

Fremantle Cockburn Hockey Club

Pregnancy Policy



Hockey can be a highly physical game. Pregnant players are advised that whilst there are benefits to continuing to stay active during pregnancy, there are also potential health risks. Modification of the nature, intensity and level of play may be necessary. No insurance company will cover a sports club for injuries related to a pregnancy whilst playing a game, as it is considered a pre-existing condition.

It is now a compulsory requirement by WAWHA that ALL women players sign a 'Pregnancy Player Acknowledgment' as a provision of playing hockey. This form requires women players to acknowledge that:

- The responsibility to seek advice from a qualified medical practitioner rests with the player about the risks of continued playing and whether, or for how long, it is safe to continue participating;
- Should a pregnant player continue playing, they do so at their own risk;
- Other players are under no obligation to treat a pregnant player differently from any other player;
- Care for the unborn child rests with the mother/parents;
- The pregnant player has no claim of compensation against any player, club or WAWHA for any injury either to themselves or the unborn child caused during the course of any game, provided that the game is played in accordance with the rules.

Fremantle Cockburn Hockey Club requires the following:

- Any woman player who is, or becomes pregnant, must inform the Ladies Vice President of their pregnancy, and
- A letter from their medical practitioner outlining their support for continued play and for how long.

This information will be kept confidential by the club if requested by the player.

Fremantle Cockburn Hockey Club will NOT prohibit participation in hockey on the grounds of pregnancy. The responsibility for the decision to continue to play rests with the woman and her medical practitioner.