

Subscriptions for the 2023/24 season – Sutton Coldfield Hockey Club

Following lengthy and in-depth discussions in order to provide a fair subscription for all hockey opportunities provided in the Senior Section of the Club, the Committee has agreed the subscriptions for the 2023/24 season as per the attachment.

The headline considerations were as follows for the Senior Sections:

- 1) The Committee has made some major investment in the club coaching structure and additional training which gives a significant extra benefit to those in the invitational “Performance Squads”. Although the club will continue to pay most of this additional cost, the Committee has agreed to a levy of £80 for the 2023-24 season for members of the Performance Squads – a “Performance Bolt-On”

*“Performance Bolt-On” is an £80 fee contributing towards the cost of the significant additional opportunities received exclusively by those at the “top” end of the club. The additional fee will be split over an 8-month period, starting in September and applied at the start of each month so that it adds flexibility to those stepping up into the “Performances” groups.

We also appreciate that some of our “Performance Squad” help with coaching lower down the club. The extra experience and knowledge they have gained, can be passed down to other club members augmenting the coaching of the rest of the club. To recognise this, there will be the opportunity for “Performance Squad” members to volunteer with club coaching whereby the “Performance Bolt-On” will be reduced. If this is of interest, please contact Doug Cave.

- 2) Over the last three years the club has held subscriptions at the same levels for well documented reasons. Moreover, this year the club is providing a large subsidy for everyone buying the new kit.
- 3) The accounts for the 2022-23 season have demonstrated a real time loss and whilst this is not disastrous for one season, this cannot continue to be the case.
- 4) The projection for the coming season (2023-24) is designed to ensure the club does not make a loss. Any additional sponsorship that can assuage the subscription increases in coming seasons will be ring fenced and taken into consideration for the subsequent season to mitigate and limit any rises.
- 5) A new way of calculating the cost per half hour for the facilities will be used in the future. This ensures that those using Wyndley mid- week in the evening, for example the Men’s Veterans, are not penalised. This way of allocating costs hasn’t affected the overall subscription rates but more rationally equalises out the cost of facilities across all sections (called a composite pitch rate).
- 6) The last section to fully come on board with regards the use of Pitchero has been mid-week Veterans. This group will benefit significantly from the new composite rate but following our principle of fairness across all the sections of the club, all match fees will be collected through Pitchero, eliminating cash and giving more accurate, up to date information, thus allowing transparent accountancy for future analysis.

The summary of the above work which included many individuals’ input, time and effort was that The Club must increase charges by 8% over all, and apply the “Performance Bolt-On” as detailed above.

The Junior section will apply an overall 15% increase on the previous season. This is in recognition of the above general club wide comments relating to the 8% but also recognises the junior section hockey will now be providing an additional 15% more hockey opportunity through an additional 4 weeks of sessions.

We are very keen that our members understand the definitions of their membership which are detailed in the attached spreadsheet.

Any questions can be directed to membership@suttoncoldfieldhc.co.uk and a member of the finance/committee/membership team will come back to you as soon as possible.