**PUL Juniors Competitive Guidelines & Philosophy Document**

1. **Introduction and Background**

The following document outlines the guiding principles and philosophy for the PUL Juniors Competitive Program. The Peterborough Ultimate League greatly values its Junior players and works to foster an environment that protects the emotional and well-being of players under the age of 18. The purpose of this guiding document is to frame the philosophy of the PUL Juniors Competitive Program for players, parents and coaches.

In order to frame this document, it should be noted that the following statements have been adopted by the PUL Board of Directors as part of the PUL Juniors Strategy Plan developed in 2015 and help provide some context to the philosophy, foundation and the future direction of PUL Juniors Competitive Program.

**PUL Mission Statement:** “To foster the sport of Ultimate Frisbee in Peterborough, providing a safe, friendly and enjoyable experience at all levels of competition.”

**PUL Vision Statement:** “PUL draws together a diverse community to engage in a fun, athletic, competitive, and highly enjoyable brand of Ultimate Frisbee for a broad range of ages and skill levels.”

**PUL Juniors Statement of Intent:** “To ensure sustainable growth of Juniors program and opportunities for multiple levels of play and development in line with the LTAD framework developed by Ultimate Canada.”

**PUL Juniors Objective:** “To build interest in and help develop the sport of Ultimate by providing the necessary programs, coaching and resources to reach children and youth at all stages of their development and ability. PUL should be at the forefront of driving this initiative to better build an appreciation of the sport in hopes of encouraging a lifelong involvement with the game and community.”

1. **PUL Juniors Coaches Selection Process**

The following section of this document outlines the PUL Juniors Competitive Program processes and guidelines that will guide coach screening and selection process.

**2.1 Letter of Intent**

To be selected as a coach, an individual will be required to submit a *Letter of Intent*- the letter can be submitted as either an individual coach or as a team of coaching staff that would like to be considered.  All submissions of the Letter of Intent will be viewed by the Juniors Committee and/or Board of Directors, who will be responsible for appointing the coaches of the program.

The following should be included in the Letter of Intent:

* What team would you like to coach? (ie. Soar- Jr. Women; Rogue Squadron-Jr. Open)
* History with PUL
* Outline any past experience coaching Ultimate
* Briefly outline why you want to coach with this program or particular team
* Briefly discuss your philosophy or vision of coaching
* List any coaching certifications that may be relevant
* Briefly outline a plan for the season (goals & progressive development)
* Include a reference for further confirmation of coaching experience if needed

Please note that coaches may be contacted by someone from the selection committee to answer some additional follow-up questions.

**2.2 Coaching Screening Process**

Once a coach has completed the Letter of Intent and is selected to be a candidate to coach the  PUL Competitive Junior program, they will have to provide a clean criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector check.  A record check completed within the last 3 months is acceptable. Information on Police Record checks will be reviewed by the PUL Juniors Committee and/or PUL Board and will remain confidential.

**2.3 Coach Requirements:**

Once a coach has been successfully selected and screened for the PUL Juniors Competitive Program, the following requirements will have to be met in order to remain a coach in the program:

1. Complete a Team Expectation Document to the Board of Directors and/or Juniors Committee where the following things are outlined:
   1. Coaching Staff and their roles
   2. Team Goals for the Season (Tournaments, Regionals and Nationals expectations)
   3. Team Philosophy and Vision
   4. Spirit of the Game Development
   5. Age Range of Players
   6. Cost of the Season and Plan for Finances/Payment
2. Completion of the Making Ethical Decisions Online Course
3. Hold a Team Information Night for parents and players where the expectations for the  season will be outlined
4. Signed Code of Conduct by all coaches
5. Coaches will have to ensure that they have met the Ultimate Canada coaching requirements to coach at Nationals (in the event that the team does make Nationals)
6. Provide evaluation forms to parents and athletes at the end of the season to be submitted to the Juniors Committee

**3. PUL Parent & Player Requirements**

The following section outlines the expectations and requirements of, parents and junior athletes who are connected to any of the PUL Juniors Competitive teams.

**3.1 Player Requirements:**

Players will have to complete the following requirements to participate in the team:

1. Attend the Team Information night
2. Complete and sign the PUL Junior Player Code of Conduct
3. Complete a Player Medical Profile
4. Complete an OUA Waiver

**3.2 Parent Requirements:**

Parents of players who are participating in the PUL Juniors program will have to complete the following:

1) Attend the Team Information night (recommended)

2) Complete a PUL Junior Parent Code of Conduct