

## Juniors in Adult Teams

We are incredibly fortunate to have a thriving Junior section at East Grinstead enabling us to provide a diverse range of hockey experiences for our junior members. There may be occasions where playing in an adult team is the right thing for some of our juniors.

At East Grinstead, we do not expect any U14 (or below) players to need to play in Adult teams. From U16 there may be some specific situations when adult hockey is right, generally these are:

- When there are not enough Junior teams for everyone to get equal play time.
- When the level of competition (defined by the league/cup Tier) is not appropriate for the ability of the player.
- When there is an adult/junior relationship which can be benefited.
- When the club believe an individual player would benefit from more hockey than is available to them than junior club hockey.
- When there isn't enough, or good enough quality age group hockey competition in the area to satisfy the 'hockey diet' of players (normally U18).

The club will decide if it is suitable for a Junior player to play in an adult team. The clubs decision will be final.

When this is the case, East Grinstead Hockey Club completely aligns to England Hockey "Young People playing in Senior Teams" guidance. Details of this can be found on the England Hockey website: <https://www.englishockey.co.uk/governance/duty-of-care-in-hockey/safeguarding>

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Welfare officer by email: [welfare@eghockey.co.uk](mailto:welfare@eghockey.co.uk)