

LHA Academy



An elite player and coach development programme for Leinster Hockey

Programme Overview



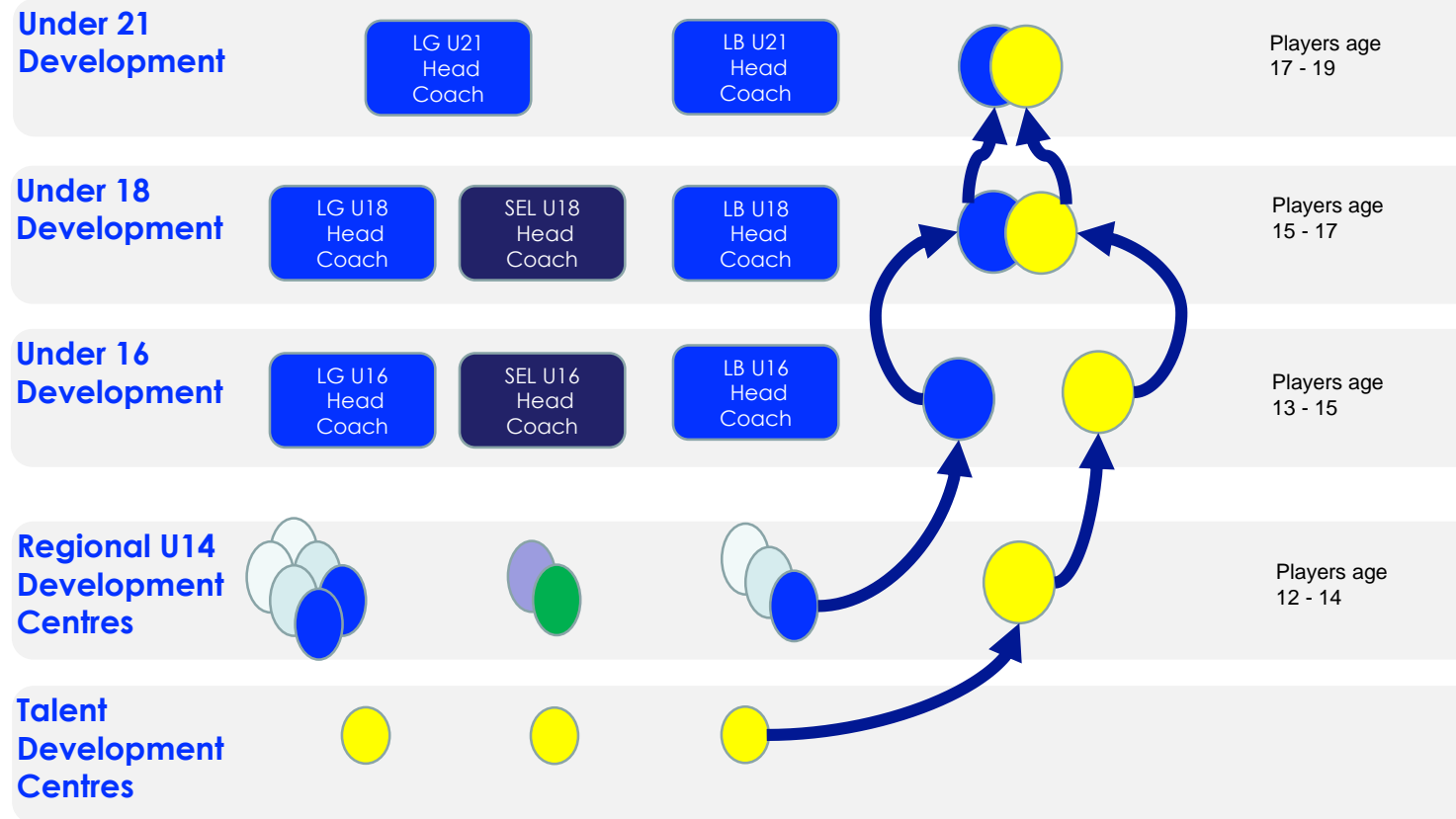
- **The primary objectives of the academy programme are**
 - To identify and develop elite level players within Leinster (including South East, North East and West Leinster)
 - To retain top athletes – to keep those players playing hockey
 - In particular those late developing players on the "edge" at junior age who drift to other sports
 - To develop coaches who can identify and develop the elite players
- **The programme is intended to be year round in an age group or category with a number of different stages**
 - Talent identification (Blue – Skilled Player with athletic ability / Yellow – Athlete with potential)
 - Skills development
 - Physical strength and conditioning and development
 - Tactical and games development
- **The programme structure starts with regional centres**
 - Players are assigned to 1st/2nd year regional sessions based on location of their school / club
 - Players attend 4 – 5 regional sessions before taking part in inter-regional blitz events
 - Following each regional cycle players should be invited to
 - Continue in the development programme either in a Blue or Yellow group
 - Or return to continue with their development as part of their school and club sessions
- **To be successful the programme requires**
 - A high level of support for player development from within the clubs/schools/coaching groups.
 - Coaches, who have a focus on elite player development, working with the players and squads
 - A defined player development pathway, including an entry point for talented athletes
 - A defined coach development pathway from regional development centres through to inter-provincial level
 - That it be more attractive to both players and coaches – *it needs to be about more than one tournament!*
- **The programme will be measured and assessed over time based on**
 - The number of players on inter-provincial squads who remain playing hockey for many years after their inter-provincial experience
 - The results at inter-provincial competitions
 - The number of players on national panels
 - The number of coaches on national coaching panels
 - The number of high potential athletes who transition to inter-provincial panel

Programme Structure



LHA Inter Provincial Advisory Group

- LHA Board Representative
- LHA Mens / Boys Representative
- LHA Ladies / Girls Representative
- LHA Development Administrator
- LHA Age Group Head Coaches



Development Panel... skilled player with athletic ability

Talent Id... athletic player with potential to be a skilled player

Leinster Junior Age Group Player Development Pathway

