



Timperley Hockey Club Blue Notes

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2016 off to a flying start !

Congratulations to our Ladies 1's who, on the back of 12 wins, are top the Women's Northern Premier League – a fantastic achievement for all involved. Check out the remaining fixtures and get down to support the girls and play your part in helping them gain the automatic promotion slot into the National League North Conference.

In this month's Blue Notes find out what else has been happening around the club and plans for the next few months – we've more cup and league hockey to come, our Annual Dinner Dance, the TSC beer Festival, interclub social hockey, summer league and our first AGM as a merged section ! 2016 is also THC's 130th Anniversary so do let us know ideas to celebrate this milestone in the 2016-17 season.

The new hockey committee has continued to meet and plans are progressing to set up the new approach to running hockey at THC. Sadly, Mark Andrews, has decided to stand down as Chair due to other commitments and we'd like to thank Mark for all his work to help drive through establishing the merged hockey section from the original session that spawned the idea in early 2015, through to the TSC EGM to change the Club Rules and our own first

Hockey EGM. Mark is still very much involved supporting the Academy and as Men's 6's Captain and flying around in goal cat like for a number of our teams !

Our Vice Chair, Shelagh Entwisle, will be covering the Chair role until our first AGM planned for 23 April 2016.

So, find out more about what's coming up, on and off the pitch !

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

This year's dinner dance will be held at the Club on **Saturday 12th March 2016** on the final day of the senior league season. Tickets will be on sale shortly for £30 from behind the bar (keep you receipt and make sure your name is recorded in the book!) or from one of the organising team.

Amy Cunningham, Clair Horan and Sophie Robinson are finalising the plans for the evening so look out for posters and more details.



Let's get a big turn out from all teams, partners welcome, former players, umpires, coaches and parents. Make a night of it with a cracking four course meal and they'll be awards too ! Dig out the glad rags, book the babysitter and clear the diary for the weekend !

Any donations for the raffle would be very much appreciated – let your captain or committee know if you can help.

TSC BEER FESTIVAL & MENS VETS TOURNAMENT

When you've recovered from the Dinner Dance - join us for the TSC Beer Festival over the weekend **Friday 18th March to Sunday 20th March**.



With a wide range of guest beers, our great new bar menu and no Saturday league hockey what's not to like ! There will be a social / entertainment planned for **Saturday 19th March** so book out the evening now and look out for more details !

Why not then pop down on **Sunday 20th March** to watch some of those turnback time skills and moves on show at our Annual Mens' Vets Tournament

THC MIXED TOURNAMENT

Not for the faint hearted our Mixed Tournament is back ! Planned for **Saturday 30th April** we'll be promoting to other clubs over the next few weeks and organising our own THC Team(s).

We need a small team to help run the day and so do let us know if you can help, spare a few hours and be part of a great day whilst helping us do some fund-raising !

EH UPDATE

We've still got teams in EH Action – next up it's the turn of the THC Mixed team in the **EH Mixed Trophy**. Co –captained by Sophie Robinson and Wez Wareham we're hoping this dynamic mix of talent and leadership will bring us success on the pitch ! They play Stockport Bramhall at home on **Sunday 7th February 1.00pm**



The **Mens' 2's** are in the last 16 of the EH Plate competition and are away at Liverpool Sefton on **14th February**. Having beaten Sefton in the league last week the lads will be focused on repeating the result and hitting the quarter finals.

The **Boys U16's** are looking hopeful of place in the North Regional Finals on **28th February** – but are still waiting on the Result of the Alderley v Bowdon game to guarantee their place.

The **Ladies Over 45's** lost out in their EH quarter final to a determined Kettering team going out on sudden death penalty flicks after a thrilling 3-3 draw. Never a great way to go out of any competition and the ladies are already planning their 2016-17 campaign !

CHESHIRE CUP FINALS

Whilst it's been a tough season for the **Mens 1's** in the North Prem this season they've had a great Cheshire Cup run and will play Brooklands in the Final on **Saturday 9th April** at Deeside Ramblers HC. Congratulations to all involved and no doubt plans will be afoot to get a good crowd across to Deeside!



The **Ladies 1's** are in the Semi Finals and are playing Bowdon on **28th February** at home 1pm push back. The Ladies Finals are on the same day as the Mens so it would be great if the Ladies can join the Men and keep the Club firmly on the Cheshire Hockey map.



GIVE HOCKEY A GO

There are a couple more 'Give hockey a go' sessions planned for Academy parents and friends. The first sessions have gone well and we hope to get a good turnout for the sessions on:

- **Sunday 21st February**
- **Sunday 6th March**

Sessions run from 11.05am – 12.05pm on the Blue Pitch.

If you know of anyone that may be interested drop an email to timperleyhc@gmail.com with their details or ask them to pop down to the club when the Sunday sessions.

WINTER WEATHER

We've fared much better than most local clubs and only lost one full Saturday of fixtures. Don't forget to check on twitter, facebook and the website for updates if the weather is doubtful or call the Club 0161 980 4397.

SUMMER HOCKEY

Summer League will be back at Timperley from Mid May running until early July. Men's games will be on Tuesday evenings and the Ladies on Wednesday evening. This is a great way to keep fit, polish those skills honed during the season and catch up with everyone involved at THC.



We'll be inviting other clubs over the next week or so and setting up a couple of small groups to organize the Mens and Ladies leagues. If you fancy helping on the admin side, umpiring or helping on the night let us know timperleyhc@gmail.com

We've also got two other tournaments planned:

Mens (4's – 6's) – Sat 14th May
Ladies Vets - Sat 11th June

Captain's Corner

Helen Cue – Ladies Club Captain

Well first of all – a belated Happy New Year to you all. With a quick look back to December I'd also like to say Congratulations to Cath Wemyss and Caroline Small re the birth of Jessica Rose and secondly a well done to Sophie Robinson for being one of the major winners in the Club Christmas Raffle .

How are we doing?

After what always seemed like quite a long break for Christmas and New Year, we've made a really good start

- Good numbers for Wed training
- 1s top North Prem with a couple of tough double header weekends and are now on 12 back to back wins
- 3s are 2nd in Cheshire Div 3 keeping hold of that key second promotion slot keeping us on course with our strategy

Availability

On paper all the teams have lots of players available to play. To help the captains and coaches in selection planning it really helps if you tell us

- When you are not available at all
- What dates you have constraints eg due to work, family commitments, school commitments etc

The following 5 links take you to the respective fixtures (on Fixtures Live) showing the times and venue:

- 1s [North Premier Division fixtures](#)
- 2s [North Div 2 South West fixtures](#)
- 3s [Cheshire Division 3 \(3rd team\) fixtures](#)
- 4s [Cheshire Division 3 \(4th team\) fixtures](#)
- 5s [Cheshire Division 4 fixtures](#)

Please review and let your captain or myself know of any unavailability that you know of now and keep us updated as the season progresses. It saves a lot of messing about rather than us selecting people and then getting

messages of "of sorry I'm not available" and having to re-select and move people up/down sides late in the week. This is particularly important lower down the sides where if everyone is available we operate on a rotation basis.

Money!

Although we are officially one section following the merger, each area (Mens, Ladies, Academy) is still responsible for "their" part of the existing (2015-16) season's expenses and income that we had each planned prior to the merger.

For the Ladies **the Bonus Ball** is one of the regular was of raising money – in case you don't know....each Saturday we sell 59 numbers (£1 a number) corresponding to the lottery numbers. The person who bought the number corresponding to the Lotto Bonus Ball each wins £30 and the Ladies retain the other £29 (if we sell them all). If we sell all 59 every league Saturday we'd raise £638 – a not insignificant amount.

Each team playing at Home is responsible for helping sell the Bonus Ball sheet that week – so please play your part and volunteer to help out – the Captains will be looking for your help as they have plenty of others things to sort out on match days

The 200 Club - If you haven't heard of this before – this is a Club fundraiser - £4 a month buys you a number in the monthly draw. It's payable by Standing Order and again helps create a steady income stream to the club

Training

Thanks to Mike and Jamie getting the section back into training on Wednesday – hopefully not too much of a shock to the system! Please ensure we support training – the results and league positions bear out that good training attendance gets results on a Saturday and lets us work on things as teams.

As you may have noticed we have made some adjustments to the start time of the earlier slot. We have taken on board feedback about the start time of 7pm being too early and have made some adjustment. This of course has a knock on effect on the other slot in terms of pitch availability but we hope that this will help people getting to the first slot by giving a bit more time.

On the third Wednesday of the month it was agreed core 4th team players can also stay on to the later slot to help development (note –we will take guidance from coaches on that slot)

And finally keep training, keep fit, keep winning!

Cuey



Jo Nicholson – Academy Chair

The academy got 2016 underway with a 7 aside, u10s hockey tournament on Sunday 10th January when 16 teams descended on Timperley to show off their silky skills and boy were there some silky skills on show! Teams travelled from Triton, Deeside, Alderley Edge, Macclesfield, Wilmslow, Bowdon and Brooklands. Our three Timperley sides played some super hockey ably coached by Jo Robinson, Alex Woods and Jim McCall and umpired by Hollie Hyde, Georgia Giles and Matt Stewart. Thanks also goes to Adam Roberts one of our parent managers for his help in organising our home sides.

Looking ahead to the next few months alongside our more regular Vixens, Beavers and Badgers fixtures there are busy times ahead with a few dates in our diaries for our other teams:

- EH U14 development tournament at TSC Sunday 7th Feb
- U10 mini Timperley tournament 9-11am
- U15 boys/girls GMJHL at TSC Sunday 21st February 2-5pm
- EH U14 development tournament (A) Sunday 28th Feb TBC
- U13 boys/girls GMJHL at TSC Sunday 6th March 2-5pm
- U10/U12 Boys Cheshire minis tournament at Chester HC 6th March
- U15 boys/girls GMJHL at TSC Sunday 13th March 2-5pm
- U10/U12 Girls Cheshire minis tournament at Chester HC 20th March

- U10 mini Timperley tournament Sunday 3rd April 9-11am

- U11 boys/girls GMJHL at TSC Sunday 17th April 2-5pm

End of season tournaments at TSC:

Vixens Saturday 2nd April TBC
Beavers Saturday 9th April TBC
Badgers Sunday 10th April TBC

As we move through the season some players transition from one team into another and following the Christmas break some of the older Beavers players have stepped up to challenge themselves in the Badgers side. With the movement of players also comes movement of parent managers.

Although Steph Ashworth hasn't quite stepped away (as of yet!) from managing the Beavers side, the academy would like to take this opportunity to 'Thank' Steph for all her organising of this side (alongside her role as our Child Welfare Officer!). As Jake her son is one of the few players who has moved into the Badgers I'm sure Steph would welcome a volunteer to take over her role and would assist them to do so over the coming weeks should anyone like to step forward.....all help gratefully received!

Finally I'd just like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a belated 'Happy New Year' and also 'Good Luck' in their remaining tournaments and games before our end of season Parents v Kids games/presentation day in May.

Woody (Academy co-ordinator)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Hampers for the TSC Xmas Draw – we had a record breaking number of hampers oozing with goodies! Thanks if you bought tickets too as there were lots of hockey winners too including Nick Burnett who scooped the top prize of £400 cash and Sophie Robinson who picked up the £200 on the night prize too!