



**HOCKEY GEELONG**

Geelong Hockey Association

# **HOCKEY GEELONG DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

The Geelong Hockey Association Inc (trading as Hockey Geelong/HG) values and embraces diversity and considers a mix of human differences as being essential to growth and development of our organisation.

Our organisation benefits from being inclusive and welcoming through increased membership and diversity. As new members, their families and friends participate in our sport, our community grows.

New Ideas, innovation, creativity, problem solving, along with continuous improvement processes are welcomed and indeed enhanced by groups of people with different ideas working together.

**This creates the following benefits:**

- the sustainability of our association and affiliated clubs is ensured
- the number of skilled players in our hockey community is increased
- the potential to recruit volunteers and administrators as more players' families get involved is increased
- everyone feels respected and valued regardless of ability, cultural background, religion, gender or sexuality
- the reputation of our organisation is enhanced and hockey itself as inclusive and diverse
- create opportunities for all members to learn about different cultures

**The following are our organisation's core Diversity values:**

- We understand that having a wider range of skills, knowledge and experience adds to our Hockey Community.
- We believe respect for everyone's human rights - regardless of age, gender, race or ability - is essential for a fair and equal society.
- We believe everyone should be able to feel like they belong and can participate fully.

**Hockey Geelong strives to:**

- promote a culture of inclusiveness within our association
- be aware of and respectful of different cultures and religions within our hockey community
- be committed to making our community a safe, welcoming place that caters to diversity
- ensure our organisation more accurately reflects today's multicultural community

Hockey Geelong membership through its affiliated clubs is open to all people, regardless of age, gender, race and ability.

The Association offers activities (e.g. skill development programs, general competitions, social competitions) which can be adapted or modified to suit diverse needs (e.g. we are flexible about use of modified uniforms, equipment and rules).

Hockey Geelong facilitates programmes, strategies or opportunities that engage new members to join. Non-playing roles within the Association are made available and promoted to all members e.g. volunteer roles.

The Association has strategies in place to ensure transport to trainings and games are not a barrier to participation for members (e.g. training/games accessible by public transport, carpooling arrangements available and communicated).