

# GBHC NEWS



Gosport Borough Hockey Club Newsletter

December 2016

## Chairman's Message

As we approach the mid season break, and after recent events with the Ladies Section of the Club, it is a good time to share some information with our full membership about the Club structure and the principles which we operate to. Much of the message here was the content of a meeting with the ladies section of the club on 17 November.

## What does Gosport Borough Hockey Club Stand For?

We are here to promote the sport of hockey within the local community for all it's benefits which of course include fun, fitness, personal development, camaraderie, and social cohesion.

### *GBHC Extraordinary*

### *General Meeting*

*Monday 16th January*

*2017*

*@*

*Gosport Cricket Club*

*Pavilion*

*All members invited to attend.*

*Any apologies to Secretary:*

*sara.brooker23@gmail.co*



GBHC Men's 1st Team

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GBHC Ladies 3rd Team

## Gosport Ladies Section

The Ladies section have been lucky enough to welcome some new young players who are doing superbly so far in the season.

With some great tutorage from Gaynor, performances are improving and are looking forward to a bright 2017!

All the ladies have been more than happy to help out in all of the teams in recent weeks and are all looking forward to the rest of the season in the new year.



## GBHC'S Ambition

We have to be realistic about what we can achieve. We are a small club at the end of a peninsula and we will never be able to compete at the highest levels when there are strong, established clubs with better communications nearby. However, there are many things that we can do extremely well when we play to our strengths. We can be a family friendly club and, by integrating players of all ages and genders, we can provide an excellent place for young people to develop into successful adults in a healthy community.

### Key Principles

We must be a fair club in which all members have equal opportunity. This means two things: an equal right to train and be selected on merit to play for higher performing teams; and access to a fair distribution of resources from the Club.

Merit for promotion is made up from numerous factors that include individual skill, agility, competitive spirit, leadership and teamwork. However there are at least two other important factors. These include an individual's potential to improve when selected to play at a higher level; and the extent to which an individual displays other club values such as sportsmanship and volunteering. It is the players of senior teams that are naturally taken to be the ones setting examples of positive behaviour for the rest of the club so it is the combination of all the factors that constitute merit that the Club Captain, coaches and managers must use to select in a fair and open way that stimulates ambition.

For fair distribution of resources, it is obvious that more highly skilled players will need different input compared with others. However the general principle is that all members deserve club assets to be used in a way so that in each year they all have the same opportunity to raise their skills by one level from the baseline in which they started the year.

### Hampshire Leagues

We choose to play in the Hampshire Leagues and these leagues have a rule that clubs must promote players to ensure that fixtures in higher divisions are given first priority. No other games can be played on the same day in the league if the higher priority games are not fulfilled. This means that for clubs to function well their members must view themselves as Club not team players first and foremost, while trusting that they will be selection on merit and being pleased to represent the Club in that way.

## Mixed Section

**Gosport Hockey mixed game.**

On **Sunday 29th January** we are playing Romsey away in the 1st round of the England Mixed Trophy. We are hopefully going to take a strong squad of 14 with us. We are still awaiting the details with regards to time and place but if free would be good to see some faces and have some support. The squad selection will be made soon. Hope you all have a good Christmas.

**Rob Forrest , Mixed Captain**



## Mini's, Juniors & Youth

GBHC U8's & U10's recently hosted a Minifest where we saw 6 local teams in attendance, and despite the cold and chilly weather, it didn't stop GBHC U8's & U10's from playing some awesome hockey! Well done team, you were all fantastic.

There were some great games going on and awesome displays of sportsmanship and support on and off the field.

GBHC has support from [St Vincent College](#), the Community Sports Leaders who were brilliant whose efforts are very much appreciated.



Although a massive thank you must go out to all the volunteers of GBHC members, coaches and parents for helping out with the refreshments stall and to the younger members of the club for umpiring, some of which was for the very first time.

Well done to Sander (JLO), the organisers and coaches for your continued efforts and commitment for the club and to the youngsters who come and play each week. It was another great success.

Well done and thank you to all involved!!!

[#TheFuture](#)



U8's Team at GBHC Minifest

## Our Framework

Pitchero is used as a web resource to manage our membership and do various other important things. One is to host key club documents in a way that they are available for all our members to reference. The most significant documents are our constitution, rules, the roles of officials, and our codes of practice. On Pitchero these can all be found in folders under 'documents' which itself is found under the 'information' tab on the GBHC home page.

The constitution of the Club is the top level document describing how we function. It details the overall responsibility for running the club to 10 'Executive Officer' positions which are filled by volunteers who are elected into the positions by all club members every year at our Annual General Meeting. These Executive Officers also have the responsibility to 'co-opt' other volunteers into other committee posts or other roles.

**When new Executive Offices need to be elected mid season we need to have an 'Extraordinary General Meeting' (EGM) to allow all members to have a vote on who should undertake these roles. As a Club we now need to nominate and elect a new Social Secretary and Club Captain and there will be an EGM at 1900 on Monday 16 Jan at the Cricket Club Pavilion for this purpose. Everyone is invited to attend.**



## Gosport Men's 2nd Team

Mens 2's had some unlucky results but the playing performances have been outstanding and bodes well for the 2nd half of the season. Been some new faces coming through who have had a good impact, this includes new to the club experienced players and also a couple of the teenagers who have stepped up and performed excellently. Thanks to Nadz for their introduction, coaching and development.

## Our Club

### Respect

All our club officials are volunteers who give their time freely. When dealing with any group of people there will always be individual opinions. However being a Club official can be a difficult job and the volunteers who do it for us either in an elected or co-opted way must be respected. To be able to fulfil their role effectively they must be empowered to make decisions and have the authority to caution, warn or sanction members who disrespect them or whose behaviour does not fit the principles of the club. Of course our members need to know what these principles are and there has to be a system for developing and describing them as well managing any complaints that arise. That is why the club has a framework of documents describing how we work.

### Volunteering

Nearly all of our members will say 'I am really only here to play hockey' and that is just as true for most of our committee members. However we can not play unless we organise ourselves to do so and we need volunteers to do just that. In other sports, like sailing or gliding for example, this is often obvious because all members are required to participate in rotas for safety, launching and recovery duties. Our hockey club is not quite like that but our members all need to volunteer in some way for us to function well. This volunteering need not be for major roles but everyone should be able and prepared to do something that helps – from collecting match fees for a manager, to umpiring, running a training exercise, managing car parking at a minifest and so on. It is this form of investment in the club that makes it a rewarding club to be in and I urge you to offer what support you can to your captains/managers and other current club officials.



Taking the punch-line from an advertising slogan which typified our performances. We travelled with only 9 players to the outer reaches of Blandford to face table topping Blandford who, I discovered as they warmed up, played in white! With our oversized blue shirts sitting comfortably in my dining room I opted for the orange bibs as they matched my coaches t-shirt and we matched them until 6 minutes from time when they scored the winner, we narrowly lost 2-1 but with a showing like that (wait for it), 'THE FUTURE'S BRIGHT - THE FUTURE'S ORANGE'



# 2016 Successes

## England Hockey

Men's 1st team players Rob Forrest, Ran Forster, Rich Astbury trialed for England Hockey Mixed Team in the summer and after a rigorous selection process over many sessions and days, Rob & Ran were selected for the team. EH mixed team played test matches with the RAF at RAF Halton over the course of a weekend and after two gruelling matches that could have gone either way, the RAF triumphed overall with an 8-7 win against the EH side. Luckily for Rob, he managed to get 2 assists adding to the result.

Well done lads for your hard work and efforts during the trials.

## JDC & JAC

We had a number of our youngsters that attended JDC - Charlotte Toms, Libby Mell, Noah Meysen, Jay Green, Ellie Searle, Megan Johnson, Keira Thomson, Charlie Phillips, Angus Forster. From these development centres we had a few of them that were selected to go the JAC trials last weekend. Well done all and well done to Charlotte, Keira, Libby and Noah for which they are still awaiting results of their trials.

## More Trials

Ladies 1st team players Nadia Moore & Rachel Johnson attended a Hockey 4 Heroes Ladies Selection Trials on 18th December at Bisham Abbey, where they were put to the test not only with their hockey skills but with an Army PT session in the wet, cold and mud. They too are still awaiting results of the day.

## Congratulations!!

Our very own Gaynor Toms who was appointed England Hockey's Relationship Manager this year. Congratulations Gaynor we are very proud of you!

**We are very proud of all of our members and their achievements this year. Keep up the good work!**

**Well Done all!**



Dominic being presented with a signed Maddie Hinch T-Shirt by Alan Walker

This year we saw one of our most promising youngsters shine within the sport. Dominic Wilson had been representing Hampshire for his age group in the second half of last season before he went onto JRPC (Junior Regional Performance Centre). He was then selected and played in Tier one competition where the 3 Wessex Performance Centres play each other. From there he was then selected to represent England Hockey's U16 Boys Wessex Leopards at the Futures Cup where his team came away with Silver.

This selection placed him in the top 8 goalies in the country and is the reward for several years of hard work and determination to return to the EH Single System when previously unsuccessful.

Now Dominic is in the new cycle and has been selected to the Academy Centre (New JAC) and Southampton U17 Performance Centre.

He has also been invited (& accepted) into the Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme.

Dominic is a true example to any young player at GBHC that wants to chase their dream and is willing to show the grit and determination to achieve it.

Well Done Dom!

# Reporting

Just like the reporting of accidents or near misses is so crucially important in developing a safe culture in a workplace, the reporting of issues or complaints in a sports club is equally important to develop a healthy culture within a club. More often than not just a simple quick word about behaviour from a club official is all that is required to ensure the club remains a healthy, fun place to be – but everyone has a responsibility to report things that concern them or don't seem right so that something can be done about it. I hope it would be an exceedingly rare event, but if there was ever concern about an official's behaviour and a member wanted to make a report confidentially, then of course they could do this by making a report to a senior member of the committee who could manage it just like in a 'whistleblowing policy'.

# Social Media

The various forms of social media are fantastic for easy communication but they can be difficult to manage in a club because it is so easy for written comments to be taken out of context and cause offence. When this happens it can also be difficult to agree where the balance between the right of free speech and the responsibility not to show disrespect can lie. We have a social media policy published on Pitchero which gives examples of areas where care is required and I urge all of you who use social media to read it. The policy is about to be updated so that it states the media and accounts that the Club use for official business and how these media will be moderated.

Gosport Borough Hockey Club

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## Contact Us

Please visit our web page:

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/gosportboroughhockeyclub](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/gosportboroughhockeyclub)

Or email at:

[gbhc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gbhc@hotmail.co.uk)

We are also on Facebook & Twitter!



[www.facebook.comGosportHockeyclub](http://www.facebook.comGosportHockeyclub)



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*Merry Christmas  
one and all!!*

