



ISSUE NO 4- NOVEMBER 2015

Timperley Hockey Club

Blue Notes

www.timperleyhockeyclub.com

@TimperleyHockey

Moving forward!

The next big milestone of our merger is now complete and the new committee were formally elected at the EGM held on 3rd October. Thanks to all who attended.

After nine months work we are now at the start of a new era for hockey at Timperley Sports Club. We've a long and proud history going back to 1886 for the men, the early 1920's for the ladies and the mid 2000's for the academy in its current form. Our immediate priority is to the basics up and running over the next few months as we bring three ways of doing things into one !

We've a session planned with the new team on Monday 7th December to start to look at our Hockey Development Plan (2015-18) and how we work together.

There are also more socials planned to build on that side of the hockey section and lots of cup hockey to watch on Sunday's over the next few weeks !

Blue Notes also now had dedicated sections for the Chair, Club Captain's and Academy and Mark, Alex, Cuey and Woody will be sharing their thoughts and updates over coming issues on how things are going. We've also be looking to have guest features from other role holders to give members the chance to find out what's going on behind the scenes as well as on the pitches !

Thank you to everyone who has helped get us this far, made it possible for over 300 people from aged 5 to 50 + play

hockey every week, and for being patient whilst we 'bed in' the new ways of doing things. A special thanks also to all our umpires who have crossed the North West to umpire for academy & senior games.

A big thank you to all our volunteers who have taken on roles within the new structure

Core Committee	Proposed
Chair	Mark Andrews
Vice Chair	Shelagh Entwisle
Secretary	Malcolm Tucker
Development Co-ordinator	Caroline Small
Treasurer (Co-ordinator)	Stuart Nicholson
Men's Club Captain	Alex Morley
Ladies Club Captain	Helen Cue
Academy Co-ordinator	Jo Nicholson
Other Roles	
Membership & Sub Secretary	Jenny Hartley - with Rob Judd (academy database).
Fixture Secretary	Hannah Ascott - Kieran Jeffrey (men) & Shelagh Entwisle (academy)
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Ruth Maddocks
Child Welfare Officer	Steph Ashworth - with Ruth Brown (DBS liaison)
Umpire Co-ordinator	Kieran Jeffrey
Young Leader Co-ordinator	Dan Caborn
Social Secs	Amy Cunningham + Vacancy for Men
Communications	Shelagh Entwisle & Jackie Lord

- From 26th November – October kit orders due for delivery
- Fri 4th December – TSC Hon. Life members and VP's Dinner
- Sun 13th December – Cheshire Cup Semi Final – M's 1 v Neston (home)
- Sun 13th December – last Sunday Academy training before Xmas
- w/c 14th December – last academy and senior training before Xmas
- 19th December – Xmas Extravaganza +Xmas Draw + Live band – all welcome
- w/c 4th January – mid week academy & senior training restarts
- Sun 10th January –Academy training
- 23rd January – January social event
- 18th – 20th March – Beer Festival, end of season social & Mens Vets Tournament

Stay in touch with THC:
Sign up to join the website
www.timperleyhockeyclub.com

Follow us on Twitter
[@timperleyhockey](https://twitter.com/timperleyhockey) and on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/Timperleyhockey>

Vacant Roles	
-Website Admin -Ground Rep -Fund-raising Sec - Merchandising & Kit Co-ord	Find about more about the roles on the web or talk to interim role holders to find out more

THE CHRISTMAS DO



This year's "Christmas Extravaganza" will be on Saturday 19th December at the Club – look out for full details. We hope that everyone will make a special effort this year to support the event and our new Social Sec's team who will be organising the event with Dave Howarth.

Plans will be unveiled shortly and will include:

- Activities for younger member and players children during the afternoon
- Academy parents v kids games (tbc)
- The now infamous TSC Santa's grotto
- Hopefully some senior social hockey (watch this space)
- The TSC Xmas Draw including the chance to win £200 on the night – find out more later in the Blue Notes
- Live Band and general merriment into the night!

The day is designed to offer something for everyone young, old, party animals and all are welcome. Families welcome.

The Club Executive has also agreed to cover the cost of the Band so there will be not charge for the evening so even more reason to pop in for a drink, a few or the whole day.

We also need hockey members and parents to donate a bottle, chocolates or pampering items so we can create hampers as our section contribution to the Draw. Please leave donations with the academy admin team, your captain or the box in the committee room



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Mark Andrews – Hockey Chair

I'm not a big one for the desperate measure, generally I like to plan ahead and have everything sorted out in advance. Half term at the end of October however saw one of those desperate times, with lots of men's players away and the real possibility that we wouldn't be able to get our 6th team out. What else could we do? All I could think of was to approach the Academy – were any of the Badgers available and wanting to play? – and the Academy parents – I think my email asking if any dads could help gave the correct impression of on-my-knees pathetic-ness!!

So what happened? First of all two of the Badgers were free and could make the match. Part way there. Next I began to get messages from parents – several understandably weren't available because of the school holiday but took the time to reply and wish me the best, as well as saying they might be able to help in the future. Then finally a text and an email from two dads saying they could make the match, hadn't played for a long time but were prepared to help out the team.

And we had 11 – and we won, our first victory of the season! Jack and Harry from the Badgers both scored, and dads Angus and Anthony got stuck in and made sure the other side couldn't.

So why am I mentioning this? First of all to say a massive thank you to everyone who provided their support, both those who played and those who couldn't but got in touch. And secondly because this highlighted to me the reason why we decided to go down the line of merging the men's and ladies sections, and why so many people give their time for Timperley Hockey Club. That reason is simple – we are all an essential part of THC, we share everyone's successes and failures, and we always support each other.

Enjoy this latest edition of Blue Notes, skilfully put together as always by Shelagh. I hope to meet everyone in the club over the next few months. If you have any thoughts about how we can make THC even better, or want to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us at mark.andrews90@ntlworld.com



NEW PLAYERS

We welcome new players of all standards and ages to the Club. Whilst slotting into training works well for experienced adult players and Under 18's we recognise that is your someone who wants to give hockey a go it's not always as easy to make those first steps onto the astro!

Our new Development Co-ordinator, Caroline Small is putting together a number of sessions aimed at parents and those adults either new to hockey or who haven't played for a few years. Sessions will be open to anyone so do help spread the word to help get a good crowd down. You don't need to want to play in matches as the aim is to get people picking up a hockey stick and see where it takes them !



The initial sessions will be aimed at academy parents (Mum's and Dad's) – and having seen the determination shown in our parents v kids games we know there are some budding player's out there! Sessions will be held on a Sunday morning during the regular Academy training slot for an hour.

Provisional dates are:

- Sunday 29th November
- Sunday 6th December
- Sunday 17th Jan
- Sunday 31st Jan
- Sunday 21st Feb
- Sunday 6th March

If you know of anyone that may be interested drop an email to timperleyhc@gmail.com with their

details and we'll get in touch with more details. Or ask them to pop down to the club when the Sunday sessions.



In the New Year we will be looking to put on 'Back to Hockey' sessions mid-week. Look out for full details.

We also welcome new players who may have moved to the area or had a break from playing. If you come across people at work, socially or through family and friends do tell them about Timperley and encourage them to come and find out what we've got to offer on and off the pitch.

CONGRATULATIONS TO....



..the three Ben's (Entwistle, Jones and Nicholson) who were all selected to play for Pennine Puma's as part of England Hockey's Single System programme.

Ben Nicholson has been selected to join EH's Under 16 Boys National Junior Programme assessment for 2015-16, following the recent Futures Cup tournament

Ben will attend a number of coaching sessions as part of the final stage in selecting the England Hockey Under 16 National Age Group (NAGs) squad. The final England Squad of 26 will be selected in the new year.

This is a fantastic achievement for Ben and we wish him all the best for this final stage of the England Hockey Single system. Ben is also following in the Wood family's footsteps after his Mum Jo (Woody) who played for England Under 18's and Uncle Nigel (Wood) who played for England Under 23's !



HOCKEY ACADEMY

Jo Nicholson (Woody) – Academy Co-ordinator

With over 200 junior members (aged 5-16) registered with Timperley's hockey academy this year, our season, as you can see, has got off to a busy start!

A huge thank you has to go to all the parent managers and helpers, coaches of the various age groups, young leaders, umpires and the committee behind the scenes. Without all your help (and there are too many to name on here but you know who you are!) we wouldn't be able to run the 18 junior sides that we do across all the age groups and in all the competitions!



I know we have had some great games/tournaments already this season but just want to highlight one or two

- Some excellent skills on show in our u10 mini tournaments (the seniors could learn a lot!)
- Scary outfits on show for our Halloween interclub special 'Vixens v Beavers'
- Great results for the u14 boys in their development league games including a 12-1 win over Oxtom!
- U15 girls being top of the Greater Manchester Junior Hockey League – Go Girls!
- Two fantastic u18 girls EH cup wins to take them into the third round of the plate v Wakefield
- And lots more to come.....



As well as on the pitch games and tournaments this year, we are also trying to develop more formally some of the qualities and attributes of our Young Leaders (year 9+) and fed some of them with healthy pizza and soft drinks a week or two ago whilst we picked their brains about how we could do this.....so watch this space...more to follow!

We have some great juniors transitioning through into our senior sections every year; they don't just arrive from nowhere!

So....if any parent or anyone from the senior sections wants to give back into our junior section/has some great ideas in order to help us continue to improve.....there's always a role for you no matter how small (or large) so please catch up with me!

Thanks
Woody
(Academy co-ordinator)



There's nothing the Academy players love more than dressing up and a bit of hockey and Halloween kept the tradition going with a great turnout.



Under 16 Girls enjoying their EH outing to Deeside – not victories on the pitch but they won hands down for enjoying their hockey !



Captain's Corner

Helen Cue – Ladies Club Captain

Hello from Cuey!

Well I don't know about you all but I am finding the "Blue Notes" great for pulling lots of info together for us all - so thanks to all contributors.

Now onto What's on My Mind at this point of the season with around 5 matches left before Christmas. First a quick look at league positions in their divisions :

1s	North Prem - 4th P8: 4W 3D 1L
2s	North Div 2 - 5th P8: 4W 1D 3L
3s	Ches. Div 3 - 2nd P8 8W
4s	Ches. Div 3 7th P8: 2W 1D 5L
5s	Ches. Div 4 6th P8 3W 2D 3L

So from the point of view of what we what we agreed at the start of the season we are not doing badly 😊 The 3s are maintaining that top 2 place alongside Rhyl and just ahead of Wilmslow - which means that the strategy of pushing for 3s promotion is still there for grabs.

Alongside that we targeted top four (or better) finishes for 1s and 2s - challenging in those Divisions and maintaining good safe table positions for 4s and 5s. So I think we can all be pleased so far.

I think having these clear targets has helped us all - we (captains and coaches) have used it to help make some tricky decisions at times eg. One weekend the 2s played with a kicking back to allow the 3s to take a keeper. I was so pleased that at selection the captains and coaches were all in agreement with that decision as we could all see the bigger picture. Decisions like this are never easy but we had the confidence to know we were doing it for all the right reasons.

Alongside that I am really pleased that we have had good movement between teams and in doing so really have created strength in depth across the teams.

One thing that could scupper our best laid plans would be if we end up having to concede any game due to lack of umpires. We have had one or two instances where our oppo have got caught in traffic and it struck me recently that for some of the teams if our umpire was delayed at all we wouldn't have anyone qualified (or part qualified) to step up and umpire - which means we would lose precious points.



So each team is targeted with getting two people qualified - the first step is to take the online test. The good news is - the test is free and it improves your knowledge of the rules as well. The link is <http://rules.englishhockey.co.uk/> and you just keep re-taking it until you pass.

That now brings me onto training. Training/coaches and league/affiliation are our biggest costs so we need to make sure we are getting as much as we can from the money we spend. The work we did over the summer and in the early part of the season with the coaches has stood us in good stead. But as we get further into dark cold wet nights (yes I know it's mild at the moment but this won't last!) then please do make the effort to get down. The more we train together and get common approaches through all the sides the more success we will get. I'd like all our opposition teams to come off against us saying "wow they were good - you can tell they train together". If you are a regular player please do try and get down as often as possible - and as someone who falls into the over 50 category I can assure you that we can all learn new stuff (yes you can teach an old dog new tricks!)

As well as the League we also have the various Cup Competitions - and the 22nd Nov is a date to look forward to - we have U16 Girls, U16 Boys, U18 Girls, U18 Boys and at the other end of the age group the Women's over 45s (local derby against Bowdon). So check the rest of the newsletter for fixture times on the 22nd.

I mentioned Christmas earlier which of course brings me to the Christmas raffle - and the tradition of donating a Drinks

Hamper. So please be ready to buy and sell raffle tickets - and donate bottles for the Hamper (or for those U18 ask your parents to donate). Over the next couple of weeks you'll hear more of this via Captains or Amy Cunningham our Social Secretary.

On a lighter note - some highlights for me

- The 2s beating Bowdon - with a kicking back (Woody) - what a fantastic team performance
- Getting 5 teams out on the nightmare half term Saturday- despite 28 players being unavailable that Saturday we managed to get 5 out and not concede any matches
- Lily Maddocks playing in goal against Oxtou - a stormer in goal
- Fiona Small padding up and saving penalty flicks in the U18 cup game
- Jaffa cakes instead of oranges at half time
- Seeing the Vulcan Bomber on one of its last flights fly over the 5th team matches

And some Thank Yous.

- to Kieran Jeffries for all his work coordinating the Umpires across all the matches and all the Umpires
- Hannah Ascott (aka Jeffers) for all the fixtures work - and for all her work over the last few seasons as second team captain - Thank you
- U18 coaching by Sophie
- everyone who has helped sell the Bonus Ball - it's a nice little earner as they say and can raise £29 every Saturday (and £30 prize to someone as well) (a steady additional income stream for us)
- every non keeper who has played in goal (Fiona, Guthers, Sinead Q, Susie, Lily M)
- our Captains

Right that's all for now

Cuey



The Vets - rolling back the years to 1977 at our Summer tournament.

EH AND CUP UPDATE

The Girls under 18 have made it to the last 16 of the EH Cup and play Wakefield at home on Sunday 22 November 12.45pm push back. Please support the girls as this is a major achievement for them as team and for the Club so let's get a big crowd out to get behind the girls and coach Sophie Robinson.

Sadly the Road to Lee Valley ended a bit sooner than planned for the Men's Vintage (50+) team who lost in Round 2 away to Harrogate 5-4. The Women's Masters don't have so far to go for their first game v Bowdon on 22 Nov.

Our first Mixed EH game will be on 24th January so if you're interested let Sophie or Wez know and we're hoping we can pull out a cracking team.

The Under 14s Boys played their first games in the competition and lost narrowly to Bebington 1-2 but had a goal rush to beat Oxtun 12-1. In the Under 16's the Girls are playing out their group games and having a ball on and off the pitch, whilst the Boys play their final game against Alderley to secure qualification the North Regional Finals



Sunday 22 nd Nov	Girls U18 v Lancaster(H) 12.45pm
	Boys Under 16 (H) v Alderley Edge 2.30pm
	Girls U16 v Bowdon (h) 2.30pm
	Boys U18 v Wakefield (a) 12.30
	Women's 45+ Masters Cup v Bowdon (a) 4pm
Sunday 29 th Nov	Men's 2's v Didsbury Northern 2's (h) 12.40pm

We've also two **Cheshire Cup** games coming up and for local bragging rights are at stake !

Ladies 1s are straight into the Quarter finals and play Sale at home 12.30pm on Sunday 15th Nov

The Men's 1s are in the Semi Finals after too good wins and play Neston at home Sunday 13th December

Captain's Corner

Alex Morley – Men's Club Captain

I'm now a few weeks into my new role as men's club captain and getting to grips with the immediate challenges of fielding six teams a week

We've had a mixed start to the season and Marks has highlighted some of the challenges due to availability and the inevitable injuries. So here's how we stand

1s : 9th 2W 2D 4L
 2s : 8th 2W 2D 4L
 3s : 7th 5W 0D 3L
 4s : 10th 2W 1D 5L
 5s : 8th 3W 0D 5L
 6s : 10th 2W 0D 5L

We have got a couple of home Cup games coming up with the 2's playing Didsbury in the EH 2nd XI Plate on 29th November. The big pre-Christmas game is the 1's Cheshire Cup Semi Final against Neston on 13th December so let's try get a decent crowd down on the day.

One thing that I would like to ask of all of our members is that you let us know your availability as far in advance as possible, and even if you're unable to play at the time your normal team is playing, let us know if you can play for any at any other time.

We have a couple of campaigns coming up to try and get some new playing members in, but at the moment we really need to get everyone we can out and playing every week.

More from me next month and I wanted to thank everyone who's helped me over the last few weeks as I pick up the ropes

Alex



1's warming up ahead of 4-2 win at Durham

WINTER WEATHER & HOCKEY PITCHES !

We might be having unseasonal high temperatures but as we know a sharp frost and subzero temperatures play havoc with hockey !

Pitch inspections will take place for training and match days and the decision will be made by the Timperley Sports Club staff or the nominated Committee member (we are in the process of confirming who this will be) in consultation with the Club. Captains and players must not make the decision to play / not play.



We will post updates for home match days and training on, so do check before you travel if coming from a distance:

www.timperleyhockeyclub.com
[@timperleyhockey](https://twitter.com/timperleyhockey)
<https://www.facebook.com/Timperleyhockey>

If matches are cancelled (home or away) team captains will also contact players via Teamer, text or phone

Apart from frozen pitches we will pretty much play in all weathers – all players (especially younger players) are reminded to dress for the weather. If there is adverse weather during training sessions the players may come inside to continue the session with a discussion or tactics updates



We'd like each to take ownership and start to "love" their team pages on the website. Other clubs do this really well and we can set up each team to have a couple of administrators who can load team reports, photos and updates.

We already have people with team admin rights so will get some guidance out on how to load content. Let's see which team can get the best team pages

CHRISTMAS DRAW

The Christmas Draw is a major fundraiser for the Club and all players and parents are asked to support it by selling tickets and making a donation to the prizes.

Draw tickets will be distributed over the weekend 21st November and should be returned to the club by 12th December (full weekend of hockey) or prior 5pm on Saturday 19th December.



This year's First Prize is £400 cash and there will be many other prizes including hampers donated by the hockey section.

NEW for this year - there will also be a **£200 prize that can only be won if the winner is at the Draw in the clubhouse** during the Draw at 7pm. We will draw tickets out until we get a winner on the night – so what better reason to buy Draw tickets and come down for a few festive drinks when the Draw is taking place.

DONATIONS

Hockey will be donating a minimum of three large festive hampers as prizes to the Draw. We need your help and contributions to fill our three themed hampers:

- Booze / Drinks
- Chocolate items
- Pamper items

Please make sure donations are within their use by date !

Please drop off donations by 12th December to the Academy Admin team, your Captain or drop off point

will be set up in the committee room.

KIT ORDERS

Any Silverfx Kit ordered in October is due for delivery at the end of November – look out for posters to confirm collection times / points.

The next kit order deadline will be in the new year.

UMPIRING

We still need players, parents, ex-players or supporters to take the umpiring challenge and help grow our pool of level 1 umpires – as with more people qualified umpires won't have to umpire as many games.

We have applied to host an EH Umpiring course at the Club in January. To go on the one day course you need to have completed the on line course and contacted Nick Burnett or Malcolm Tucker our umpire developers so that they can work with you to see you umpire.

If you completed the old EH one day umpiring course but did not complete the assessment you do not have to go on the new one day course. Let Nick, Malcolm or Kieran Jeffrey know as soon as possible if you have done the old course. You can then do the on line test and contact Nick and Malcolm so they can watch you umpire and get you assessed

The free EH on line resources and interactive on line test is easy to do and can be done in stages. Even if you don't want to umpire it will help a lot of player may understand the Rules better and how they are interpreted.

So test your knowledge as a player of umpire signals do you know what these mean !

<http://rules.englishhockey.co.uk>



Did you get them all? If not maybe time to check out the online resources

Contact us:
Timperleyhc@gmail.com (senior teams and general enquiries)
Timperleyhockey@gmail.com (academy enquires)