



ALTONA

HOCKEY CLUB

**OVERSEAS PLAYER POLICY &
GUIDELINES OF
THE ALTONA HOCKEY CLUB INC.**

Rationale

Altona Hockey Club may be approached, or look to attract, overseas players seeking to broaden their playing experience by competing in Hockey Victoria competitions.

This document provides a framework for the AHC, the overseas players and for host families to set a consistent standard of expectations for all parties involved in order to ensure a mutually enjoyable experience for overseas players, host families and the AHC.

Who is Affected by this Policy

This policy applies to overseas players who wish to represent the Altona Hockey Club Inc and host families who support overseas players.

Timing

This policy is effective from **22nd April 2013**.

Definitions

In this policy, unless otherwise defined:

“Overseas Player” Means someone from overseas who comes to Melbourne with the purpose of playing hockey at the highest level available.

“Host Family” Means an AHC linked person / family that agrees to provide a place for the overseas player to live while they play for the club.

“Club” Means the Altona Hockey Club Incorporated.

Guidelines for Overseas Players

Overseas players will be expected to abide by the following guidelines:

- Pay their own airfares
- Ensure that hockey is a priority of their stay (i.e. training and match attendance)
- Make themselves available to help with coaching a junior team or lower grade senior teams throughout their stay
- Make themselves available for umpiring
- Obtain employment within 6 weeks of arrival in Australia
- Once employed, make a financial contribution to their host family to cover “cost of living” expenses (Utilities, broadband, etc)
- Payment of playing membership fees is not required on the condition that they adhere to this policy.
- Ensure they respect the members of their host family household and rules including:
 - Undertaking of chores
 - Consumption of alcohol
 - Late night access to the house, and noise
 - Bringing guests to the house

- Notifying your host family of where you are and when you will be home, including if you will be home for meals
- They must not expect their host family to:
 - Do their washing
 - Provide special foods or meals
 - Drive them places
 - Give / lend them money
 - Pay for their international telephone calls

Overseas players that are experiencing problems with their host family should speak to their coach in the first instance.

Guidelines for the Club

The following guidelines will be followed by the Club to ensure consistent management of overseas players:

- All overseas players will receive the following club gear at no cost:
 - Home and away playing strip (shirt, shorts, socks)
 - Hoodie and tracksuit pants
 - Training top
- Opportunities to play an appropriate grade of hockey
- Where possible, the club will provide umpiring opportunities to allow overseas players to earn some income.

Guidelines for Host Families

Host families will be expected to abide by the following guidelines:

- Provide a 10 week stay for international players (longer or shorter by individual arrangement)
- Provide a clean, safe and preferably smoke-free environment, including a bedroom
- Provide food in the way of standard groceries and meals at their own cost (special requests and additional items should be paid for by the overseas player)
- Prepare meals for the overseas player as part of standard family meal preparation
- Provide facilities for the washing of clothes
- Ensure players have a written copy of your name, address and telephone number
- Assist with transport arrangements, (provide advice on public transport network in addition to arranging lifts for training and games)

Host families that are experiencing problems with their international player should speak to the overseas player coordinator in the first instance.

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed annually to ensure it remains current and practical.



Dated: 25th June 2014

Reviewed: Annually

For and on Behalf of its Members.
The Altona Hockey Club Inc. Board