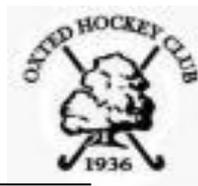

OXTED HOCKEY CLUB JUNIORS 2013/14 SEASON

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[Dear all](#)

The new season is already up and running – which makes this note late !
Junior training started back on 9th Sept at Oxted School and will run on Sundays throughout the season:

9am till 10.30am for the under 12s, starting from age 5 (year 1), up to and including those in year 7.
10.30am till 12 noon for u14s, u16s and u18s

A short update then on [our plans for Oxted Hockey Club this season](#)....

Our **Mens** 1st XI started [their 9th consecutive season in the](#) England Hockey **League** East Conference on Saturday with a good 3-0 win up at St Albans. We are the only sports club in the Tandridge area competing at a national level and this year the competition is tougher than ever. Next Saturday 21st Sept at 5pm the 1s host Holcombe at Oxted School and this gives an early opportunity to come down and watch a game which will feature Barry Middleton, GB Olympic captain, and fellow Olympian Dan Fox plus a host of other internationals across both teams.

As in recent seasons the 1s will have healthy representation from the clubs junior section. Mike Gee and Jonty Griffiths, who were regulars last season, have both now headed off to Loughborough Uni which highlights the importance of having a long line of juniors challenging and ready to make the big step up to take their place.

Last season [the Ladies](#) 1st XI followed up their 2012 [England Hockey Vase](#) win with another Cup Final appearance, although this time they lost out narrowly on penalties, notably with 3 juniors in their squad.

As far as the Juniors are concerned we will continue to try to balance the running of an inclusive hockey programme which caters for all levels of ability with the need to encourage and develop the talented youngsters who will be competing for places in the senior sides in future years.

A recap on last season's highlights for Oxted Junior Hockey:

- [we retained our Clubsfirst status with England Hockey](#), which recognises that we are providing a safe, effective and child-friendly environment in which children can learn the game of hockey.
- [our boys and girls junior sides competed regularly in the various regional leagues.](#)
- [we continued to run an inclusive programme of coaching on sunday mornings, where the emphasis is on all abilities getting the opportunity to play](#) and learn the game of hockey
- [we played regular tournaments with local clubs at u10 and u12 levels](#)
- the [under 8s section](#) continued to develop at a pace and early numbers this season are again up on last year
- [more than 30 of our juniors competed in the clubs senior sides](#)
- 59 [players](#) were nominated for Surrey Junior Development Training over the summer across all age groups.
- 22 juniors made it through into the final Surrey squads
- 17 went on to the [South regional \(JRPC\) training or higher](#) levels of the national system
- For the first time this year we have 3 girls through to the South regional JRPC training
- 4 boys represented England at under 16 and under 18 level
- Girls under 14s – league winners
- Girls under 16s – league winners
- Boys under 10s – Surrey plate runners up
- Boys under 12s – Surrey semi-finalists
- Boys under 14s – England Hockey regional finals
- Boys under 16s – South Premier league winners and runners up in National Indoor finals

In the past our girls and ladies sections haven't always kept pace with the boys so its great to see the product of some hard work by the girls and their coaches coming through across the age groups last season.

COACHING

For the coming season we have added to our coaching team which will this season include:

- Lewis Morgan – Director of Junior Hockey & specialist goalkeeper coach
- Andy Cornick - 1st XI player-coach, 100 caps for Wales and head of hockey at Trinity School
- Michael Trim – 1st XI captain, England u21s
- Rohan Moralee - 2nd XI coach & JRPC coach
- Lujan Aromando – Girls Coach, Argentina & Woldingham School
- Phil Carr – 1st XI goalkeeper, Junior coach and specialist Goalkeeping coach
- Mark Darlington – boys under 16s, formerly with Havant Hockey Club
- Bob Cowlard – boys under 14s
- Simon Pugh – Girls coach
- Mark Wallace – ex national league player
- Wayne Bennett – national league player
- Simon Dobson – mens 1s coach
- Graham Foggin

There is a wealth of coaching talent and playing experience in the club, with a number having played at International and National League level.

The appointment of Lewis Morgan as director of junior hockey is recognition that we need to increase the professionalism of the Junior programme to cope with the growing numbers and the challenges of delivering a quality, balanced schedule of coaching and matchplay. Lewis is a director of Pocohoc, a company involved in the development of junior hockey, so hockey is his very much his career now. No impact on Sunday junior arrangements but you may start to see the Pocohoc name used in connection with holiday courses and a growing school outreach programme.

So the good news is that you should start to hear less from me and more from Lewis over the coming weeks. We are also lucky to have experienced coach Mark Darlington join us this season from Havant to run our boys under 16s who are now competing at the highest level nationally.

Some other points on the playing side:

- we have entered more teams into the league this season. I know that last season some players weren't getting enough games so we have entered two boys teams at u14 and u16 level and two girls teams at u16. So everyone should get a chance to play in matches this year.
- We will continue to work with our contacts at the main schools to try and make sure that as far as possible we can balance the demands of club and school hockey and schoolwork. This isn't always possible given the busy junior calendar and we have fed back to England Hockey in their recent survey re the need to sort out the fixtures pile up that occurs every year in Feb/March.

Please get in touch if you have concerns or questions.

Now some areas where we could really use a hand

SPONSORSHIP

The Club is always very keen to talk to local businesses about sponsorship opportunities. So if you run your own business or know one that you think might help please let me know. At the end of this note there are a range of ways sponsors can help and get involved with the club, from a small ad in the club programme, to a pitchside banner, sponsoring a team right through to full shirt sponsorship of the whole club. Any ideas, leads, contributions would be gratefully received – we have a new sponsorship pack just about to go to print that we will share.

VOLUNTEERING

It would really help if you could spare a few hours to assist with various aspects of the organization and back-up. The Club will provide the coaching but we could do with a hand on the admin side of running a team – eg holding the contact details of a squad and making sure we have the right numbers of kids and drivers at the right place for a game of hockey. There are plenty of jobs to go round especially now that we have added extra teams so **- any volunteers to help with team admin etc please let me know.**

PLAYING

How about starting to play again yourself ? This season we will be running 4 ladies teams (2 years ago we ran just 2 teams), 5 mens teams, a Vets (over40s) team and a Vintage (over 50s) team. We always need new players and over the last couple of years we have managed to coax a number of parents out of retirement and some have picked up the sport pretty much from scratch.

ADMIN & MEMBERSHIP

New subs and membership form attached. Please complete and return as per the form.

At the AGM this year it was decided to put the annual junior subs up to £100. We have had to do this in order to cover some of the additional costs already mentioned and also because of the increasing overhead of pitch hire costs - despite the fact that we raised a lot of the money for the new pitch we remain a tenant of the school and need to pay for the hire of all facilities. The club made a small loss last year and so we have had to take action on subs across the board, not just the junior section.

This sum still covers all 26 junior training sessions, coaching, all junior matches, festivals etc and for the older ones any adult training sessions attended. The only extra on top would be a £5 match fee for juniors playing in adult teams on a Saturday. We think it still represents good value compared to fees charged by other local clubs and other sports but welcome any views on this subject.

KIT

Details re kit arrangements for the new season to follow in the next week.

FIXTURES & MATCHES & WEBSITE

Fixtures for all age groups are now up on the club website www.oxtedhockeyclub.com, although we still have a fair bit of scheduling of start times to do. The club website has just been revamped and wasn't quite completed in time for the new season but will start to take shape in the next few weeks and the plan is that the site will be much more interactive and useful than the old site (not hard!)

I think that's about it, but just to stress again that we are always interested in your feedback about any aspects of the club – what's working well and the things we need to improve on. So please let us know

Thanks
graham

Sponsorship Ideas & Club Profile

Oxted Hockey Club has approximately 250 playing members with additional social and non playing members regularly attending matches and functions. Our mens first team play in the English Hockey League Eastern Conference. We are your local sports club competing at a national level and, as a club, we represent Oxted's community. The club runs the following sides: 5 mens teams; 4 ladies teams; 2 mens veterans teams; 12 junior teams – over 180 juniors plus parents and guardians.

The Club is organised as a Community Amateur Sports Club with charitable status which means that we can reclaim Gift Aid from the tax man on personal donations and you can claim tax relief too.

Your Marketing Opportunity

Our home ground is an all-weather pitch shared with Oxted School, where over 2000 pupils and their families, as well as club members, enjoy great facilities.

We have regular exposure in the local press and sell match day programs.

Our website displays images of games, shirt sponsors and pitch-side banners and is visited by club members, families and all our opposition clubs. We can also facilitate adverts on our website.

We would be happy to discuss any of these options:

- Match day program advertising
- Pitch-side banner
- Advertise on the Oxted Hockey Club website
- Preferred supplier of Oxted Hockey Club

We value our special relationships with local businesses, which in return for our 'club custom', allow our members discounts on goods or services.

- Team sponsorship

We would welcome your support of a specific team within the club, perhaps advertising on the team shirt or pre-match kit.

- Raffle Prizes and items or services for auction
- Donations
- Club Patronage

If you would like to offer your support in any way or would like further information on Oxted Hockey Club please get in touch

New Sponsorship Brochure is just about to be printed so we will circulate copies.