

AGENDA – THIRSK HOCKEY CLUB
Committee meeting – 29th September 2020 at 7.30pm
Zoom



1. **Apologies** - Jo Bowes, Sarah Webster, Gill Fox

Present -, Patrick Hunt, Myra Woods, Olwynne Dunning, Lorna Wilkinson, Rachel Garlick, Mike Rushmere, Kate Webster-Jones, Bev Longthorne, Julie Bower, Jo Grey, Darren Bradford, Lorna Wilkinson, Jane Tart, Hannah Secouet

2. **TAC Report** – the clubhouse is closed for all meetings and events until at least Christmas. Only the toilets are open for matches taking place

3. **Welfare Officer's report** – 16 new volunteers – all going well. Google forms are now being used, which are easy to use and seems to be working. DBS checks – volunteers are sending photos of ID for the checks. It was agreed that this was ok. The DBS have an 'update service' for DBS holders with other roles requiring a check, THC can use this to avoid repeat checks ourselves.

It was noted that team admin should go on safe –guarding course and have DBS checks, as these volunteers had access to personal information and had the opportunity to work alone. Lorna checked all team admin and all were covered by DBS and had current safe-guarding courses.

3.1. **First aid courses** – A request from a volunteer for 1st aid training was discussed. 1st aid was covered on senior match days by the umpires being 1st aid trained. If there was a need for training a more sport orientated 1st aid training was requested. North Yorkshire Sport run a 1st aid course. **ACTION:** to check the need for 1st aid training for team managers for junior matches. Lorna to send a list to Jo Bowes.

4. **Treasurers' report**

4.1. **Senior report** - £10,057.15 held in the senior account. Insurance has just been paid. THC will look at insurance options for next year. Change of signatories taking place for new office holders.

4.2. **Junior report** – nearly £21,000 held in account. Expenditure has been approx. £1400 for junior equipment for covid-safety. £6650 income from membership.

4.3. **2020/21 Membership payments** – junior membership, slower than last year, but this was put down to parents spreading the cost over monthly instalments, which was new this year. MR producing outstanding membership lists for team captains and junior co-ordinators to follow up. Membership is past 50%

5. **Secretary's report** – a steady stream on new members through Pitchero contacts. Mostly juniors, but some seniors. Have contacted junior coaches where numbers attending are high, nearly 50. The junior enquiries are mainly girls with a few boys and across age groups. There is a waiting list of 6 for u14 girls with a request to the coaches and age group coordinator to see what they want to do with the list.

6. **Covid-19 officer update** - the procedure is working well with people stepping up. A few minor incidents early on with players and members forgetting. Communication of rules going well at the registration point. Recording of players for match days is a bit clunky on Pitchero with Captains /team official need to send a list to Ewan.

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The track and trace system works well, but takes time daily – approx... 30-40 minutes as an IT exercise. It doesn't have to be the covid officer as the data manager, but Ewan will continue. All track and trace contacts deleted after 30 days. A couple of stragglers not completed EHPA. This needs to be done – no exception or not allowed onto pitch.

On the pitch at junior training the younger age groups tend to crowd together, but also the teenage age group and adult were warming up a one big group. Comms had gone out to coaches to stop this.

Off the pitch, dugout and when not playing - the 'rule of 6' applies. At the 1st league matches spectators were also too close and more than 6. They also behaved aggressively toward the umpire and team, which they were warned about.

Segregating kit going well.

The sanitiser were not as robust as expected with one broken already. We have enough sanitiser in stock.

The signage was a problem, not being robust enough and blowing over in the wind. **ACTION:** to develop more robust signage at 'control points'. Making signs larger and fewer, hanging them on the fence and weighty, so they don't fall over.

Overall we're still learning about getting back to play and how to make the rules work. THC has made good progress with no serious incidents. There are 370 + players going through the pitch weekly, an estimated 600-800 people with parents.

Positive feedback has been received from parents saying they feel THC has made the area safe.

HDC have been supportive of getting hockey back to the astro and our procedures. They are also giving flexibility for opening and closing up each training night.

The chair thanked Ewan for all this work.

- 7. Junior and Senior feedback on training, coach status, player numbers, GK status, volunteers** - We have had a great start to training with a good amount of players attending first few weeks' sessions. We did have some issues with getting parent helpers / age group coordinators but we are now almost fully 'staffed'.

U16 girls still need to confirm another coach as the one we had lined up hasn't been able to attend. U16 girls' session registration has been a small problem but we have a few parents who are on a rota to do this for us.

The junior players have got to grips really well with new Covid rules.

We should see in the next couple of weeks how our new age group coordinators get on with all match prep. We have been learning this together!!

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8. Senior feedback on training, coach status, player numbers, GK status, volunteers

- 8.1. **Ladies 1s** – 6 new members this season and too many players, which is a nice position to be in, therefore putting a formal selection process in place. Advised to speak to players to see if any were happy to move down. Good comms between the ladies 1s and 2s.
- 8.2. **Ladies 2s** – Agreed with ladies 1s re: nice situation to be in, but it will sort itself out, as still early days of the season, so some settling to occur. GK – sorted.
- 8.3. **Ladies 3s** – had 34 at training, but struggling to get teams out for matches. There was a need to check availability across 1s – 4s to be covid-safe and avoid doubling up of players playing across two matches.
- 8.4. **Ladies 4s** – interest from u14, but not a lot coming to matches. No GK for the 4s.
- 8.5. **Ladies Fixtures** – all going well and managing postponements. Will adopt the process of moving these fixtures to the end of the season, which is the process the men's fixtures secretary is following.

9. **Men's section** – 2 captains talking together to set squads similar to last season. Men's 2s are having to rest players, as too many but not enough for a development team.

10. **2020-21 YHL / YYHL league / EH Cup championships** - There was a query regarding U16/U18 girls EH cup nominations – **ACTION:** ask Jo Bowes for confirmation. Ewan to confirm covid procedure with YYHL. (Since meeting YYHL has been postponed until at least New Year)

11. Club kit supplier

- 11.1. **Kit update** – window open for supplies until Friday 2nd Oct. Mike is having to chase supplier for some shirts ordered in July. Sales rep that agreed the deal has now left the company. **ACTION:** Buy 6 ladies shirts to allow for new players. Ladies 1s & 2s Captains to agree sizes.
- 11.2. **Club numbers** – get club numbers from Mike e-mail him.
- 11.3. **GK kit update** – all GKs coming to training allocated kit. 12 to 13 GK at training all junior. Need u10 GK kit x 4. No GK have said they have any problems with kit. Still trying to track kit down and there was a question of kit being used for other purposes –i.e. schools when not wanting to play for club. **ACTION:** Chair to follow Jess Morley and Andy Watson and Ewan to speak to Sophie Poynton.

12. **Pitch & facilities** – dugouts a bit of a mess. **ACTION:** Chair to ask Nigel to repair them as they're owned by the club.

Training goals also need repairing, but these are owned by school and HDC. It was noted that HDC generally replaced all nets.

The pitch needs re-sanding and brushing as it was very slippy at the bottom end during Saturday's matches. This was part of the agreement with HDC agreed last season, but no work had been carried out during lockdown, not even emptying the bins. As we've got back on to the pitch the focus now is getting the pitch into better condition. It was noted that HDC had been more amenable this season and a great help in getting hockey back on the pitch.

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Queen Mary's School is now available to hire, opinions were asked as whether THC should use this opportunity. It was agreed not to take this forward at present, as everyone was settled at Thirsk.

- For matches it would be more difficult to organise umpires across 2 sites.
- Ladies section were happy with training, now using a full pitch on Thursdays.
- Concern was raised about 'silo'd training/groups if some groups trained at a different site and would not be part of the THC family.
- For junior section moving from Thirsk Astro, would be less inclusive to those not in private education and the club could lose its community group identity if we moved out of Thirsk.

13. **Social / fundraising** – Club trophies had been handed out. Any team trophies could be handed out by the teams. They can get the trophies engraved and then claim the money back.

13.1. **Centenary year celebrations** – agreed to postpone until after covid.

14. AOB

14.1. **YHA junior development update** - watch this space.

14.2. **Sowerby Gateway development meeting** in 4 weeks' time to talk about facilities. It was noted that although THC considered a small training area as part of earlier proposals, the more pressing issue was the need for updating the changing rooms not only for hockey, but for other sports too. HDC don't want to re-do the pitch, although it has reached its 10 year lifespan, as they want to tie it into other Gateway proposals. **ACTION:** Chair to speak with Gary Johnson and Jamie from EH for an update on community use agreement. Kate to send minutes from last meeting with HDC.

Meeting closed 9:05pm