



2023 HANDBOOK



ELITE COACHING

COACHING FROM ELITE-LEVEL COACHES,
INCLUDING:

- INTERNATIONAL COACH, AND KOOKABURRA
CHRIS CIRIELLO
FIH COACHES
- PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY COACHES
- PERTH THUNDERSTICKS STARS
- HIGH-LEVEL COACHES/PLAYERS



GAME DEVELOPMENT

FOCUS ON BASIC AND ADVANCED SKILL
ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT, WITH
CONSTANT ATHLETE FEEDBACK PROVIDED FOR
IMPROVEMENT



CULTURE



EDUCATION AND ALIGNMENT WITH WA'S ELITE SET
OF VALUES AND CULTURE, USED BY WA'S TOP-
LEVEL STATE TEAMS AND THUNDERSTICKS.

ANALYSIS



GAME PRESENTATIONS/MATCH ANALYSIS OF
ELITE FIXTURES - INTERNATIONAL MATCHES,
HOCKEY ONE, RIC CHARLESWORTH CLASSIC AND
HOCKEY WA GRAND FINAL DAY

ACADEMY PROGRAM FOCUS

The 2023 Perth Thundersticks Academy program is designed to provide and fulfill the following objectives:

- Perth Hockey Stadium tour and viewing of the Kookaburras and Hockeyroos facilities;
- Alignment with and education of the WA Game, WA Principles of Play;
- Education on WA culture & values;
- Access to and alignment with WA Coach n Play;
- Early sport specialisation - facilitating and supporting athlete capacity to play multiple sports;
- Early talent identification - providing more opportunities for more athletes;
- Delivering age and level appropriate development activities;
- High-level coaches with a coach/player ratio of 1/10;
- Physical development information from Brendyn Appleby, Kookaburras Strength and Conditioning Coach;
- WAIS induction and education

NOMINATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Players will be invited to join the 2023 Perth Thundersticks Academy program in accordance with their year of birth. The registrations and invitations for each Academy age group are outlined below.

2023 PROGRAM

REGISTRATIONS

AUTOMATIC ENTRY INVITATIONS

13s Academy

Invitations from Hockey WA to players born in 2010

Players selected in the 2022 Under-13 State teams and 2022 School Sports WA (SSWA) 12s teams

14s Academy

Invitations from Hockey WA to players born in 2009

Players selected in the 2022 Under-13 State teams

15s Academy

Invitations from Hockey WA to players born in 2008

Players selected in the 2022 Under-15 State teams

16s Academy

Invitations from Hockey WA to players born in 2007

Players selected in the 2022 Under-15 State teams and 2022 SSWA 16s teams

17/18s Academy

Invitations from Hockey WA to players born in 2006 and 2005

Players selected in the 2022 Under 18 State teams and 2022 SSWA 16s teams



GOALKEEPING ACADEMY

The Perth Thundersticks Academy program will engage specialist goalkeeper coaches from the Toni Cronk Academy.

Utilising the international and national experience of former Hockeyroos and dual-Olympian goalkeeper Toni Cronk, the Academy goalkeeper will enjoy a dynamic and innovative program.

The 2023 Academy goalkeeper program will be personally designed by Toni Cronk to adopt new ideas and replicate best developmental practices and routines. There will be a focus on individual goalkeeper coaching and the improvement of goalkeeper techniques.

The specialised goalkeeper program will include:

1. A goalkeeper clinic at the start of the program with an information session/presentation;
2. Specialist physical conditioning for goalkeepers + a conditioning handbook;
3. A presentation on new International goalkeeping trends/changes + new equipment;
4. Hand eye co-ordination/reflex training drills and a tailor made program;
5. Ball machine - to improve patterns of movements;
6. PCD techniques and structures;
7. Penalty Shoot Out tips and techniques;
8. Goalkeeper specific game analysis designed by Toni Cronk.

Each turf training session will include goalkeeper specific warm up, ball machine drills, footwork practice and a variety of quality goalkeeping drills.



ACADEMY PLAYER SHIRTS

In 2023 the Academy Registration fee includes the provision of a Thundersticks Academy player shirt.

Upon registration the players will provide their shirt sizes. Hockey WA will endeavour to have them made and available as soon as possible. The shirt colours for the Academy age groups are as follows:

13s & 14s ACADEMY
GREY

15s & 16s ACADEMY
BLACK

17s & 18s ACADEMY
WHITE

The registration fees for the 2023 Perth Thundersticks Academy program (including Academy player shirts) are:

13s Academy: \$520

14, 15, 16 and 17/18s Academy: \$620



HOCKEY WA GRYPHON CUP

At Perth Hockey Stadium at Curtin University

All players registered in the 14, 15s and 16s Academy age groups will receive an invitation to play in the 2023 version of the Hockey WA Gryphon Cup, scheduled for November 2023.

The Hockey WA Gryphon Cup, a competition open to international teams comprising of players 16-and-under, involves teams from across the globe competing in a round-robin tournament, culminating in a scintillating finals series.

The tournament is designed to engage the State with the rest of the country and region in order to develop young talent.

In 2022, Hockey WA had visiting teams from Malaysia, Singapore and Victoria. There were eight boys teams and nine girls teams from WA.

The player nomination fee for the Gryphon Cup is separate to the Thundersticks Academy registration fee in 2023.



INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

At Perth Hockey Stadium at Curtin University

At the time of publication of this Handbook, an international test series between the Hockeyroos and China is proposed for March 2023. We will look to link the Academy sessions in March 2023 to this Hockeyroos test series versus China.

The international fixtures for the Kookaburras at Perth Hockey Stadium at Curtin University in 2023 are not finalised as yet. India and Malaysia national teams are looking to tour Australia in 2023.

Hockey WA will look to link the 2023 Academy sessions to these Kookaburras, Hockeyroos and any major Hockey WA events.



13s ACADEMY

Players born in 2010

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	HOURS	VENUE
Saturday 25 March	10AM-1PM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Saturday 1 April	7AM-10AM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Sunday 14 May	7AM-9AM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 18 June	7AM-9AM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
June/July	Ric Charlesworth Classic	TBC	PHS
Saturday 1 July	9AM-12PM - State U13 Trial Preparation Sessions	3	PHS
Sunday 2 July	9AM-12PM - State U13 Trial Preparation Sessions	3	PHS
Saturday 15 July	7am-12pm - U13 State Team Trials		PHS &
Sunday 16 July	7am-12pm - U13 State Team Trials		NARROGIN
Saturday 16 September	Hockey WA Grand Final Day Analysis	2	PHS
Late October	Hockey One Training + Game Analysis	4	PHS
January 2024	Trial Preparation Sessions - 2 x 2 hours	4	PHS

Cost: \$520



14s ACADEMY

Players born in 2009

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	HOURS	VENUE
Saturday 25 March	10AM-1PM - Turf Training Session	3	PHS
Saturday 1 April	7AM-10AM - Turf Training session	3	PHS
Sunday 7 May	7AM-9AM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
June/July	Ric Charlesworth Classic	TBC	PHS
Saturday 19 August	9AM-12PM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Sunday 20 August	9AM-12PM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Saturday 16 September	Hockey WA Grand Final Day Analysis	2	PHS
October	Hockey One Training + Game Analysis	5	PHS
November	Turf Training Sessions x 2 - preparation for the Gryphon Cup	6	PHS
January 2024	Trial Preparation Sessions - 3 x 2 hours	6	PHS

Cost: \$620



15s ACADEMY

Players born in 2008

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	HOURS	VENUE
Sunday 19 March	1PM-3PM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 2 April	8:30AM-10:30AM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
Sunday 21 May	7AM-9AM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
June/July	Ric Charlesworth Classic	TBC	PHS
Saturday 19 August	9AM-12PM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Sunday 20 August	9AM-12PM - Camp Session	3	PHS
Saturday 16 September	Hockey WA Grand Final Day Analysis	2	PHS
October	Hockey One Training + Game Analysis	5	PHS
November	Turf Training Sessions x 2 - preparation for the Gryphon Cup	6	PHS
January 2024	Trial Preparation Sessions - 3 x 2 hours	6	PHS

Cost: \$620



16s ACADEMY

Players born in 2007

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	HOURS	VENUE
Sunday 26 February	Presentation & Turf Training Session	3	PHS
Sunday 12 March	9AM-12PM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 19 March	9AM-11AM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 26 March	AM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
Sunday 2 April	10:30AM-12:30PM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
Late April/Early May	State Under-18 Boys and Girls Trials		PHS
June/July	Ric Charlesworth Classic	TBC	PHS
Saturday 16 September	Hockey WA Grand Final Day Analysis	2	PHS
October	Hockey One Training + Game Analysis	5	PHS
November	Turf Training Sessions x 2 - preparations for the Gryphon Cup	4	PHS
Saturday 2 December	8am - 10am - WAIS Induction	2	WAIS
Saturday 3 December	Camp Session/Match Analysis	2	PHS
January 2024	Trial Preparation Sessions - 3 x 2 hours	6	PHS

Cost: \$620



17/18s ACADEMY

Players born in 2005 and 2006

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	HOURS	VENUE
Sunday 26 February	Presentation & Turf training session - 9am-12pm	3	PHS
Sunday 12 March	9AM-12PM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 19 March	9AM-11AM - Turf Training Session	2	PHS
Sunday 26 March	AM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
Sunday 2 April	10:30AM-12:30PM - Turf Training session	2	PHS
Mid/Late April	Turf Training Session + Hockey Australia National Pathway Program Presentation	3	PHS
Late April/Early May	State Under-18 Boys and Girls Trials		PHS
June/July	Ric Charlesworth Classic	TBC	PHS
Saturday 16 September	Hockey WA Grand Final Day Analysis	2	PHS
October	Hockey One Training + Game Analysis	5	PHS
Saturday 2 December	8am - 10am - WAIS Induction	2	WAIS
Saturday 3 December	Camp Session/Match Analysis	2	PHS
January 2024	Trial Preparation Sessions - 3 x 2 hours	6	PHS

Cost: \$620



FAQs

Is the Perth Thundersticks Academy only for children that have represented the State?

No. There are automatic entry spots reserved for children that have represented WA in previous years. The remaining spots are via invitation from Hockey WA.

I'm keen to have my child involved but the cost is a challenge, what are my options?

There is a 50/50 payment option provided to split the cost of the academy over the course of the year. The first 50% is due upfront.

My child has sustained an injury and will now miss most of the sessions, can I have a refund?

We will consider the request for a refund on an individual basis. The nature and seriousness of the illness/injury will be considered along with the estimated recovery period.

Please email Ian Healey at Hockey WA, ian.healey@hockeywa.org.au for further information.

The Academy sessions have already commenced, and I wish to sign up my child, am I too late?

The 2023 Perth Thundersticks Academy program will commence for each Academy age group in February/March 2023.

If you miss the first Academy age group session in February/March, then you can still register for the 2023 Academy program as it runs through until January 2024. In this situation we ask that you please contact email Ian Healey at Hockey WA, ian.healey@hockeywa.org.au to discuss the available options.



FAQs

Registrations have closed, can I still sign-up?

Each Academy age group has the number of available spots capped. Once the spots are filled then you will not be able to register your child.

Please email Ian Healey at Hockey WA, ian.healey@hockeywa.org.au to check availability

We can't make all the sessions planned; can we receive a refund?

Unfortunately, the cost of running the Academy program is a set sum. To keep the program viable, we are unable to treat the sessions as individual events.

In the event your child will miss sessions we ask that you please contact Ian Healey at Hockey WA, ian.healey@hockeywa.org.au to make the arrangements for your child to attend a session in another Academy age group at a convenient time to you.



