



Welcome to the first issue of the CHC newsletter this season. A huge thank you to our fantastic sponsors for their support this year – you'll find them listed below.



Welcome back to another season, and the first of our monthly newsletters keeping you up to date with all things CHC. Our brilliant Rachel Chicken will share these to keep you all informed of the seasons' events. If you know of anyone else who might like to receive this, then please ask them to get in touch.

I can't believe the season is upon us already and I'm excited about what it has in store for us!!

Preseason has shown lots of promise and we've enjoyed seeing new faces and returning members. Our men's section looks incredibly strong and ready to challenge for promotion. Our women's section is well poised with the teams all sitting in leagues one above the other. The perfect way to help develop players to reach their potential. Socially, we are set to enjoy a number of events throughout the season and we particularly look forward to welcoming everyone to our club day and reunion day events. We want to continue building and engaging with our club members past and present to create an ever-stronger CHC community.

If you'd like to get more involved in the club, there are still some vacancies on the committee. So please get in touch to explore the options! I look forward to seeing you all around the club, best wishes for the season, Ron ❤️❤️❤️

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**Katie Dewhurst (Ron), CHC President**

## Thanks to our lead sponsor, rockwealth



We are delighted to announce the continuation of our partnership with **rockwealth**, who have committed to supporting the club as our Lead Gold Sponsor for the next two seasons, covering 2026/27 and 2027/28.

The partnership represents a significant investment in the club and will help us continue to provide opportunities for players of all ages, support the development of hockey across the club, and strengthen connections between local businesses and our sporting community.

As part of the sponsorship agreement, the **rockwealth** logo will feature prominently on the Men's 1s playing shirts, providing visibility both on and off the pitch throughout the next two seasons.

## Help us grow CHC – Bring someone along!



We're offering **50% off membership for new adult players**, and we'd love your help bringing new players into the club.

We're ambitious about the season ahead and want to build strong squads across the club - including getting our Men's 1s and Women's 1s back into the National League.

So, who do you know? A former teammate, friend, colleague or someone who fancies giving hockey a go?

Bring them along, introduce them to CHC and let's grow the club together!

## Sponsor a player



Fancy getting behind one of our players, coaches, or committee members this season?

Player Sponsorship is the perfect way in – whether you're a local business after some extra visibility or a supporter who wants to show your love for the club. It's just £150 if you sign up by September 30th!

[Find out more](#)

## Dates for your diaries



### Saturday 26 September – First League Game

The season gets underway!  See the full fixture list at [chelthockey.org](https://chelthockey.org)

### Sunday 27 September – First Aid Course

6.30–9pm | FREE

Want to get involved? Get in touch for more details.

### Saturday 17 October – CHC Social: Bowling

VPs, CHC friends and club members - everyone is welcome!

### Saturday 7 November – CHC Club Day

A day for the whole CHC family - VPs, friends and members all welcome!

## The Cheltenham Half



A huge well done to all our CHC members and players who took on the Cheltenham 10km and Half Marathon this month.

A special shout-out to:

🏅 Maddie, who won her age category (Under 21) and finished 2nd woman overall in the 10km.

🏅 Tom A, who came 3rd in his age category (45-49) and 14th man overall in the 10km. Brilliant result!

🏆 We also had loads of our half marathon runners set new PBs, which is a testament to all the training put in over the summer.

## Good luck to our uni-bound players!



As the new academic year gets underway, we want to send a huge good luck to all our players heading off to university this September and October.

Thank you for everything you've brought to CHC, on and off the pitch. Wherever you end up playing, we'll be cheering you on. And remember, this will always be your hockey home. The door's always open, so come back and see us whenever you're back in Cheltenham! ❤️ 🖤

Wishing you all the very best of luck 🍀

## Thanks for supporting our summer tournament



This summer, we were delighted to host our first ever Charity Weekend, in memory of Charlie Drake, a much-loved member of the Cheltenham community. Across the weekend we raised money for Teenage Cancer Trust and Leukaemia UK.

Friday brought a mixed-ability Charity Match, with teams from Cheltenham College and CHC coming together to represent each charity. The evening had a brilliant atmosphere, with the whole community turning out to support the Drake family, who took part in the match themselves. We closed the evening by paying our respects to Charlie and presenting the trophy - a really special night, and one we hope becomes an annual fixture.

Saturday saw us welcome Cirencester and Lansdown Hockey Clubs for a series of matches.

None of this would have been possible without some brilliant support from:

- ♥ Cheltenham College - for the free pitch hire
- ♥ Street Eats and Franks Coffee - for keeping everyone fed and fuelled
- ♥ The Drake family for allowing us to run this event in support of their incredible son 🙌♥ Our umpires, event staff, and the wider hockey community
- ♥ Everyone who donated to our raffle prize draw.

An amazing £1600 was raised, and if you would still like to donate, please [click here](#).

## Summer Success

🏏 Congratulations to W1s players Maddie and Arwen, who both represented their countries at the Hockey Schools Games, Maddie for England and Arwen for Wales.

🏏 Congratulations to M1s player Chris B who played for England U16 this summer and who has been selected to trial again for his age group this coming season. Go well!

🏏🌍 Congratulations to our CHC International Hockey Masters, who all competed at the Masters World Cup this week across a range of age groups. What an incredible set of achievements! 🏆

- Padders represented Wales Men's O45s as a player and was also part of the management team, finishing an impressive 6th.
- Charli played for England Women's O35s and brought home GOLD! 🏆
- Johnny Bryan and Matt Dixon represented England Men's O40s and won SILVER!
- Alex Hay - represented England Men's O45s and won BRONZE!

🏏 Finally, congratulations to 15 talented CHC youngsters who represented their Talent Academy (TA) in the TA Cup this summer (a national age group selection tournament).



## From the Men's Section



Looking ahead to an exciting season with CHC adding a Men's 4s for the first time in a number of years. We are always looking for new players to help support the growth of this side so please do get in touch or point people our way if they're looking to get into hockey.

Men's 1s, 2s, and 3s have all had a number of pre-season games against local and regional sides including Banbury, Oxford Hawks and Witney. A mix of results and some positives to build on going into the season.

All bar M4s start their season on Saturday 26th September. M1s travel to the South Coast of Wales to face Swansea, while M2s face newly merged Newent & Ross HC and the M3s welcome Winchcombe to Balcarras.

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Harry Brookes, Men's Club Captain

From the Women's Section



The women's section has had a busy pre-season, with a number of games giving the squads plenty of opportunity to build combinations, test themselves and prepare for the season ahead.

Now it's time for the real thing! The W1s play their first league game this weekend, marking the start of the league campaign for our top women's side, with the other women's teams beginning their league campaign in the coming weeks.

A huge good luck to our W1s, W2s, W3s, W4s and W5s for the season ahead. Go well, ladies - we'll be behind you all the way! ❤️🖤

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**Tegan Lodde, Women's Club Captain**

## From the Academy



After an extremely successful season last year, there is plenty of aspiration for the Academy to do well again this year. In age group hockey the ability of opponents can vary significantly year by year; for example, last year Bristol Firebrands did very well in the U16G Tier 1 (T1) Supra League but this year they have not entered.

This year we have expanded to 6 teams with each gender having 2 x U16 teams and an U18 team. While I administer all 6 of these teams (fixtures, pitch bookings, Teamo, GMS, umpires), I do need parents to step up on match days to help manage them, and particularly with the U18s to encourage participation. I am grateful to the following parents for their roles, but I need 2 more for U16B Leopards and U18B teams: U16B (John Byrne), U16G Cobras (Kelly Matthews), U16G Cheetahs (Dave Peacey) and U18G (Rachel Chicken).

Parents can also play their part by ensuring that: their availability is shown on Teamo in a timely manner; their child is registered on GMS for Cheltenham HC; they have purchased a match shirt; and organised lift shares as necessary.

The U16B are in T1 Supra League Zone C with matches against Khalsa Leamington, Old Silhillians, Rugby & EW, Stourport and Sutton Coldfield. The U16G Cobras are in T1 Supra League Pool 4 with matches against Clifton Robinsons, Isca, Team Bath Buccs, Trojans and Winchester. First matches are on 4, 11 & 18 Oct.

The U16G Cheetahs and U16B Leopards will play in the West T2 leagues and T2 National Championships with the Cheetahs also playing in the Avon Junior Hockey League.

The U18B and U18G will both be playing in the T2 National Championships. The U18B start their campaign with an away match against Rugby & EW on 11 Oct and the U18G have a home match against Oxford Hawks on the same date.

Finally, we also celebrate some notable achievements over the summer.

- Chris Byrne played for England U16 Boys and has been selected for England trials again this year.
- Freya Fletcher has been selected for England U16 Girls trials this year.
- Freddie Hill has been selected for England U18 Boys trials this year.
- Maddie Thomson represented England and Arwen Stokes represented Wales in the Schools Games.
- Fifteen players represented Talent Academies (TA) in the TA Cup in the summer: Rose Mutimer, Maddie Thomson, Tilly Chicken, Freya Fletcher, Eva Matthews, Ellie Thomson, Alice Whittaker, Max Fallon, Lawrie Young, Sam English, Hugo Van Marle, Timmy Smyth, Jack Orme, Freddie Hill and Toby Ashenhurst.
- A good number of ex-players are heading off to universities where we hope that they continue their hockey journey. I just highlight one player, Evie Henderson, who has gone to Quinnipiac University in the USA and has already scored her first goal. She joins another ex-player, Caitlin Thompson, now in her second year at Princeton with a goal tally of 9 in her first year.

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Phil Robson, Academy Club Captain

Club sponsors

A huge thank you to our club sponsors this season. Read more about our sponsors, [here](#).



CHC has been in partnership with Cheltenham College since 2023, as one of our main facility providers. CHC enjoys training at College on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; and plays matches there on Saturdays and Sundays. [Visit Cheltenham College](#)

rockwealth

We are enormously grateful to **rockwealth** who is our lead Gold sponsor for the next two seasons, with their logo featuring on the M1s playing shirts. rockwealth is a leading wealth management and financial planning firm, dedicated to helping individuals and families achieve long-term financial wellbeing. [Visit rockwealth](#)



Y1 is a lifestyle brand that combines fashion and sport, and is made up of YoungOnes Apparel and Y1 Hockey. CHC entered into a partnership with Y1 in 2022, for Y1 to be our principle kit provider. We are grateful to Y1 for their support. [Visit the CHC kit shop](#)

Upcoming fixtures

Bring the noise to Balcarras and Cheltenham College! We hope to see you at home games in the coming weeks. All fixtures can be viewed on the [CHC website](#).

Keep in touch

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any feedback for the club, please do not hesitate to get in touch. See you next season!

Warm regards,

The CHC team

To unsubscribe or for any correspondence, please contact secretary@chelthockey.org

Player sponsors

Our heartfelt thanks to all companies that have invested in our players this season!

Event Staff
sponsors
Daisy Noble
(W3)



Lodders
sponsors
Katie Dewhurst (W2)



Prestbury Pups
sponsors
Ellie Thomson (W1)



The Property Centre
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Rachel Chicken (W2)



Regency Residential
sponsors Izzy Birks
(W1)



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(M1)

