

Timperley Hockey Club Review of the Season 2016/17

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2016-17 Highlights

Welcome to our first #OneClub review of the season as we bring together a snapshot of what all our teams have been up to in the 2016-17 season. With over 200 academy players, 11 senior teams and 18 Under 18 teams it's impossible to do justice in this short review of everything that's gone on this season but we hope it gives a real feel for the diversity of our Timperley #hockeyfamily and how our sport we truly span all ages, genders and abilities. The website is being update with more details including a short video capturing the essence of a season at Timperley so don't forget to make

www.timperleyhockeyclub.com one of your favourites and sign up the website and receive our regular updates.

This season we built on our #OneClub theme following our merger and have two key goals as a committee to focus our work that were developed at a workshop last May with members. We've tried to tie what we do back to these two goals this season:

#GreatMatchDay #GreatHockeyClub

We've still lots more to do and hopefully you've seen more small step improvements on and off the pitch in 2016-17. Enjoy this short review of the season and see more on the website.

Awards Presented at the Hockey Dinner

Congratulations to all winners and more awards will be made at the Academy Presentations Day and AGM on 14th May

Ladies

- The Terry Horan Trophy (Team of the Year) - Ladies Over 35s
- Ruth Evan's Chair's Trophy (Contribution to the section / chair)
 Rob Pates
- Jo Nicholson Volunteer of the Year Trophy - Jo Nicholson
- Most Improved Senior Player Trophy - Hollie Barton
- Paula Entwisle Most Improved Young Player Trophy - Zoe Murphy

Men

- Jenny Cup (Team of the Year / best performing) - Men's 4's
- Club Man of the Season (contribution to the section) -Shelagh Entwisle
- Young Player of the Year Ben Jones
- Most Improved Player Sam Chow
- 1st Team player of Season Dan Chancellor

2016-17 Season in pictures! See the video on the Website

Season Highlights

- Ladies' 1s retain national league status
- Mens' O50s runners-up in England Hockey Masters Trophy
- Ladies' O35s runners-up England Hockey Masters Trophy
- U18 boys EH Indoor National Finalists
- Men's 4's promoted & no senior teams relegated
- National honours for Ben Entwisle (U16), John Donnelly (Wales), Sarah Impey & Shelagh Entwisle (Masters)
- U15s girls' GMJHL winners
- U12s boys' Regional semi-finalists
- U11 boys' GMJHL winners
- U10 boys' and girls' North Regional Runners up and Cheshire Champions (girls)
- Nick Burnett, England Hockey 2016
 Club Umpire of the Year
- Shelagh Entwisle Trafford -Unsung Hero in Sport of the Year

Ladies 1's

IWHL Conference North – 9th

Having been promoted last season into the Investec Women's North Conference I don't think any of us expected the step up to be as high as we have experienced. It's quite possible that this season has been the hardest season in many of our playing careers, training twice a week and travelling long distances at a weekend.

An extremely intense pre-season meant our fitness levels were high and when the first match came, a local rival, away at Sefton we were comfortable with the draw. The fact that we held our own in this game meant our confidence grew as we took on one of the strongest teams in the league, Ben Rhydding, at home the following week. We were ecstatic with our first National League home win!

Unfortunately, the following games were not so successful and despite a gruesome training schedule by Christmas we knew that we were going to have to fight for our retention of National League status.

Our aim in February was to win our next 5 games. I can honestly say the drive, commitment and determination of the girls in this second half of the season has been quite incredible in order to try and achieve those goals. The entire squad turned up week in, week out, come wind, rain or shine and trained so hard for up to three hours at a time. A particular low point that will stand out for many is 9.45pm on a Wednesday night, torrential rain and low spirits.

Despite our best efforts our goal wasn't achieved. Without sounding too dramatic, the last few weeks of the season are a bit of a blur. The longest season ever and we saw it through to the end. After a very bold fight against top of the league Brooklands, we finished the season second from bottom. Cue the lottery of the play-offs.

Did you know?

We were ranked 2nd in the IWHL Conference North by officials, umpires and opposition for overall match day experience and hospitality!

Travelling to Exeter with our loyal supporters in tow and playing in 22° heat we came away with a draw, was bitter sweet for us. Exe HC beat West

Herts 5-2, we had a massive job to do in our final game. We had to beat West Herts with a goal difference of +4! Having averaged less than one goal per game throughout the season this was an *enormous* ask.

We turned up to our home ground on game day with our game heads on and were absolutely overwhelmed with a crowd of almost 200 people. This boost and show of support cannot be underestimated and we cannot thank the supporters and members of THC enough for turning up on that day and throughout the season, both home and away. We surprised even ourselves, beating West Herts 7-3 meaning we live to fight another day in the National League.

Jessica Mortimer, Captain





Mens 1's North Premier Division – 7th

The lasting feeling of this season from the Men's First Team point of view is one of disappointment. This is not because of how the season went as a whole but how it finished. Mid-table mediocrity, safe from relegation in 7th position. With how recent seasons have gone had you offered us a safe midtable finish before the season we would have been more than happy. The fact that disappointment lingers shows how different the season could have been. We started the season welcoming a new 1st XI coach, Albert Marcano, along with a few returning faces in Will Tobin, David Hans, and new to the club Dan Chancellor, we had assembled a solid squad when compared to previous years. The league season started with a nervy win away to Ben Rhydding but it was three points on the board none the less. We weren't to add to those three

points for another five weeks with a victory at home to Chester, that win saw was the start of 4 on the bounce, before defeat at Sheffield the only blot on the winning run that continued all the way to Christmas with 3 more wins.

At the Christmas break we were sat in second place in the league and very content with our first half of the seasons work. To finish seventh shows just how disappointing our post Christmas results were. In 2017 we picked up just 4 points with a win against Alderley and a less than average draw against rock bottom York. Our terrible season of two halves can largely be attributed to lack of personnel, whether it be to injury (we've had 3 broken collar bones, two requiring operations, one broken hand, long term back injury, groan strains, tendonitis to name a few) or player unavailability. I don't think we've had a full squad from which to select more than a couple of games all season. Players have to look at their own availability if we are to challenge at the top half of the league. Next season can't possibly be as bad for injuries as this so if we can improve availability and add a couple more players to the squad we should have a much more consistent season next year with a view to challenge to the top four the aim for next season.

Finally I'd like to thank Albert for his this season, He has been fantastic and a breath of fresh air to the team and club. He has made a real tangible difference and we look forward to working with him again next year.

David Halkyard, Captain

Ladies 2's North – Div.2 (South West) - 3rd

The 2016/17 season has been a learning curve for me and as a team we experienced some ups and downs throughout the year. We started the season a little shaky with a 3-4 loss against Crewe at home and a 3-3 draw against Urmston, however we picked ourselves up in true 2ndXI style and got ourselves back into a decent position in October. With a difficult game against Bolton we suffered a heavy defeat but availability from the squad and also across the club has been a real problem for us this season.

December saw us go seven games undefeated and slowly started sneaking up the table surprising our competition. The team spirit and atmosphere each

week was electric and it was clear we wanted every game more than our opposition! With only two narrow defeats in the second half of the season against Wilmslow, and at home against Sale we carried on in true Timperley style and kept racking up that green on FixturesLive!

On 11th March we travelled to Deeside. They needed a draw to win the league and secure play-offs. The side-line was packed with every man and his dog down to watch such a momentous occasion. But, not today we said! We only went and sneaked a last minute goal and ruined the party. As captain I have been so proud this season to lead the team and this game really showed me how much the team want and love to play with each other. We went and finished the season in 3rd place with 46 points, a massive 15 wins 1 draw and 6 losses.

Amy Cunningham, Captain

#GreatMatchDay

Improve the match day
experience for all involved
with hockey at the club with a
range of small step
improvements to pitch side
arrangements, changing room
allocation, more news and
updates, results board and
creating a welcome and
positive impression of the Club
for all home National League
Games (#GreatMatchDay)

Mens 2's North West Div 3 (South) – 3rd

The second team had a target of promotion this season. With a large gap between them and the first team, it's important that we get our second team up the leagues in order to further support the 1s and to allow effective squad rotation and selection giving depth to compete at a regional level.

The team started the season brightly (maybe somewhat too brightly, frankly!) in a big win over the third team, with both playing in Division 3. This was followed by a couple of close defeats, before going on a streak of six games without a loss. Another streak of six

wins on the bounce saw the 2s challenging for the title in February, with promotion in their own hands, as long as they won their remaining games. Unfortunately, a loss away at Deeside two weeks before the end of the season put a dent in those hopes, and the team ended up finishing the season in third place, just three points below the promotion spots.

Although they were bitterly disappointed to not gain promotion, the consistency of the sides selected and the availability of those players for next season is promising, as they push for promotion again.

Ladies 3s Cheshire Division 2 – 9th

This year was a season of two halves! Our aims for this season were to stay in Div 2 after last year's promotion, and to develop the younger players to help close the gap between the 2s and the 3s.

We had our two furthest away fixtures in the first three weeks of the season which, combined with the loss of several key players from last year's team, made selection for these first few games challenging to say the least! By the end of September things were more settled and we really started to gel as a team, so much so that by Christmas (helped slightly by not having any fixtures cancelled due to frozen pitches) we were top of Div 2!

We came back after Christmas feeling confident in a top 3 finish, but unfortunately, we lost our two strongest players in Ana Richards and Emily Clarke (how dare they get pregnant/go travelling in the hockey season??!!) availability in the 2s put a strain on all the lower teams. Sadly, we lost all but two games from this point on and eventually finished 9th out of 12.

Although this was not the end to the season we would have wanted following our strong position mid-season, we met our objective in staying up, and at the end of the season two of our young players were given the opportunity to play for the 2s. Looking forward to next year, providing we can retain a strong core of adult players, I believe the 3rd team should be aiming to finish in the top 4.

Clare Hornby, Captain

Mens 3's

North West Div 3 (South) - 10th

The men's 3s were always going to have a tough season, in fact their goal for the season was to simply stay retain their Division 3 status. A concentration on promotion for the 2s and 4s was always going to mean that the 3s would occasionally suffer from availability issues, and this became an increasingly frustrating issue as the season wore on.

With four games to go, the threes were in serious trouble, near the bottom of the table, in spite of our best efforts to prioritise specific games and ensure the strongest sides were made available for them. The team went into the last game of the season, against a high-flying Brooklands side, knowing that only a win would see them safe. A hat-trick from Albert helped to seal a thrilling 6:4 victory in front of a huge crowd on Pitch 1, with wild celebrations from both the players and supporters alike at the final whistle.

Next season will hopefully see an improvement in the fortunes of the 3s, as they push for mid-table security, whilst continuing to be a side which helps develop our talented youth players for higher things.



Kitchens of Altrinham our new Hockey Club Sponsor also replaced the Club's Kitchen units as part of their support for Timperley. Thanks for the support.

Ladies 4s Cheshire Division 3 - 5th

We kicked off full of positive vibes and secured an 11-0 victory in our first match. Moving through the next half a dozen games the team make-up was changeable and this was reflected in our results. So, after consulting with coaches and captains we altered our strategy to build a stable core of players and supplement with juniors and other players availability. From late November onwards this change in dynamic led to a change in fortunes and a much needed uplift in enjoyment. Quite often an increase in enjoyment is reflected in an increase in performance, and we demonstrated this with some cracking

performances securing positive results. Enlisting the experience and guile of our older players we formed a strategy and targeted key games to secure points based on the players available to us. This proved an excellent path for us and the team started to pick up points. As each team does we supported the higher teams which led to the loss of key personnel for the last couple of games. It's always a shame to break a solid regular unit up but all players understand the need to support the section as a whole. We secured 5th spot in the division so are very happy to finish in the top half with a positive goal difference!

We had 35 players who played for the 4th team during the season which reflects the changes we experienced. Please could players not book holidays and weekends away during the season seriously though unavailability is difficult to manage and creates problems.

Overall a cracking season, a heady mix of youth and experience is a winning formula. Bring on next season. Ruth Maddocks, Captain

Mens 4's North West Div 6 (South) – 2nd Promoted

After successive relegation seasons, the 4s were in need of a turnaround, and with a season target of promotion, drastic measures were needed. Drastic measures were taken, and in times of need, the fourth team has always looked to one of its stalwart players; Mr Taylor. Colin took the team by the scruff of the neck, and with the support of a few of his trusted (read 'old') colleagues, shaped the fours into an unstoppable force.

Pushing for promotion immediately and with the chance to win the league, the team did the sensible thing for the club and decided to settle for guaranteed promotion rather than pushing for the Division champions. In doing so, they helped to support the teams above and below them in terms of player availability, and whilst they achieved their goal of promotion, they also helped other teams to win key matches. Next season will be a new challenge for the 4s, as they re-settle back into the league in which they belong, but if they can maintain the strong core of players. there's no reason why they shouldn't be

sitting comfortably in the middle of the table come the end of the season.

#GreatHockeyClub

Improve what we offer as a hockey club from coaching to social event, competitive to social hockey, hockey camps, indoor hockey and how we are organised and run to enable us to attract and retain players, coaches, umpires and volunteers of all ages and standards(#GreatHockeyClub)

Ladies 5's Cheshire Division 4 – 9th

The 5th team objective was the same as normal: retain position in the 4th Division and develop players. We started the season with very few new players, just three. We welcomed Sophie Buttrum and Georgia Giles alongside Nat Scott from the Back to Hockey scheme. We hoped that familiarity of players from last season would mean we could start strongly, but it was not to be.

An opening defeat of 0-9 followed by another 6 losses, a win against Deeside (hoorah) and a draw took us through to the mid November. The run proved demoralising, highlighting how the team needed more experienced players to support the number of developing players. Too much of an imbalance was proving unsustainable despite the willingness of players to turn out every week.

Two cancellations in November allowed some respite (plus a dilemma to be solved by one of our most efficient parents who had to re-arrange a Click-and-Collect Tesco Order from Wrexham Tesco when our Away game there was cancelled!)

We therefore started December as one of three teams at the bottom of the division with 4 points but 17 points behind the next team. Relegation was a distinct possibility, but perhaps not widely known across the section.

We managed a draw (3-3) followed by a 1-2 loss at Chester. At Chester we led

for a long period against a strong team, although we lost right at the end it gave some of the players a real sense of belief.

From the last game before Christmas and then restarting in January we had a run of seven wins in a row including beating top of the table teams Alderley and Macclesfield (and also gaining revenge for the 0-9 loss by beating Lymm 4s). We were benefitting from "returners to hockey" – Penny Croquette, Cathy Wooldridge, Anna Mawby and Hannah Ascott back from "maternity leave". Rob Pates also stepped forward to take up the mantle of manager which helped hugely.

Not all these adults could play every week but the increase in experience helped considerably. Importantly it provided a better framework in which the U18s could develop. The combination in a couple of games of Anna and Hannah was a great sight to see. Their ability to develop the players around them, such as Georgia and Sophie was just what was needed and what was lacking in the first half of the season. Rob's management of the sideline meant that substitutions were made at the right time, maintaining the momentum on the pitch rather than based on rotation by minutes played. His one decree was that players play with heart and effort was really embraced by all members of the team and we really saw players develop in the second half of the season.

Special callouts also go to Amelia Gilchrist, Emily Ross and Sinead Quiqley for coming through really strongly in defence following a hard first half of the season. Libby Innes also battled through the season – as goalkeeper it was not an easy season. And overall we achieved our objective. I'd also thank all the umpires especially Mike Innes who umpired most often for us for their support.

The one key lesson learnt is that we need a balance of experience to ensure as a development side (be it back to hockey or U18s transitioning to senior hockey) that we provide the level of support to develop the players in the right way.

Helen Cue, Captain

Mens 5's

North West Div 7 (South East) – 7th Since getting promoted from the bottom division approximately five years ago, the fifth team has maintained its annual target of remaining in the division, and achieving a mid-table finish. In doing so, the team is able to support the development of youth players (including the likes of Sam Small, Sam Chow, Chris Young etc., all of whom have played at a much higher level since spending a season or two with the 5s), whilst providing a level of hockey which is both

competitive and enjoyable.

This season was a tougher one than usual for the 5s, with the division proving to be more competitive than ever, but with the 5th best defensive record in the league, it proved to be the scoring of goals that was to be the issue! With a number of tight games and tough results, the team turned things around after Christmas with a few good wins, managing to finish in a respectable 7th position.

Next season is likely to prove just as tough, but the team will continue to concentrate on the development of young players, while providing a place for the slightly more senior members of the club to continue to ply their trade in a competitive league.

Mens 6's North West Div 8 (South East) – 9th

The 6s had to withdraw from the league last season, due to an inability to get a squad out for games each week. Therefore, this season their target was to simply remain in the league and field a team.

This isn't as easy as it sounds, because when you are the bottom team in a club, it means you are often left struggling for availability. This leads to a sometimes weakened side, which leads to results you don't want, which can lead to demotivated players and therefore worse availability than ever.

It was therefore a huge credit to the team spirit that Dave Orpet created as captain within the team that in spite of only gaining five points throughout the season (three of which were docked due to having to miss one game), having spent three hours stuck in traffic whilst trying to get to Crewe for a game which ended up being cancelled anyway, and with half the team members being new to the sport, availability remained

positive and the team were actually thriving by the end of the season; finishing on a good run of form.

The future looks bright for the 6s, and we all hope that they can continue the turnaround in the similar way to that which the 5s did around 8 years ago from a similar position.

Thanks to all the businesses that have been supporters of THC this season:



11-13 GOOSE GREEN, ALTRINCHAM WA14 1DW 0161 233 0664 / HOUSERESTAURANT.CO.UK







Without their financial support we couldn't do all we do - so show your support for them too. Thanks too to MouseHouse Print in Hale for printing our IWHL programmes and SilverFx our kit supplier for their in-kind support.



Masters

Masters hockey is very much a growth area across the country as more people continue to play or come Back to Hockey. Masters starts at Over 35 for woman and Over 40 for men (who knows why we don't have equality!)

Reaching the National Finals at Lee Valley with our O50 Men and O35 Women's teams has been a wonderful way to experience and celebrate what hockey as a sport and community of friends is all about. It was a hugely proud weekend for the Club and thanks go to everyone who travelled to the Olympic Park to support and be part of the weekend. We didn't win but we certainly put Timperley on the map!



Mens (050s) EH Trophy Runners Up

The Men's Vets had a stonking run in the EH Trophy this year, captained by Col Taylor the squad with over 750 years hockey experience between them! Six straight wins and 38 goals the chaps reached Lee Valley in confident form to take on local rivals Formby. 2-0 Up in 11 minutes it looked like job done but a foxy Formby team fought back and a hat trick from 1980's former THC player, Allan Dalley, saw the team slip to a 4-2 loss and the heartbreak of picking up the Runners Up medal – still a major feat in our first ever Club appearance in a senior National Final. Thanks to everyone who travelled to Lee Valley to support the Vets.

Ladies (O35) EH Trophy Runners Up (See website for full report)

Well what can I say! After playing at Timperley Hockey Club for 17 years I finally had the honour to represent them in the EH National O35's Women's Trophy final. My teammates being the people I have had the pleasure of playing with since the beginning of my

hockey career supporting me all the way.

Our campaign started in October, with a a short journey to Liverpool against Merseyside Police. Obviously, players were cautious about tackling for fear of being arrested for unlawful use of a stick! With few mistakes and passes finding blue sticks we came away winning 4-1 to begin our trophy campaign. Next up we took on Wakefield at home and a 5-1 victory, then with growing confidence we came out 3-2 winners against Pendle Forest. Belief now mounting and a Leeds Adel came to Timperley and with Sarah Impey in great form we won 3-1 win.

For the Quarter finals we hit the road again to Leamington and a real hum dinger of a game having gone 3-0 up by half time we battled through and won 4-2. This is where we introduce Carole Savage more formally as coach to provide guidance and structure to our play. We drew Boots (Nottingham away) in the Semi Final missing Jersey away in the draw!.

The Boots game was full if intensity and showed the full ability and determination of the whole squad. The team knew the game was going to be tough and fast, point proven as early in the game Boots broke through and went 1-0 up. Timperley showed great tenacity and experience took the lead after 50 minutes. Pressure abisrbed, job done and a 2-1 victory and sheer relief at the final whistle! At that moment I could not have been more proud to be stood on the pitch with players who have put Timperley on the map, who are the backbone of the club and now are national finalist At this stage we had to say goodbye to Caroline Small and Catherine Weymss who were unable to make the final due to family holiday (selfish!!!) Your mission to get us their accomplished though and thank you all your efforts in getting us to there.

With about 5 weeks to the final it was time to meet as a team and come up with a plan. We agreed our aims, extra training sessions, playing the Women's 1's and personal fitness campaigns were embarked upon.

22nd April, the finals weekend had arrived, nervous excitement anticipating what was to come especially after

experiencing a tough season with the 1's and having to face a tense relegation playoff. I was not sure how much more my nervous could take! All the players arrived at Lee Valley and took the atmosphere in and enjoyed the facilities. Saturday was a way of warming up to such an occasion where we could enjoy watching the Over 50's men play. Saturday evening and time to switch on and hold a team meeting. All players focusing their minds and eager for Sunday to come round, all players received playing kit and the plan for Sunday. As a team sticking together to eat and share the moment with our supporters and family travelling with us we couldn't have felt more at ease and as#Oneclub.MATCH DAY was a fantastic experience, we didn't know much about Magpies but knew of speedy Lucy Field ex Timperley player who would be playing with a dynamic midfield along ex Olympian Kath Johnson, and a lot of players still in their 30's, made for a pretty good opposition! The team headed to the pitch to warm up before I had the honour in leading the team onto the pitch and lining up facing the supporters. The excitement increased and the team got together for the final time.

From the beginning to the end Magpies were dominant and continually applied pressure with their ability to move the ball quickly and create many goal scoring opportunities. Far too many for our liking and converting 8! Putting that aside the team didn't stop and kept fighting to the end which is credit to every single player on the pitch. We may have not won but I cannot take away from all the players their desire, belief, confidence and togetherness as a team. They did Timperley HC proud and the experience will encourage us to return next year learning from it and being even more determined. The team remained in good spirits and quite rightly celebrated the journey and all that had been achieved with a welldeserved drink or two, Woody!

From a personal point I cannot thank the players enough. What a way to end the season as I have with the 1st team showing belief and managing to stay up to, then representing Timperley Vets in an EH national final. All my hockey dreams coming true in the space of a week. I have worn the Timperley kit for 17 years and experienced many highs and some lows but this season is in my

top 3 experiences at the club. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has played their part from the players, supporters, finals kit sponso (Jane Ambler) and Ruth Maddocks for being a brilliant vice-captain and helping throughout the season; Carole Savage for your support and coaching that made a massive difference and all the supporters who made the journey down to Lee Valley

Rachel Small, Captain

Thanks to our Match Day Sponsor's

Ed Stropek, Helen Cue, Dave Halkyard (OES), Dave Litt (2), Jane Panteli, Nigel Stanhope (and the Xmas Turkey's!), Mark Appleyard and Roots (3), Rob Pates, Ruth Evans (2) The Small Family, Shelagh Entwisle, Manchester College

Ladies (045) EH Cup

Having reached the quarter finals in 2015/16 (losing in the game that can never be mentioned) we started our cup campaign in positive mood with a lovely 4-2 victory over Driffield in our first round draw. We enjoyed a wonderfully lavish spread including cheese board after the game with the oppo declaring it was the best teas they'd ever had...Sue P donated wine too...much appreciated!

Move on to round 2 where we had drawn Chester. Unfortunately, on the day they had more across the park and despite trying everything they secured a victory. They went on to lose in the semi-finals. We will come back fighting for our 2017/18 campaign make no bones about it. We mean business! Ruth Maddocks, Captain

Mixed

EH Knock Out Trophy.

We entered this EH Cup for the second season, with a team drawing on the higher end teams in the club. Mixed hockey remains an interesting beast and one that we still haven't quite cracked to progress to the later stages of the competition. Off the pitch we're doing well!

After two big wins away at Lytham (7-1) and home to Sunderland (5-0) we couldn't quite get the magic back and lost to a strong Stourport team 0-5 who are now in the Semi Finals of the competition. Thanks to all involved and

know we're getting to grips with competitive Mixed hockey here's looking to a Lee Valley appearance next year!



Academy Review

Wow! The end of a fantastic season with so many pieces of silverware to show for it! We may need a new trophy cabinet to house them! Congratulations to the U10 girls and boys who reached the final of the North Finals (no mean feat!), the U11 boys and U15 Girls winning their respective Greater Manchester Junior Hockey Leagues, the U12 Boys reaching the semi-finals of the North Finals and the U18 Boys reaching the dizzy heights of the National indoor competition in their first indoor season. A huge well done to all the players involved in these competitions as well as the coaches, managers, umpires, parents, grandparents and extended family members who have given up their time to support them and cheer along the way.

As one season finishes plans are underway for the start of the next. For the last three seasons Duncan Rudge has been the Academy's Head Coach however he is moving to pastures new, so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Duncan for all his coaching expertise and to wish him well in the future. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a massive 'Thank you' to all our volunteers this season. We are very fortunate to have so many of you (too many to name here I'm afraid!) and without you the Academy wouldn't be able to provide opportunities for young people to take up our fantastic sport. As a 'Thank you', the hockey section will be hosting a 'Volunteer Thank you event' on Friday 7th July at the club so please put it in your diary and watch this space!

Finally, I hope you all have a brilliant summer and we look forward to seeing you all on our academy registration day on Sunday 3rd September at 10am. *Woody, Academy Chair*

Under 18s Boys National Indoor Finalists

On a cold Sunday in December, 7 boys set off to Bradford to take part in the EH Super 6s Junior Championships for the first time in the Club's history, with only 3 ever playing indoor hockey before. The aim of the day was to try and win just one game, but overall have fun and enjoy it. A long day and 3 games later we found ourselves in the National Finals representing the North alongside Doncaster!! To guote the big man himself (Albert) "What have you done? It's alright you lot laughing and cheering, but this was meant to be a bit of fun. So although it's a brilliant result, now the hard work starts and there will be a lot of it!!" A few training sessions, a steep learning curve, armed with just the basics and plenty of 'bend your knees and get your sticks flat on the floor' later, we arrived at Telford.



This time 8 boys went and they didn't let us down. We soon realised the enormity of the task in front of us, as for all intent and purposes we were an inexperienced team and relying on the experience of Ben N. Jack E and Ben E. playing against teams that played indoor hockey regularly. But as always the determination of this team, their togetherness, team spirit and ability to rise to a challenge shone through. At the end of the weekend we had won 2 games and lost 2, which put us 3rd in our pool, but overall we came a very successful 5th in the country. Although the boys were a little disappointed, as 1 of the games we should have won putting us in the semifinal, from where they started to where they finished was a great achievement and something to be very proud of. Again to quote the big man "This year it was Timperley who? Next year when we come it will be Timperley, I remember them, they have a decent

team who will be difficult to beat." So bring it on!!

Kerry Smith, Player Manager

Under 16s Girls EH Club Championships

The girls only played two matches, so there isn't much to say! The first match against Brooklands the girls played well but were outclassed by a team who had obviously practiced together a lot more! However, the score of 10 -1 did not reflect the determination the girls put in!

The second match against Bowdon, the girls stepped up their game and were by far the better team! They fought hard and the loss of 3 -2 was bitter sweet! They came together and played hockey like a well-oiled team! Special thanks to Jasmine Lord and Phoebe Pardoe who stepped up into this age group to help us out! The girls were disappointed when their third match was cancelled as they were aiming for a win! Claire Taylor, Parent Manager

Under 15s Boys GMJHL

The U15 boys ably coached by Ben Wright and Robin Curnow this season produced several solid performances finishing mid table in the league this season P 20 W 9 D7 L 4

They were noted as having the best defensive record in the league only conceding 9 goals in 20 games! Jake Ashworth and Ollie Evans being key to this defensive outfit.

A number of these players have made their debut this season for the men's senior teams with the rest of the team looking to make that transition next year where they will show off their silky skills and speed amongst more experienced players.

A huge 'Thank you' goes to Jon Evans, parent manager for co-ordinating this team alongside the u14 boys team this season. *Woody*

Under 15s Girls GMJHL Winners

The girls who have been involved in the U15s this season have made our job infinitely easy! This group has benefited from those playing/training regularly within the Senior section. This adds a

little robustness to their game and a little more competitive spirit! Thus providing a platform for the rest of the squad who dovetail them so effectively. The consistency of their performances throughout the season has resulted in them winning the GMJHL for the first time! The strength and dominance of their performances was perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the season. It shows once again that the Academy is producing another crop of keen, attentive and competitive young players who will be fed into the Senior section!

Huge thanks must go to Staffy and Kirsty who have ably stepped into the breach to coach when Woody and I have been elsewhere on our own hockey ventures! Congratulations girls and best of luck with next season!

Léonnie Molloy & Woody, Coaches

Beavers (mixed)

The season 2016-17 will certainly go down as one of the most successful in Beavers hockey at Timperley to date.

The results speak for themselves: P 25 | W 21 | D 1 | L 3 | F:165 | A:49

This year's success was built on a solid defence as can be seen by the for and against tally. Emily Baxter and latterly Ben Hurlstone kept goal bravely and well behind a back three primarily including Roisin Driscoll, Jaz Lord, Jake Caborn, Ella Nicholson (great cake baking Ella!), Ahmad Kurdy and Josie Hatton.

Midfield was an ever rotating group playing a diamond system. Regulars who starred were Callum Brown, Wilf Roberts, Charlotte Lord, Hamish Gonzales-Sweeney (who transitioned well to the Badgers after Christmas), Harvey Freeman and Will McBride.

Up front the goal for tally was largely racked up by Rory Driscoll and Oli Burton but with excellent support from Tate Clayton, Kamol Stanford, Lauren McCall and Luke Jerome. Well done also to Josh Colquhoun-Lynn, Oli Hatton, Myles Harrison-Sterling, Will Pottinger and Dylan Wright.

Even by Christmas we were planning ahead for next season and this gave the opportunity for a number of Beavers to taste Badgers hockey and as a result for newcomers to experience their first full size pitch hockey. The latter included Ed Lord, Anna Judd and Katy Guest all of whom adapted quickly and showed real promise for next season.

Exemplary behaviour was demonstrated on the pitch and every player never gave up or questioned umpires' decisions and showed maturity beyond their years even if they turned into a jabbering rabble at half time and the before and after match team talks!

Finally, thanks must go to all the parents who supported the team so well, collecting match fees, ferrying players to and from games, arranging substitutions when called on and being vocal but positive in their support of good hockey for both Timps and opposition alike.

What a wonderful season and one that we, Ruth, Dan and Foz, have thoroughly enjoyed.

Fozzy, Coach



Badgers (mixed)

What can I say about this squad of players?? They truly are a team, not just on the pitch, but off it as well. This season everything that they were nagged about or worked on last season became second nature resulting in some fantastic performances and allowing me to say "I told you so", except playing with a 'spoon' did keep re-appearing every now and again!!

This season has covered all emotions from frustration to elation and many more in-between, as results haven't always been a true reflection of the game. Games against the older teams produced outstanding performances, both as individuals and as a team, reinforcing their ability and determination. However, they are definitely a second half team when instructions given before the start of the game, takes the first half and them

being repeated at half-time before it sinks in and is applied on the pitch!

Many of these players will now move on to the Senior teams, if they haven't been included in some of them already. Whether it be here, at Timperley, or elsewhere, I would like to say how proud I am of them and that it has been an honour and a privilege to be their coach over the past few seasons. I have enjoyed every minute and wouldn't have changed it for the world. On a final note I thank Alun, my wingman, and all of the parents for their continuous support, taxi services, constant supply of humour and most importantly 'Tilly sitting' as without them none of it would have been possible.

Kerry Smith, Parent Manager

Under 14s Boys

EH Development League

We got off to a rocky start this season with the boys U14 Development league. With Jon our ever organised parent manager chasing the elusive Bebbington for match day information! The boys have grown in confidence with each game, both on and off the pitch. These boys show a desire to improve and a real enjoyment of the game. Despite being forced to abandon games due to weather at Macclesfield. In addition to playing until five on cold Sunday afternoons; these boys have shown excellent levels of commitment. I hope they keep up their enjoyment of the sport and I know they will go on to do well for the club. Ross Small, Coach

Vixens (girls)

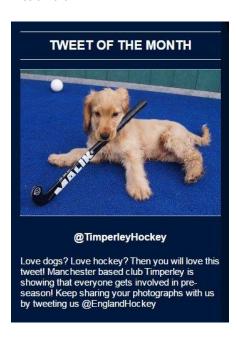
This year the vixens has been about developing the 12-14 age group of players into their transition from 7 a side to 11 a side as well as developing and integrating players who are either new to the club or new to competitive hockey. Friendly matches against local clubs have enabled the experienced to play alongside the younger developing players. This has resulted in some really competitive hockey and we can see the players are starting to understanding good positional structure and on occasions sublime passages of hockey. With our more experienced players involved in a busy season with the JAC and the GMJHL leagues it has allowed us to give all players the chance to play against other clubs. We will look forward to building on this next season.

Helen Judd & Ryan Guest, Coaches

Under 13s Girls GMJHL – 5th

This year the U13 Girls competed in the GMJHL tournaments at The Armitage Centre. Fielding a Year 7 team for four rounds and a Year 8 team for two. It is obvious that the girls have made strong improvements individually and as team players, benefiting from playing regularly at school and attending JAC coaching on top of the Sunday Timperley coaching. They finished 5th overall, mid-table out of 10 teams which was a significant improvement on the previous season.

Memorable moments...a move which is simply not taught in any hockey manual is Katy Chown's spread eagle dive to the sideline in an attempt to keep the ball in play and Roisin Driscoll's unprecedented scoring when she should have been at the other end of the pitch in defence. *Nicola Lord*



Under 13s Boys GMJHL – 2nd

The GMJHL is a challenging league with many fixtures taking place throughout the wettest and windiest months of the season. These games gave many of our U13s who are not yet playing in the Beavers the chance to play competitively against our local rivals. All the boys played to the best of their abilities and responded to the coaches instructions, even when it meant playing 'out of position'. Managers highlight was a 0-0 draw with Brooklands which saw us defend whilst a very strong Brooklands

team pushed hard to get more than a point from the tie. We managed to come 2nd in the league Won 14 D 5 L 3 with a goal difference +25. We look forward to seeing many of these boys make the move to 11-a-side playing for Beavers next season.

Adam Roberts, Parent Manager

Under 12s

Cheshire Minis / North Finalists

In a day that saw Timperley Hockey clubs dominate the Cheshire Minis the Boys U12s put in a great performance that saw them come runners up to a strong Deeside Team.

In blustery conditions they started strongly, quickly going 2-0 up against their first opponents, Bowden. In a rare lack of concentration, they then sat back on their lead and conceded twice to end the game 2-2.

Keen to make amends the boys bossed the next group stage game against Alderley Edge with the ball moving well from the back through the left channel of Myles to Will McBride giving the goal scoring machine, Rory, plenty to feed off. A 3-0 win to Timperley.

With Neston A up next the teamwork and stout defending saw Timperley earn a well-deserved 0-0. The ever industrious Wilf frustrating the Neston play maker in midfield. The final pool game saw the Coach rest his primary striker passing the baton on to Ewan seeing Timperley through to a 2-0 win. In the quarter finals they dispatched local rivals Brooklands 1-0 and then Triton in the semi-final.

In a final that saw the majority of play in their own half against a strong Deeside they unfortunately lost 1-0 finishing Runners-up in the In2Hockey Cheshire Minis and securing a place in the North regional finals.

In the North finals they played some fantastic hockey to win through to the semi-finals which meant they met their previous rivals Deeside again! Although they battled hard, Deeside were again too strong and went on to be the eventual winners of the North. A fantastic achievement by all the squad though and one that bodes well for the future of Timperley.

Adam Roberts, Parent Manager



Under 11s Boys GMJHL Winners

As the boys didn't attend the first tournament of the season, it was all to play for to gain as many points as possible to be in with a shot of the league title. From the start the boys were going to be competitive in this competition. Ben Hurlstone in goal kept a clean sheet until the final tournament the boys played in. He is proving to be a top class goalie. Ewan, Rory and Josh Higgin set their minds to scoring as many goals as possible. The boy's only real opponent was Brooklands. There the defence of Ollie, Toby and Zac had some work to do keeping nearly all the goals out. Joshua C-L, Reece, William and Ed all danced their way through the midfield creating chances for the boys up front and preventing the opposition from working their way through to Ben. A new member of the team Rohan showed real promise until he broke his hand mid-season! A small set back but still a valuable member of the team.

The title was in their grasps. They needed to beat Brooklands in the final game of the season. It was tense but the boys stayed calm and did the job. It was a great achievement to be league winners even with a tournament less under their belt. They boys have been a dream to watch and have a very promising future. Huge congratulations for putting Timperley on the GMJHL map.

Sarah Manson

Under 11s Girls GMJHL

The U11 girls welcomed some new faces to the club this season. We had a core

set of Year 6 girls, Katy, Fran, Lorna, Rachael, Niamh and Mabel. Some relatively new to hockey, they have improved immensely over the season. In order to field a side in the GMJHL we needed to draft in vounger year 5 girls. This gave them an opportunity to get a feel of a more formal tournament ready for their future at Timperley. The girls soon got a feel of positions they wanted to play. Niamh and Sophia were the natural goal scorers, Niamh really showing aggression to get the ball in the net. The midfield became strong and fast with the skills and pace of Lorna, Katy and Rachael. Mabel was proving to be a player who could play all over the pitch with her energy and enthusiasm. The defence was strong with Lilly and Charlotte holding the fort in front of Fran in goal. The girls maintained a place mid table throughout the season taking no real beatings from the opposition.

The girls showed real commitment throughout the season and have gained in confidence and experience to take with them as they move up through the club. They have shown real enthusiasm and even when it rained non-stop, they carried on smiling. Great job this year, everyone is extremely proud of you! *Sarah Manson*

Under 10s Boys Cheshire and North of England Runners Up's

So proud of our fantastic U10 boys who have gone from strength to strength throughout the season. The training really paid off and helped them come together as a team. Sometimes playing against boys twice the size of them (some looking very suspect that they were U10 – sure one of them had a beard!!)

They had an amazing performance in the Cheshire Cup winning every match until the final and to lose against Chester was a fantastic achievement!

The North Finals was a fantastic and daunting day! The first match was a big tester, going 1-0 down in the first half...they kept their heads up and when Charlie Heaven scored, the excitement built – Josh, the Captain, who plays like he was born with a hockey stick in his hand, scored the second and the boys were on a high!

The next match against Preston was a stormer, scoring goal after goal with a 5-1 result!!! Timmy played with relentless energy; Sahil and Ashmit ran up and down the wing on the attack and defence.

Playing Harrogate was tough, they beat us 3-0... meaning we would get the tougher draw in the semis...and that tougher draw was CHESTER.... The grudge match! After a disallowed goal and an Umpires discussion at the end of the game - WE WON!!!!!! We then had to play Harrogate again in the final. The boys massively upped their game! With great defending from Alex, Patrick and Charlie Evans (even with an injured hand from a previous match!) the boys produced an amazing 0-0 result. Charlie Woods did a fantastic job in goal all day. They lost on flicks but that doesn't take away from an amazing performance and a year of great improvement.

Coming 2nd in the biggest possible tournament they could have played in was utterly phenomenal and they should all be really proud! Bring on next year!! Jackie Heaven, Parent Manager

Under 10s Girls Cheshire Champions and North of England Runners Up

What a season! From a start of big losses against rival teams, the U10 girls decided to make themselves known! From nowhere came a desire to win, to be aggressive and to become a wellrehearsed team to beat. It was an incredible day winning the Cheshire Mini Tournament. The girls played as a team each with their own role. From goal scorers Hannah Simms and Lottie Nicol, to the brick wall defence of Megan, Ruby and Maggie along with the incredible Molly Andrews in goal. This team was getting known for being the competition! After sailing through the rounds thanks to the slick midfield of Hannah Tumelty. Hannah Van Tonder and Amelia Freemen setting up chance after chance for the strikers, the girls made it to the final. After a nail biting 0-0 against Alderley Edge it went to flicks to decide. The girls were not fazed by the pressure and all the preparation from Albert's extra coaching paid off. They were the better prepared team and won the game! It was unbelievable!! Without the support of Tim and Perley, the girls would never have made it!

This gave us a place in the North of England finals and what an opportunity. This in itself was a huge achievement. The girls again showed professionalism in their game and stuck to the plan laid down by Craig and Jo. From the group phase and another round of penalty flicks in the semis, they were in the final. As both Timperley teams played on what was an incredible pitch we were unlucky to lose. Not disappointed, the girls held their heads high as they were worthy runners up in the biggest competition of their age group. The girls have committed 110% to this team this year and are already setting their eyes on prizes for next season. You are all AWESOME!

Sarah Manson, Parent Manager



Under 10s Mini Tournaments

The mini tournaments held this year at our club have been a huge success. They give the younger children some experience of 7-a-side matches in a friendly atmosphere with a focus on development. Our club has fielded three teams in each one as our Academy continues to grow. It is always a fantastic atmosphere with such a lot of children getting their first taste of playing hockey in a mixed team. Thanks to the army of volunteers who enable us to run these tournaments: Jo, Neil, Anna, Kerry, Dan, Rob, Alex, Jim, Craig and all the young leaders who have given their time to coach our younger players, plus Jackie who has helped to organise the children who are attending.

The children have really enjoyed the mini tournaments this year, learning to put into practice the skills they have gained during training. You have represented Timperley extremely well with your conduct on and off the pitch. Well done to everyone who played, you're all stars of the future! Sarah Manson, Parent Manager

AGSB Success U16s School's National Championships 3rd place

Five of our homegrown players represented AGSB at Lee Valley in April. They had made it to the National Finals having successfully navigated local and regional rounds.

The boys fought hard against their Public School counterparts and narrowly clinched a penalty shoot-out to secure third place. This is a huge achievement for the boys, following their appearance at National Indoor Finals in January. It is great to see our youngsters doing well on such a big stage...hopefully a sign of things to come!



Hockey Development Review

This year has seen a huge additional commitment and investment made into supporting both senior and junior teams in cup runs and competition. The hockey committee, coaching teams and the volunteer are to be commended in their efforts to support in every way possible the objectives of Timperley Hockey club. Outcomes have really put the club on the map nationally when it comes to England Hockey finals and retaining the status of Investec Conference North league.

Examples where the Timperley Hockey Club have developed the programme it offers include:

- * Full club preseason training including fitness sessions
- * Back to hockey
- * Coach and volunteer development Safeguarding & First Aid workshops, L1 umpiring
- * U10's/ U12's Boys and Girls training for finals
- * New GK academy

- * Indoor training Boys U18's and Women's 1's team
- * Vets Men's O50's and Women's O35's
- * Women's 1X1 Monday nights.

The above have all benefitted from additional sessions to prepare them to do battle in respective competitions. The aspirations of the club and the teams continue to grow and success follows. There have been hard lessons at times to be learnt, but we are learning, and as a committee remain dedicated to developing a great club experience for all its members and promote THC as a great club.

Things you may not know about!

School holiday hockey camps – Having commenced in October half term with an average of 12 children per day the camps success and popularity has grown over the Feb and Easter holidays doubling in numbers each time. The coaching team has therefore expanded to support the main coaches Albert and Jim to include 1st team players and Timperley Hockey club's young leaders to ensure all participants are well looked after.

Schools Outreach Programme – This season Timperley Hockey Club Coaches have been very busy throughout the season providing both in curriculum and after school hockey sessions to over 150 children in a number of local schools. These are Wellington Rd, St Ambrose College and St Ambrose Prep school and Oldfield Brow Primary School. The programme at Altrincham Grammar School for Boys (AGSB) achieving a new school record by making it through to the England Hockey Schools National finals and finishing 3rd.

Quicksticks festival – A great afternoon of hockey hosted and organised by Timperley Sports Club to introduce Quicksticks (an adapted version of hockey aimed at 7-11year olds). Children from 7 different primary schools Yr3/4 (180 participants) were challenged to perform in a number of practices to develop core skills needed to play hockey. To support the event, a total of 45 young Leaders were provided with training to use the resources and support the delivery of the festival.

Thank you to all involved from Trafford College, Blessed Thomas Holfords, St Ambrose College and Timperley Hockey Club. The afternoon could not have gone ahead without them and has proven to be a popular event for schools over the last 2 years that really enables us to showcase the facilities and engage with potential players of the future.

Quicksticks Tournament – A qualifying event for the Greater Manchester School games, Timperley Sports Club again hosted and ran the tournament that involved 120 participants to find a winner to represent Trafford in the games. St Hughes went through after a close fought final and finished 3rd in the overall games. Again reliant on a large pool of volunteers, 35 young leaders from Trafford College and 5 Timperley Hockey club young leaders supported on the day to umpire and manage pitches to ensure it ran successfully.

Quicksticks Young Leaders certificate – A great response from 20 young leaders from Timperley Hockey Club and 35 Young Leaders from Trafford college completed 5 short modules that introduced basic concepts to

Quicksticks coaching and event organisation. This provided some inhouse training to support the previously mentioned Quicksticks Festival and Tournament and hopefully more events in the future.

Primary Schools Hockey League – 16 primary schools enter the league and compete on 5 occasions over the season in a round robin league. The Bollin Primary School were crowned as winners and fought off the challenge from St Hughes and Stamford Park. Brilliant to see so many children taking part in competitive hockey with their school mates. A big thank you to Jim McCall organising behind the scenes and Wellington Road young leaders who turned out consistently to umpire the matches, also Alex McBride and Alex Pepper who supported myself running the event.

Salford University – THC provided a coach for the team's training and umpires for their matches throughout the season. Thank you to Albert Marcano, Nick Burnett, Phil Marsh and Duncan Brown for playing their part in

fulfilling the service agreement on behalf of TSC.

What's still to come:

- * Coach development programme -Masterclasses, workshops and mentoring for coaches and aspiring coaches both senior and juniors.
- * Volunteers recognition and reward scheme.
- * Expand playing opportunities -Walking hockey, Rush Hockey, Back to Hockey.
- * Promoting and Publicising
- * Clubmark re-accreditation
- * Develop hockey programme on offer to be relevant in the community Caroline Small, Hockey Development Chair

COACHES

Thanks to all our coaches and to Caroline Small who's been developing a coaching framework for next season that covers all ages/genders and we hope will help more people to get involved in coaching and playing

Ladies coaches: Mike Power; Jamie Buxton, Danny Higgin, Albert Marcano and Carol Savage

Mens coaches: Albert Marcano, Rick Kenefick and Ed Stropek (Noel)

And all our **academy volunteer** coaches and Head Coach Duncan Rudae.

UMPIRES

We took a big step this season and with the support of Kieran Jeffrey set up a signal approach to finding and allocating umpires to all Saturday games. Finding 13 umpires a week is no small feat and thanks to everyone who has umpired for us this season – often doing two games or playing and umpiring and travelling across multiple North West venues! We also started to make headway on our umpire development pipeline coordinated by Nick Burnett. This work has been tough with lots of good intent and support but few making the step to blow the whistle. Nicks tenacity to stick with this and give time to coach and develop

new umpires supported him being award the 2016 EH Club Umpire of the Year and we're delighted his grassroots contribution was recognised at the highest level.

As well as running a level 1 course at the Club for all ages we're delighted that Ade Luther, Rod Judd and Neil Hornby all qualified in the season a Level 1 umpires.

REPRESENTATIVE HOCKEY

England

Ben Entwisle (Under 16) Shelagh Entwisle (Masters) Sarah Impey (Masters)

John Donnelly (Masters)

North Masters

Shelagh Entwisle Sarah Impey Fiona Inglis Jo Nicholson Sue Paterson Colin Taylor Nigel Stanhope Stu Nicholson **Duncan Brown**

Lancashire (Senior)

Léonnie Molloy (Captain) Cath Thompson

Cheshire (Senior)

Alex Pepper

North U21 Squad

Alex Pepper

England Hockey Regional Performance Centres

Bovs

Ben Entwisle (England U16)

Ben Jones

Ben Nicholson

Girls

Alex Mulligan

England Hockey Junior Academy Centre's (JAC) Girls (U16)

Issv Broadhurst Sophie Buttrum

Hannah Salter

Elvsia Zdolvnv

Boys (U15)

Chris Young

Boys (U14)

Callum Brown

Jake Caborn Ollie Burton

Girls (U14)

Emily Baxter Roisin Driscoll Josie Hatton

Charlotte Lord

Boys (U12)

Wilf Roberts Will McBride Harvey Freeman

Ollie Hatton

Tensworth (U14 North West Invitational Squad)

Wilf Roberts





Ben and Shelagh Entwisle England caps

And finally...



A big thank you to all our volunteers! We wouldn't exist without your time and efforts! #HockeyFamily @EnglandHockey

Behind every game, every team and every hockey ball that's hit sits a samll army of volunteers who make it all happen and without whom hockey wouldn't happen.

Thank you to everyone whose made hockey happen at Timperley this season, especially all our captains, and all committee members.

There will be a full report at the Hockey AGM on Sunday 14th May and we will update the Website with the wider review of the season.



Summer Time

Make sure you keep up to date with all the action, news and updates over the summer by following us on social media, or the website.

www.timperleyhockeyclub.com

@TimperleyHockey

Timperley Hockey (Facebook and Instagram)





