



# SNAPSHOT

Edition 3 – October 2010

[ContactUs@SilsHockey.co.uk](mailto:ContactUs@SilsHockey.co.uk)

[www.SilsHockey.co.uk](http://www.SilsHockey.co.uk)

## Welcome

Welcome to the third edition of **Sils Snapshot** – your regular look at what is happening at Old Silhillians Hockey Club (OSHC).

The aim of the newsletter is to share information, encourage inter-action, and generally generate more of a social atmosphere for everyone involved in OSHC. *Obviously, it would be great if people could print these newsletters off, and leave them lying around in places that might help us to recruit new members – whether playing, social, or supporting.*

**Snapshot** will look to provide news on Club Developments, Social Events, on the pitch and off the pitch performance and also a way for members to learn a bit more about what goes on with the running of the club. Please read on in this edition for:

A Message from your Chairman, News from the Juniors, a Spotlight on your Club Captain, and some details around NewCo – a new venture for the Silhillians Sports Clubs.



Newsletter for  
Old Silhillians  
Hockey Club

## NEWS

The season has kicked off – the Mens 1<sup>st</sup> team are currently top of the league, most other teams have points to their names, and the Juniors have already played in one tournament. Check out Match Reports for some of the matches on the Club site – [www.SilsHockey.co.uk](http://www.SilsHockey.co.uk)

### *Other things that have happened at the club:*

We are now officially the **FIRST HOCKEY CLUB IN WARWICKSHIRE** to get re-accredited with ClubsFirst (the Sport England benchmark for good practise within a sports club); a number of our members walked on broken glass and hot coals to raise money for Meningitis Research; the Silz Festival was held and proved to be a **MASSIVE** success, and the club has continued to gain more players in both the Men's and Women's sections.

### *Things to look forward to:*

The Badgers and Vixens team are just having their fixtures sorted out, and should be getting around 3 games each before Christmas and a further 3 after Christmas.

“Battle of the Teams” – a social event to get everyone up the club for a bit of a laugh on one of the Saturdays in November.

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### View from the Chair – Steve Tabb; OSHC Chairman



Now that the season has kicked off, **Snapshot** aims to provide a slightly more matches-focussed look at the goings on in the club.

Both sections have had solid starts to the season, but could (as always) benefit from new players, further support on a Saturday afternoon, and more socialising in the bar afterwards!

The festival went well, with no reports of any major issues, thanks to all that played, umpired, attended or supported in whatever way – but a MASSIVE THANK YOU must go specifically to Alan Cave, Ian Rosser, Paul Griffin (and Tori), Sam Worster, Lucy Steele, Louise Hirons and the Friday night BBQ crew (Mar Dovey, Jon Cloke, Joe O'Malley and Matt Lee). The festival not only

raised some much needed funds for the club, but also helped to cement the club's reputation amongst the attendees as not only the place to come for festivals every year, but possibly also the most welcoming and friendly club in the area for new players as well. We have already gained 2 new members by way of the festival, and hopefully will pick up more in the future.

The committee is keen to support future Social Events, and the Men's 1sts held their first event of the year – a poker night – up at the club on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Further Social events to look out for are the "Battle of the Teams" – an evening of friendly competition between all of the teams e.g. Men's 1sts – 4<sup>th</sup>, Ladies 1sts & 2nds, Vets and even invites to the Rugby club, Football Club and possibly even Bloss; and don't worry, the challenges will be specifically designed to not be tailored towards the quickest, fittest and strongest. If your team is going to have a Social event, why not let us know about it, and we can advertise it on the website, and/or mention it within the newsletter.

The Sils Fantasy League will be up and running within the next few weeks – so please enter a team (or 3); the competition is free to enter, only takes a few minutes to register your team via the website, and provides a great opportunity to learn a bit more about the other players in the club. There will be cash prizes available throughout the season, and also a big prize at the end of the year for the overall winner.

We are also looking to run the Sils Murder Mystery competition this year – please check out the website for more details.

As a final note, can I encourage you all to Register on the Club Website – [www.SilsHockey.co.uk](http://www.SilsHockey.co.uk), and start using the Forums on there to share your ideas about the club – what we might do to progress, what social events you might want to see, questions you have for the committee etc.

**Why not log onto the website and enter the Fantasy League and the Murder Mystery?**

**Both are free to enter, and have cash prizes available at the end of them.**



**NOT ONE SINGLE PERSON** has volunteered to get involved with Umpiring or supporting social events.

The club **NEEDS** your help – so PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

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# OSHC Juniors



**Club Welfare Officer:**

**Steve Tabb**

[welfare@silshockey.co.uk](mailto:welfare@silshockey.co.uk)

**Sunday Mornings**

**10.30am – 12.00pm**

**Silhillians Sports Club**



**Juniors Co-ordinator:**

**Lucy Steele**

[lucysteele@live.com](mailto:lucysteele@live.com)

Each edition, there will be specific articles dedicated to the Junior Section at the club – this will highlight upcoming events, remind people of Welfare Contacts, and identify what to expect from the Juniors in the next few weeks

## Young Leaders

Are you interested in getting more involved in sport? Did you know that many schools and Universities look favourably upon people who have Young Leader qualifications? Most importantly, do you want to have some fun with your friends? Email Louise (The Course organiser) on [Louise\\_Hirons@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Louise_Hirons@hotmail.co.uk) if you would like more details about the Young Leader training due to be run at the club.

## Junior Development Centres (JDCs)

.....are coming to an end. From within the club, we have had representatives playing in the U13 Boys, U14 Girls, U15 Boys, and U17 Boys – all have benefitted hugely from the sessions, and have really enjoyed them. Please Contact Us if you would like your kids involved next year.

## Sunday Mornings

Have been going really well – with numbers dramatically up on last year. The club has entered U10 and U12 teams into the Warwickshire 7-a-side Minis festivals, which have already been played in Rugby and Warwick, and it is our turn to host on the 21<sup>st</sup> November (though this may be moved to 14<sup>th</sup> November!)

A BIG thank you to the various parents who have been assisting, it really is helping to cement our future.

## ClubsFirst

OSHC has been re-accredited with ClubsFirst (the England Hockey Board version of the Club Mark standard). This means we are nationally recognised as operating best practice and providing a safe and open environment for all (and in particular juniors) to participate. PLEASE check out the website [www.SilsHockey.co.uk](http://www.SilsHockey.co.uk) and click on the ClubsFirst logo to read all the associated literature e.g. Codes of Conduct, Welfare etc.

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## Jamie Clapham



Jamie has taken on the role of Men's Club Captain having previously been involved with Captaining the Men's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams.

His role is to ensure that team captains are supported with their weekly workload and to ensure players are getting selected in the correct teams as well as supporting the overall development of the Men's Section

### What have been the club's 3 biggest achievements in the last few years?

1 - The Astro - getting our own astro has been the biggest boost the club could have got. It is incredible having the pitch next to the clubhouse and has already seen it draw in some new players for the club and I feel it will continue to draw in players year after year.

2 - Coaches - the standard of coach we are able to entice to us now is a huge leap from a few years ago. It first began with Richard Lane - Cannock 1st team captain, England international; being able to get an international player in to coach us shows the desire of the club and has continued through Ross Haywood (Cannock 1st team, England u18), Gurdial who has coached at Midlands level for many years, and currently Dan Sulway, Olton 1st team and England Under 18. Having coaches of this standard will hopefully show in our league positions throughout the club.

3 - Club First - this accreditation (and being the first club in the country and the first club to be re-awarded it) has ensured we have one of the strongest mini and juniors sections in the Midlands which seems to grow every week I come up to the club on a Sunday and see how many little ones are getting into hockey through the Sils. Hopefully more and more of these players will continue on up through the club and one day lead the first team.

### What is your own personal objective(s) this year?

My own personal objective comes in on two levels. On a playing level I'm looking to continue my playing form as first team centre mid and one of the more prolific goalscorers, mainly so that I remain the most expensive in the fantasy league of course. And to get promoted with the first team as it has been too long coming. My aim off the field as club captain is to ensure that we continue to put out 4 men's teams every week and look to increase our player membership, as a club we really need to focus on younger player of between 15-18 throughout the club, as I believe we are not many more members away from fielding a 5th team every week which would be great.

### What lessons can we learn from other clubs?

From other clubs for me the main people to look at in recent years are Olton. They had their own pitch down a few years ago and are now starting to see the benefit. It was not an immediate knock on but came a few years later. This is what we need to look at. Over the next few seasons getting more and more people to join us and pushing all the teams up through the league system. Olton have shown me that if you focus on the first team and ensure they keep getting promoted the rest of the club will follow as they get their men's first promoted and now the rest of their club seem to be following suit.

Check out future Editions of Snapshot for details on potential developments with NewCo (see right) and also details about the early thoughts we are currently having about setting up a babies / toddlers' play area at the club.

### New-Co

The OSA has approached all of the Sports Sections with the proposal to set up a new company to manage the running of the clubhouse and the grounds. We are in the VERY EARLY discussions at the moment, but benefits would include some financial gains (rate reductions due to forming a CASC to run the club); management of the grounds being more specifically tailored to the Sports Clubs' requirements, and fingers crossed an improvement in facilities for the whole club (including changing rooms). If you would like to get involved in the exciting development please contact the Chairman at [Chairman@silshockey.co.uk](mailto:Chairman@silshockey.co.uk)

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