a team being entered at the re-grading point will not be fined for a late entry. The team will simply be invoiced for the Full Team Entry Fee and pay the remaining associated match costs for the season.

Applications for teams seeking regrading (after the distribution of final gradings) may be made prior to Wednesday, **17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**. There will be no changes made to competitions between rounds 1-3 for the Junior Season.

Re-grading applications should be submitted by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023** using the following link: [2023 Junior Competition Regrading Request Form](#).

*\*Please note that the Hockey Victoria Competitions Department will review results and reserves the right to regrade a team based on their performance in the first three rounds, whether or not they apply for a re-grade. However, it is best if clubs are proactive in this request\**

If you require any further information, please feel free to contact the Hockey Victoria Competitions Department.

## Dispensation being considered for 2023

In 2023, Hockey Victoria will be considering the following dispensation with further thought:

- Special Circumstances Playing Permits
- Age Player Permits
- Number of Players

More information regarding the dispensations and rules will come out closer to season commencement.



## Under 18 Competition Guidelines

Hockey Victoria will continue to offer Under 18 Competitions again in 2023.

There will now be two competition levels offered in this age group: Pennant and District. These competitions are designed for those players who are new to the sport and/or transitioning to Senior Competitions. Hockey Victoria is looking to offer both U18 Mixed and U18 Girls for the two levels of competition.

Players of a league standard in Senior Competition (PL, PLR, VL1) are not allowed to participate in the District competitions as it is meant for developing players. Players of a league standard in Senior Competition (PL, PLR, VL1) are to only compete in the Pennant competitions.

**Any team competing in the 2023 Under 18 District Competitions will be able to field up to three (3) players ("Age Permit Player") in each match who but for the provisions of this local rule would not meet the age eligibility criteria for this competition. Provided, however, that those players would have met the age eligibility criteria in the immediately preceding year.**

The Under 18 competitions will be run as a 'Development' competition within HV's Rules and Regulations, meaning that participating in Under 18 competition matches will not have any effect on a player's eligibility in either the Junior or Senior competition sections.

The Under 18 Competition will generally be played in the last available time slot at a venue on Friday.

## 2023 Competition Structure & Format

### Competition Structures

#### Under 10 & U12 Half Field Competitions

Players: 7 x on field at once. 16 x maximum players on team sheet/used in a match.

Match Duration: 2x 20minute halves. Half Time = 5 minutes

2 x 8 round seasons (Term 2 & Term 3)

**Finals: No Finals**

#### Under 12 Full Field Competitions

Players: 11x on field at once. 16x maximum players on team sheet/used in match.

Match Duration: 2x 25minute halves. Half Time = 5 minutes

14 round season

**Finals: 2x weeks\***

#### Under 14 Competitions

Players: 11x on field at once. 16x maximum players on team sheet/used in match.

Match Duration: 2x 30minute halves. Half Time = 5 minutes

14 round season

**Finals: 2x weeks\***



## Under 16 Competitions

Players: 11x on field at once. 16x maximum players on team sheet/used in match.

Match Duration: 2x 30minute halves. Half Time = 5 minutes

14 round season

**Finals: 2x weeks\***

## Under 18 Competitions

Players: 11x on field at once. 16x maximum players on team sheet/used in match.

Match Duration: 2x 30minute halves. Half Time = 5 minutes

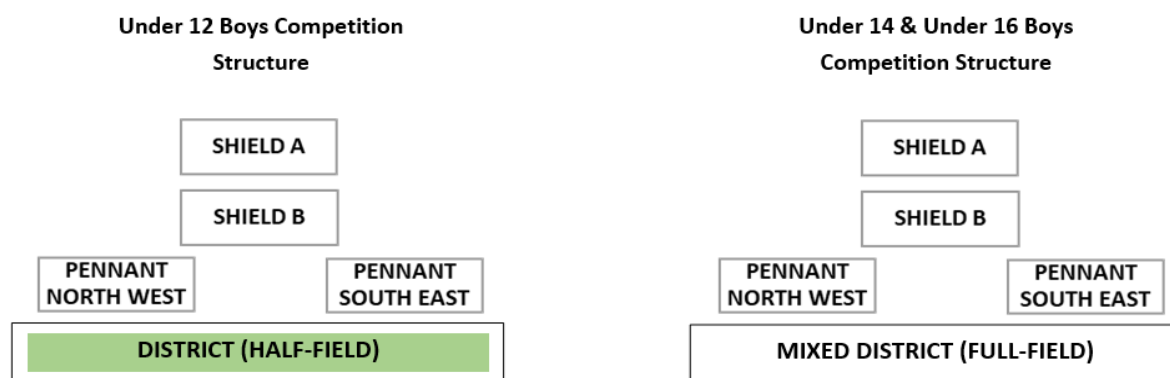
14 round season

**Finals: 2x weeks\***

\*The Structure of the finals series will be a 1 v 4, 2 v 3 Semi Final round with the winner of each match proceeding through to the Grand Final. At the end of the match should the game remain a draw, in all grades will be decided by Shootout. Further information will be released in the 2023 Rules and Regulations.

## Junior Boys Competition Structure

There are four tiers of competition in all of Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16 Boys. The below Structures are to be used as a guide and may vary due to team entries at the beginning of the season.



## Junior Girls Competition Structure

In 2018 we moved to three tiers of competition in the Under 12 Girls age group with the introduction of the Under 12 Girls District half-field competition. It is the aim to progressively introduce a third and 4th tier of competition in the Under 14 and Under 16 Girls age groups. At this stage, we are doing this through the overall growth of numbers in Girls Shield competitions

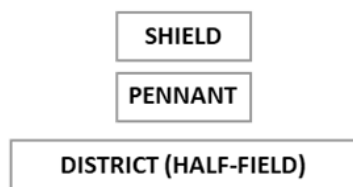
Similar principles have been used to complete grading for the Girls Shield and Pennant competitions. As indicated below, once Pennant Gradings are released Hockey Victoria are open to applications from clubs to be placed in a higher level of competition than where they have been provisionally graded or to have an additional team added into the graded competitions.

Please note that if numbers allow, Girls competitions will follow similar structures to Boys and Mixed District Competitions. This year, Mixed district will sit below Girls Pennant, to allow eligibility for Girls to play Finals in higher grades where previously eligibility was treated separately. The below Structures are to be used as a guide and may vary due to team entries at the beginning of the season.

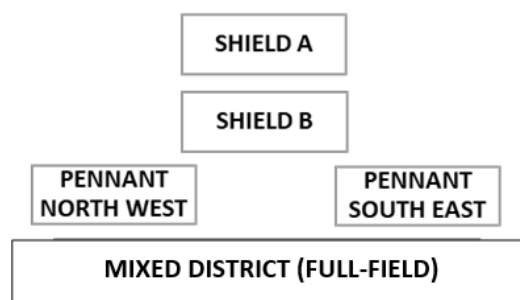




**Under 12 Girls  
Competition Structure**



**Under 14 & 16 Girls  
Structure**



## Quick Links

[2023 Junior Team Entry Form](#)

[2023 Junior Team Withdrawal](#)

[2023 Junior Competition Regrading Request](#)

[2023 Winter Competition Playing Calendar](#)

**If you have any queries, please contact Joshua May – Competitions Coordinator:**

[jmay@hockeyvictoria.org.au](mailto:jmay@hockeyvictoria.org.au)