

# Welcome to the Wakatipu Hockey Club FAQ's

## When does the season start?

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The official Central Otago Hockey Season runs April - September. The Senior Teams (Mens and Womens) start with Warm Up games in March.

Juniors can start pre season training prior to the season, but predominantly their season starts in Term 2 of the school year; and they finish games in July.

Minis and Funs are involved in Festival Days and/or Club Days, and these games are either held in Wanaka, Cromwell or Queenstown where they play other teams instead of themselves. As this is a winter sport, children can wear thermals under their club uniforms; and they should always have a beanie and warm jacket when not on the field playing.

## When does Registration open/close?

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Registration will open soon (February/March). If you don't already follow the Club on Facebook, join our facebook page to stay up to date with communications on this. Late registrations may not be accepted as we need final numbers to confirm team numbers and team selections.

## What are the registration fees?

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### Registration fees for 2023:

- **Fun Sticks** (Year 1 & 2) - (volunteer) \$35 (non-volunteer) \$70
- **Mini Sticks** (Year 3 & 4) - (volunteer) \$45 (non-volunteer) \$60
- **Kiwi Sticks** (Year 5 & 6) - (volunteer) \$100 (non-volunteer) \$125
- **Kwik Sticks** (Year 7 & 8) - (volunteer) \$125 (non-volunteer) \$150

**Volunteer Rate:** We are always in need of Volunteers to keep the sport running and offer a discounted rate if you can help in any capacity. If you are able to Coach, Team Manager, assist with Club Events



and Prize Giving events, social media posts, issuing uniforms etc we invite you to tick the volunteer button in PlayHQ and one of our Committee Members will be in touch.

Registration fees are payable at the time you register in PlayHQ.

## How can I volunteer?

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Volunteering is easy! We have many areas where volunteers can help upskill our club/committee (even joining the committee if they have a few hours to get more involved) - so feel free to email the club directly at any time, or sign up for volunteer when you register your child. (E: [wakatipuhockeyclub@gmail.com](mailto:wakatipuhockeyclub@gmail.com))

Can you help with:

- registration process
- coaching
- umpiring
- updating the Club website
- social media posting on Facebook and/or Instagram
- promote club/events with advertising/marketing flyers throughout the season
- have experience with grants or fundraising
- any other skills we might need, yet haven't thought of?!

All volunteers are able to receive a discounted fee for their child, and this is completed at registration time in PlayHQ at the beginning of the season.

## How do I register my child?

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A link for registration through PlayHQ will be provided (either by a Club Mailout, on our Website or put on Facebook) when Registration is open. All players must be set up and registered through PlayHQ. If you registered in 2022 your login details will be the same for 2023 season. If you have forgotten your password you will need to re-set it.



# Why do we need to travel for games?

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The Central Otago Hockey Association (**COHA**) is responsible for the administration of hockey in Central Otago. COHA also set the draw, game times and locations for each season.

This means that all Clubs/teams registered to play in Kiwi Sticks (years 5 & 6) and the Kwik Stick grades (years 7 & 8) need to travel outside of their home turf for matches in either Cromwell, Wanaka, Alexandra or Omakau.

Club Days and Festival days are played (for Funs/Minis years 1-4) at either Cromwell, Wanaka, Omakau or Queenstown, and hosted by the home Club. These dates will be provided to us by Central Otago Hockey Association (**COHA**) when they have confirmed the number of teams entered in the region and the draw. As soon as we have the dates for these, we will pass on the information.

At this time we don't believe we have enough players in each junior club grade to set up our own competition for Queenstown area only.

# Who does the draw?

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COHA set the draw / game times and locations for all Clubs. This is why registration is so important to be done in the time specified above. COHA do their best to keep draws and game times equal so that not too many games are played late, or too early.

# How do the Grades work?

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Teams are put together once all registrations are closed. The Grades are:

FUN STICKS (YEAR 1 & 2)  
4 aside on  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a hockey turf

MINI STICKS (YEAR 3 & 4)  
6 aside on  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a hockey turf

KIWI STICKS (YEAR 5 & 6)  
7 aside on  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a hockey turf

KWIK STICKS (YEAR 7 & 8) – Gender Split  
6 aside on  $\frac{1}{2}$  hockey turf (with a goalie)



# What equipment does my child need?

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Each child should have their own stick, mouthguard (mandatory) and shin guards. Club socks can be purchased at Stirling Sports Five Mile.

The playing top/skort/shorts are provided by the Wakatipu Hockey Club and distributed by team managers.

Lost or missing uniforms will incur a fee of \$50 for replacement. This is payable by the player or player's parent/guardian.

All uniforms should be washed and returned clean at the end of the season to the team manager. A volunteer (uniform co-ordinator) will reach out when that time comes.

# How are Players/Teams put together?

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Teams are sorted by a Wakatipu Hockey Club volunteer or committee member once all registrations are in (again late registrations can delay this process if we need to start rebuilding numbers again – so please be patient). Your child will play in the year group that your child is in. We do not guarantee that any player can play up or down a grade, for this to happen first we need to make sure that we have a balanced team and numbers; we also need to take any of these requests to COHA to get special dispensation.

While we do our best to accommodate requests for children to be in the same team, but can't always guarantee this. Again, please let us know before we confirm teams so we can try to accommodate.

# When/Where will our teams train?

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All teams train at the Queenstown Events Centre Multi Purpose Turf. We will update the website page each season with training days, times and game days. Go to: Junior Hockey, click on the Junior grades and scroll down.



# Parent Help/Pre game set up/lock up

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As there are no 'grounds care takers' at the Cromwell turf COHA have asked all Club delegates to let their teams and parents know that it is up to all parents across the grades to help each other out with setting up and/or locking up. For more information on what needs to be done at Cromwell, read the next paragraph.

## Cromwell Pavillion and Field Set Up

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This is the responsibility of all Teams/Clubs. Please help your team managers as is necessary to set up or close up:

### Set Up:

- The teams who are scheduled to play the first game of that days competition are to unlock the front door of the pavilion using the keypad code provided to their club. Team Managers will be sent the code for the season.
- The door needs to be left ajar or otherwise it will close and lock.
- Unlock the side door to access the upstairs of the pavilion.
- Keep outside toilets locked as patrons can use the ones in the pavilion.
- **Water the turf.** Keys and instructions are on the wall in the tournament office. Document what time it was watered. Lock the watering box and return keys to the office once watering has started.
- Put goals in place and wooden dividers out if required.

### Lock Up:

- The teams in the final game of the night are responsible to clear the turf and lock the pavilion.
- Stack the chairs in the top floor viewing room over to the side.
- Check that the umpires have turned the scoreboard off.
- Push dividers back against the fence on the sidelines.
- Lock the side door of the pavilion and check all doors and windows are secured.
- Turn off lights and the heat pump.
- Turn the turf lights off and return key to tournament office.
- Leave via the lower level front door that will lock behind them.

### Watering/Lights

Coaches/Managers will be given instructions for watering the turf and operating the lights.



# Queenstown Events Centre

## Multipurpose Turf/Lights

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Only rubber soled trainers can be worn on the artificial turf. There is to be **NO** cleats plastic or metal to be worn on the artificial turf.

If your team needs to use the lights for any late training or games, the coach or team manager will need to walk into the Event Centre, ask for the Hockey Club Key (it will need to be signed out and signed back in by that person) and on it you will find a key to a locked room between the dugouts. Coaches/Managers will be told how to turn on/off the lights.

## Turf Rules Central Otago Hockey Association (COHA)

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All teams are responsible for their own cleanliness in changing rooms and upstairs in the Pavilion at Cromwell. Please ensure all changing rooms are left clean.

There are no rubbish bins in the changing rooms therefore all rubbish must be taken away and placed in rubbish bins outside or taken home.

All managers are responsible for their player's behaviour and parents are responsible for their children's behaviour. No running upstairs; no inappropriate behaviour; no playing on fire escapes or stairs. It is imperative that the Pavilion be looked after and cared for or use will be restricted (which would seem a waste of such a good asset).

- Enter the turf by gates only – clean turf shoes with brushes before entering.
- Do not climb over or sit on the spectator fence.
- No spectators allowed in dugouts.
- Players and referees only are allowed on the turf. Managers, subs or spectators are to remain behind the spectators fence.
- Gear not allowed on sidelines.
- No cigarette butts on turf. Smoking, alcohol, chewing gum and food are banned within inside of dish drainage channel.
- No spitting or swearing – both are offensive habits which do nothing to promote sport.
- Use rubbish bins for litter.
- Approved playing gear only allowed on turf.
- Footwear – clean, rubber soled and small rubber studs only.
- Pads – clean. Goalkeeper pads – buckles taped.



- No sharp objects or dirty footwear to be worn on turf.
- Balls hit over the spectator fence are NOT to be recovered by players unless footwear is changed. Provide an outside runner to retrieve balls.
- Blue circles to be used for goal shooting and goal keeping practise.
- No play outside allocated times.
- No dogs allowed on turf.
- No objects to be driven into turf.
- Report any damage to Turf Trust immediately.
- Return any keys for the pavilion at close/last game of evening to the appropriate person.

Failure to comply with these rules may result in a \$50 fine to clubs or individuals.

Central Otago Sports Turf Trust

## Prize giving

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At the end of the season (generally August) we aim to hold a whole Club event at the Events Centre to recognise the most improved and most valued players in each grade.

Coaches and Team Managers are asked to provide the names of their Most Valued Player and Most Improved Player to the Club.

Kwik Stick grades receive a 'Club' trophy, and this trophy is engraved before prize giving and will need to be returned before the next season's prize giving.

A 'Club' trophy is also presented to the Year 8 Most Promising Player. Again this trophy will need to be returned prior to the next season's prize giving.

A volunteer or committee member will be in touch to arrange the return of Club trophies.

## The 'Season' in a snapshot view:

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Depending on COHA's calendar of events for each season, the season events might change, but in the past this is an example of how the season might look:





## Still have questions or suggestions?

If we haven't managed to answer your queries or concerns and/or you can suggest ways in which we can keep improving as our Club grows, please email us at [wakatipuhockeyclub@gmail.com](mailto:wakatipuhockeyclub@gmail.com). We are only too happy to hear from you.

