

GLIDE 2014 FAQs

We have always attempted to be the most transparent system around in regards to selection. Below are a list of definitions for phrases used, as well as questions and answers to help you understand the process.

THE DOUBLE HANDSHAKE:

This is the most important concept. You have to feel fortunate for being on the team and we have to feel fortunate for having you on the field regardless if you are a rookie or veteran. Without this mental concept we would not have the confidence in each other necessary for those critical situations and players would not be able to play at their highest level possible.

POSITIVE ATTITUDE:

This isn't a 'hippy/love child' type of positive attitude, it is the positive attitude put forward by top professionals. Remove the personal and emotional aspect and focus on what needs to be communicated. This is realized most heavily in our sideline help where only constructive instructions on what to do next are permitted. This is not to say off field we do not have strong discussions or strong personalities, but everything has its place. Internally GLIDE has one of the strongest Team Spirits of any team and it is one of our biggest reasons for our success.

PERFORMANCE IS KING:

Being a good thrower or athlete is not enough. Does the combination of skill/athletics/attitude contribute to your line getting points? During big games are you able to bring everything to the table?

LINE FIRST:

Removing selfish intent (making space for others, running the agreed upon play instead of 'hot dogging,' playing exceptionally strong defence is also a great way to get noticed)

TEAM FIRST:

To care about the success of the team over personal desires.

Q1: What is GLIDE looking for?

GLIDE has looked for a wide range and variety of talent, we exercise both aggressive and conservative play depending on the situation. We will do our best to match you with similar style players during tryouts. Rather than curtail natural tendencies we try and place everyone in a role/line that suits them. Line success and your contribution to it is also significant.

We have in the past had some of the newest competitively experienced players (or no competitive experience) and some of the longest playing competitive members, each exuded awesome drive, positive attitude and results being each type have been impact players for our team.

Ultimately we can only take the number of players necessary to fill a specific role (cutter, handlers, etc.).

Q2: Do you take development level players?

Yes, however our definition of development is a player with exceptional potential, who we believe can become a national level impact player in a very short time frame. Typically these are individuals that have already played at the highest level in other sports, or strong league players with room to grow.

Q3: Do you accept couples?

No. Everyone must qualify on their own merits. If both qualify than all the better however we do not look for couples and it does not factor into the selection process. In the past it has been rare for both male and female player/couples to make the team in the same year.

Q4: How many spots are open on the team?

Theoretically all the spots are open, however we did not become the top team without having a large number of the best players available already playing on it (admittedly all successful top level teams have a good amount of retention). While you may not recognize their names, results do not lie. If you want a spot you have to do more than match performance you must exceed, your abilities must add more to the GLIDE competitive offering than we had previously.

Q5: Do you take players from other competitive teams?

Yes. We have had players from Open, women's and other mixed teams join us to great success. However playing on a competitive team is not a requirement, on-field success is.

Q6: How do I win?

Play your role, play it to the highest possible level, find success, help others do the same. Contribute to your line being successful. Be positive.

Q7: I have a question about how the team works during the summer?

Please check out this document for instructions on the structure:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vjaOAwoxS18zsIP1nRoNXj9ZNWXZUIFCm95jEESPQP0/edit?usp=sharing>

Q8: I heard GLIDE is a flexible; am I required to attend all tournaments / practices.

GLIDE is a highly active team, this means that there are opportunities to play as much ultimate as you can handle (through planned scrimmages, affiliated league teams and regional tournaments); but it also means that if you don't have time to commit your entire life to ultimate for whatever reason (family commitments, a demanding job, etc.) we expect you to make the appropriate choice. Part of this is based on level of experience and past time with the team. If you are new to the team we would hope that you make every effort to gain greater experience with us. Also, if you are at a lower level of experience we would also hope that you dedicate a good amount of time to playing with us.

In short, the team and players are entrusted to determine the level of commitment that works best for both yourself personally and the team as a whole.

Regardless of the level of commitment, everyone will be held to the same level of performance on field.

Q9. What is playing time like? How is the team organized for on field play?

This has been tweaked every year, however for the past two years our success has been exceptionally great considering at Nationals we have primarily rolled lines for all three days, all games. We are a firm believer in significant playing time for all players. Each year strategy does change slightly and Regionals are always a slightly different game.

Q10. I've seen people not on the GLIDE tournament roster playing on League Teams, is it possible to play with GLIDE and not play tournaments?

We have often like the abilities of individuals presented to us at tryouts however there can be a lot of parity and finite line space, we offer those that are not selected for the GLIDE tournament team and who are not playing in another mixed system to fill available slots on our league teams as a means of developing in the possibility of replacing unavailable players while allowing themselves to develop with our system. Additionally the development players who can not make the team outright but we have a strong belief in their capacity to develop that season to the level necessary for Regionals and Nationals will also be approached about filling vacant league positions and tournament spots with the same replacement concept in mind.

Commitment to our Spares: In the past 100% of our spares have been asked to fill in at tournaments and most have succeeded in being invited to attend either Regionals or Nationals with GLIDE. Typically the first individuals we look at for National spares are our league spares before looking outside of the GLIDE talent. We believe this shows our dedication to those that have invested in us and as an intelligent team, this invests in our future by developing interested candidates further.

If you do not make the tournament or league teams it is possible to still attend GLIDE scrimmages during the season as we require training partners. Contact us after evaluation or you may receive a general email invitation.

Q11. I've heard that GLIDE does not require you to do OCUA volunteer hours, is this true?

Correct. Our players are not required to perform OCUA volunteer hours, however we hope you are willing to help out with team administration when needed.

Q12. What are 'progressive scrimmages' or progressive tryouts?

We are different in traditional tryouts in that we ask interested persons to attend, demonstrate their skill and then integrate into lines with last years players so we can have a better sense of

how they would play within our system at a line level rather than with a group of strangers and trying to perform on an individual basis. There is no specific date for giving an offer to an individual, however we need to not only see both enough skill but also understand how they would fit on a line before sending an offer.

Progressive means people who demonstrate enough skill and that we can envision on a line will be asked to return for future higher level scrimmages.

Q13. Who is on the selection committee?

Head coach, Jason Solomon will be making all the selections. There is no selection committee, although he does solicit feedback and information from a large number of sources which include former GLIDE players, veterans and basically anyone (this can include you) at tryouts.

Q14. Who will be the leadership on the team?

Glide has a non-traditional, non-static leadership model. Aside from the head coach, there is no traditional 'captain' or 'assistant captains.' Leadership is selected at the line level by the head coach. The individuals are selected more on an as needed basis to develop and convey strategy & tactics and can change throughout the season. Input is often sought from the most junior player to the veterans, in the end the final decision of all matters on and off field is held by the head coach.

Ultimately we look to each player to develop their own internal leadership, to take it upon themselves to enact the strategy presented to them and most importantly to take responsibility for the on-field success of the line in which they are playing on.