



# WEST VANCOUVER FIELD HOCKEY CLUB

*Home of North Shore Field Hockey*

## WELCOME TO GVJFHL LEAGUE PLAY



Welcome to Spring League and to playing in the Greater Vancouver Junior Field Hockey League. The GVJFHL governs and organizes member clubs with junior Spring League teams across the Lower Mainland, who play against each other on a weekly basis from April to June

# GVJFHL

The Girls' divisions include every age group from U11 to U18. The Boys divisions each include 2 school grades from U12 to U18.

The game schedule will be posted on the GVJFHL website - [www.bcfieldhockey.com](http://www.bcfieldhockey.com)

- Games scores are reported by the team manager within 24 hours of game time.
- Please make every effort to play games as scheduled. Field time is hard to get and we will be fined if there are no-shows or forfeits.
- If teams are short players, players from younger age groups may be called up to play, if registered on the call up list.

## GVJFHL Rules

In the U11 & U12 age groups, you may play with 8 field players and no goalie. At WVFHC we strongly encourage players to try out the goalie position and get ready for games at older years. Please note that other clubs may elect not to do this.



## 7 Goal Rule

GVJFHL rules specify ***Spring League is for development purposes*** and running up game scores may not occur, so there is a maximum **7 goal difference rule**. If the final game score difference is 8 goals or more, the winning team will forfeit the game and it will be recorded as a 3-0 loss. In games with a clear mismatch of ability or large goal differential by halftime, **it is the responsibility of the coaches to take action**. Possible actions include: switching player positions, playing with fewer players, asking players to focus on passing, and asking that only players who haven't yet scored shoot on net. These measures are meant to stop or slow the goal differential and make the teams more evenly matched for the remainder of the game.

## Game Conduct

Please remember that during games you wear the uniform of and **represent WVFHC**. As such we expect all players, parents, coaches, managers, junior coaches and umpires to abide by the **Field Hockey BC RESPECT program**. The full Codes of Conduct can be found on our website: [www.wvfhc.com/page/show/4341775-crc-and-codes-of-conduct](http://www.wvfhc.com/page/show/4341775-crc-and-codes-of-conduct).

## GVJFHL Tiers, Pools, etc

In the **U11 age group for Girls and U12 for Boys**, teams are placed in pools as this is the first year for all teams in the league. Coaches may indicate to the league scheduler that they feel their players are stronger or weaker than other clubs but teams are randomly placed in pools.

For **U12 Girls**, tiering is based on the team declaration (coach and AGC) and is verified against the previous year's results by the league scheduler. If there are an uneven number of teams requested in any tier, the scheduler may move a team based on the previous year's results and in consultation with the club to eliminate byes.

**U13 + Girls and U14+ Boys**—Tiers are only created if there are enough teams to warrant more than one tier. Again, teams are tiered based on the team declaration (coach and AGC) and verified against the previous year's results. The league schedulers do their best to eliminate byes, and there may be games between tiers or between differing age groups to resolve a bye, to give teams as many games as possible during the short season.



As a Club we work hard to provide a fun experience during spring League. We hope that all players, make friends and enjoy their spring league experience. For better players, we hope they will be leaders and mentors to other players and have fun with their teammates. Many of our current national team players look back fondly on their spring league days when they played with their friends, away from the pressure of academies, provincial, and national programs. Team rosters, team placements in the league, etc are dependent on numbers of participants and not all Clubs agree with our mission of making spring league fun.

# Rescheduling Games

We strongly encourage you to play your league games as scheduled. We cannot guarantee there will be alternative turf time or umpires available for a make-up game. Please let your team coach or manager know with as much notice as possible, preferably 3 days or 72 hours in advance if you will not be able to make a scheduled game.

Remember, when a game is cancelled it has an impact on more than just you and your team:

- Whether you use the field or not for home games, WVFHC still pays for the field
- Umpires have been assigned to your game and arranged their schedule around it
- Parents have worked around your schedule to get their umpiring child to your game
- Umpire Mentors may have been assigned to your game and made time in their schedules
- Giving back your field time in a reasonable, timely manner makes it available for others

# Coaching Policies

We value the safety of players and volunteers above all else. We want to ensure that we uphold the highest standards in providing a **safe, respectful and FUN environment** for our children to play field hockey.

- Coaches, managers and assistant coaches must submit a criminal records check (CRC) to the club
- All coaches and managers must have electronically acknowledged and e-signed the WVFHC code of conduct for coaches and managers
- For information on both of these, please visit our website at [www.wvfhc.com](http://www.wvfhc.com)



# Uniforms & Equipment

## Uniforms

Prior to your first league game, you should receive a Club uniform from your team manager. These uniforms belong to the Club. Please make sure you return the uniform jersey and skirt at the end of the season - you get to keep the socks.



**NOTE:** *The WFFHC uniform for girls consists of shirt and skirt. We understand some players may not feel comfortable wearing a skirt. In this situation, please contact your Age Group Coordinator to discuss options.*

## PLAYER ESSENTIALS

- Running shoes or turf boots for artificial turf. Soccer cleats are not permitted on Rutledge but are ok for other artificial turf fields
- Shinpads
- Mouthguard
- Field Hockey stick
- Water Bottle

## Equipment

Each team is issued Club equipment, including a full bag of goalie gear, balls, cones, and pinnies to be used in team practices and games.

Equipment and uniforms represent a large outlay of Club funds so ***we ask everyone to take care of the equipment and uniforms and to return everything back to the Club at the end of the season.***



# Umpires

Umpires are assigned for all games U9 to U18 by an umpire scheduler. Umpires for Spring League include players who have taken umpiring courses and may be learning how to umpire.

U13+: you can get involved in umpiring by taking the appropriate umpiring courses that are scheduled before each spring season

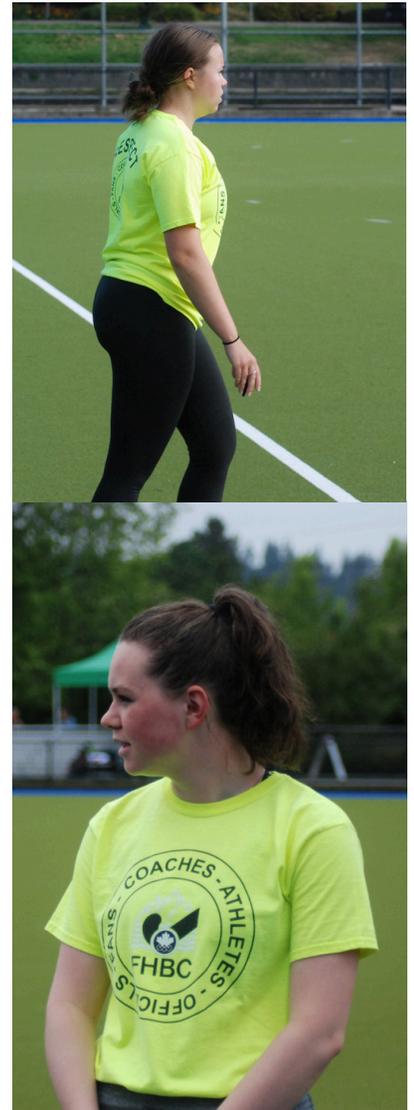
If you have issues or questions during the season, email [wvumpires@wvfhc.com](mailto:wvumpires@wvfhc.com) OR [matthew@wvfhc.com](mailto:matthew@wvfhc.com).

## Umpiring Etiquette

### **ABUSE OF UMPIRES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**

***Most of our umpires are kids. Treat them as you would your own! They are learning and they will make mistakes.***

***Every year we have young umpires drop out of the program because of overly critical and aggressive coaches and parents. Please think about what you say and how you say it. Negative commentary from players, coaches or supporters is unacceptable.***



## Junior Coaches

Every year, the Club recruits junior players 13+ to become Junior Coaches. Like our parent coaches, these are volunteers. Our Junior Coaches share their knowledge and love of field hockey with the teams they work with and we hope they inspire younger players to keep playing the game we love.

These are players who are new to coaching. Please treat them with respect.

For 13+ players interesting in becoming a Junior Coach, please check out our website under Junior Coaching.



# Privacy of Information

- Do not forward on player information to anyone other than team members.
- If parents are interested in taking pictures, we recommend they check with the other parents to make sure this is acceptable and respect the wishes of anyone who objects
- Anyone who is identifiable in a photo should give permission to have that photo shared. If the player is under 18 years, permission must be granted by a parent or legal guardian. "Identifiable" usually means that the person's face is visible. If players are not readily identifiable because they are in a large group, only their backs are showing, they are far away, or are covered (such as a goalie), then it may be acceptable to share the photo.
- Players under 18 years should never be identified by name in a photo in a public posting, unless permission has been given by a parent or legal guardian.
- If a photo is posted and a player or parent objects, please remove the photo right away.
- If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact [info@wvfhc.com](mailto:info@wvfhc.com)



## Player Pathways

**Spring League is all about FUN** while playing recreational field hockey with friends and learning what makes a great team and teammates. Spring League is the entry point for lots of new players of all ages from 5 - 18. **If you've been playing for years, we hope you will encourage and support new players to learn field hockey skills and share your love of the game.**

***IF you would like to develop your field hockey skills,*** there are Club programs designed to help with that, starting with Fall 5's, Boys Wolves and Winter Technical Development, moving up to HP, and Men's or Women's league. In high school, girls can play on high school field hockey teams or players can attend West Vancouver or North Vancouver School District Field Hockey Academy programs. The next step is to try out for provincial and national junior programming. We will hold a Player Pathway information session for interested athletes during Spring League.

## Issue Resolution

We recognize that sometimes issues come up involving players, parents or coaches during Spring League. We encourage the resolution of these issues by direct and informal means wherever possible.



- **Talk directly to the involved party:** Approach the person with whom you have a difficulty, off the field, away from games or practices at an appropriate time and place. Voice your concerns and attempt to reach an understanding informally between the persons involved. Particularly with respect to the younger teams, these meetings should be held away from the players unless their involvement is necessary.
- **Talk to your team's coach or manager:** If the matter cannot be resolved between the parties, contact the coach/team manager and clearly express the concerns that are outstanding. Team coaches/managers should attempt an informal resolution if possible and suggest any compromise with a view to allowing team play or involvement of the player to continue.
- **Seek assistance from the next level up:** If your problem is not resolved at the first step, you may contact the Club official directly above the person involved. These include:
  - **Age Group Coordinator** – for issues involving Spring League players, coaches or managers
  - **Umpire Coordinator** – for issues involving umpires
  - **Technical Director** – for issues involving coaches, technical staff and players
  - **General Manager** – for issues involving administration, communications and operations
- *At any point in time you may contact the Technical Director or General Manager to confidentially discuss the issue. Contact information for all these individuals can be found at [wvfhc.com](http://wvfhc.com) under **Contact Us***

### Communication Flow



# KEY CONTACTS

Melissa Darowski  
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TBC  
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Gabrielle Young  
Eva Ciperia  
TBC  
Melissa Darowski  
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Matthew Sarmiento  
Isabelle Roux  
Charlotte Burns

U11 Girls Coordinator  
U12 Girls Coordinator  
U12 Boys Coordinator  
U13 Girls Coordinator  
U14 Girls Coordinator  
U14 Boys Coordinator  
U15 Girls Coordinator  
U16 Girls Coordinator  
U16 Boys Coordinator  
U17 Girls Coordinator  
U18 Girls Coordinator  
U18 Boys Coordinator  
Head Coordinator  
Administrator  
Technical Director  
Head Coach, Dev  
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*Please follow along on Social Media and  
like our Posts!  
Send any photos from the season to  
**info@wvfhc.com***

*Visit **wvfhc.com** for more info regarding  
Spring League Operations.  
Have a Great Season!*

**Thank you  
for being a part  
of our Spring  
League.  
We hope you  
have FUN!**