

Peterborough Ultimate League: Juniors Exemption Policy

The Peterborough Ultimate League greatly values its Junior (under age 18) players and works to foster an environment that protects the physical and emotional well-being of players under the age of 18. The purpose of this policy is to provide an exemption process for properly supervised Junior players (age 15-17) to apply to participate, where appropriate, in adult PUL leagues and/or events.

PUL does not have officially appointed supervision for adult leagues or events and referees or convenors are not required on site. Consequently, any Junior player (age 15-17) who participates in PUL adult leagues or events, as well as their parent/legal guardian, must acknowledge this fact and waive PUL from responsibility associated with PUL leagues or events. It is the duty of the Juniors' parent/legal guardian to ensure that all Junior participation in PUL adult leagues or events is under the supervision of a Responsible Adult, as identified and assigned at registration for leagues and/or events.

Exemption Policy for Juniors

All Junior-aged players who are interested in playing in the PUL adult league must adhere to the exemption policy outlined below:

1. The parent or legal guardian must complete and submit the exemption request form to the PUL Juniors Committee before the identified registration deadline. Please send all requests to juniors@pultimate.ca.
2. The PUL Juniors Committee validates the information and eligibility of the request for exemption.
3. The PUL Juniors Committee contacts the coach of the highest level team the Junior player was a part of to evaluate their compatibility with the adult league.
4. The PUL Juniors Committee contacts the parent or legal guardian to explain the risks of juniors playing in an adult ultimate league and confirm the agreement to a Responsible Adult.
5. The PUL Juniors Committee evaluates the information received and makes a decision.
6. The PUL Juniors Committee informs the parent or legal guardian of the decision.
7. The PUL Juniors Committee will have discussion with the Captain of the team for whom the Junior will play to review eligibility and guidelines for inclusions of Juniors in PUL adult leagues
8. All PUL captains in adult leagues or events must confirm Junior player eligibility before adding a Junior player to their roster.

Definitions:

Junior Player

A Junior is defined as a member/participant who is 15-17 years by December 31 of that calendar year. If a member/participant is 18 years of age at any time during the calendar year, they are considered an Adult member/participant.

Responsible Adult

A Responsible Adult is a person aged 25 years of age or older, endorsed by the Junior participant's legal guardian, who supervises the Junior participant. It is their duty to ensure that the Junior participant is safe and protected from any environment that is physically or emotionally inappropriate. This responsibility includes full supervision of the Junior throughout the course of his/her participation in the PUL league/event, and possibly removing the Junior from any inappropriate situation.

A Responsible Adult is declared to the league convenor via the PUL Responsible Adult Permission Form, signed by the parent or legal guardian, at registration for the league/event. The Junior and Responsible Adult should be declared to the opposing captain prior to the start of each game.

Adult League Participation Rules for Juniors

Junior-aged players who are 15 years of age or older (can be 14 but turning 15 during the calendar year of play) may join an adult league team provided they are accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other identified Responsible Adult at all times. The parent, legal guardian or Responsible Adult can be playing on the same team or supervising from the sideline, but MUST be present for the duration of all games played by the Junior, with PUL. In addition:

- The Responsible Adult must be a minimum 25 years of age
- A Responsible Adult, parent or legal guardian, can be responsible for up to three (3) Junior players in total. A Responsible Adult must be authorized by the parent or legal guardian of each Junior in order to fulfill this role

PUL Event Participation Rules for Juniors

For Junior participants, the rules for adult leagues apply also to PUL tournaments that are not specifically targeted to Juniors, but are deemed appropriate for Juniors by tournament directors.

The exception to this rule is pickup, which is an informal gathering of Ultimate players and is not regulated by PUL. Juniors are permitted to participate in pickup games.

Disciplinary Action

In order to enforce these conditions and to foster fair play, PUL relies on the honour system, PUL players and team captains. Please abide by the Spirit of the Game when participating with Junior (and any other) players. Remember, these rules are in place to PROTECT a young player from physical and emotional harm, not prohibit them from playing.

If a team does not properly declare his/her Junior player(s) and Responsible Adult(s) or violates the rule above, that team and player are subject to PUL sanctions. The results of all games player with ineligible or unsupervised Junior players(s) are disqualified. Individuals/teams committing repeat offences or blatant violations are subject to additional sanctions at the discretion of the PUL Board.

