

Hampshire Hockey Association

AGM REPORT 2023/24



ENGLAND HOCKEY

England Hockey Strategy

Creating a Future for Our Game Together – A Strategy for the Sport to 2028

Mission

Work Together To Make Hockey More Visible, Relevant And Accessible To All

Values

Values uphold and protect our sense of fairness and help define how we behave with each other both on and off the pitch.



The 5 main drivers for the Strategy are;

- **Lead Positive Change**
Create and champion positive change within the community.
- **Meaningful Growth**
To make sure that our sport thrives and grows into the future.
- **Drive Visible Impact**
To produce and release high-quality, engaging content that shares the love of the game.
- **Responsible Leadership**
To provide forward thinking, compassionate and inclusive leadership.
- **Inspirational International Success**
Achieve Inspirational club and national teams delivering podium success in Europe and on the world stage.

Youth Strategy

England Hockey are currently developing a Youth Strategy for our sport which will encompass Community, School and Club Hockey activity. The aim is to enable community groups and schools to offer fun, inclusive hockey sessions, where possible linking to the local community hockey club. There is a clear focus of engaging with state schools to increase participation as well as offering free teacher training.

England Hockey are currently focusing on four key Pilot City Projects (Bristol, Manchester, Birmingham and London), where the findings and insight from these pilots will help shape the future Youth Strategy.

Club Support

Whatever your plans or ambitions for your club development, England Hockey is committed to help you achieve them through access to a wide range of staff, resources, and advice. Find out more about what support your club can access, specialist staff, resources, and advice to help you meet your development goals by visiting the England Hockey website - [Club Support | England Hockey](#)

GROW OUR PARTICIPATION

Membership data

There are 29 clubs in the county, with membership data (Typical & Informal only) showing the total number of people playing club hockey in the county has increased (5.2%) as broken down below:

	Junior	Adult	Total
Total 2022/23	3095	3280	6375
Total 2023/24	3188	3521	6709
Difference	93	241	334

There has been a notable change in playing habits since Covid. Last season the overall playing numbers were higher than pre-Covid levels. However, this season two clubs disbanded (Nomads HC and Tadley HC) and one new member Beavers HC.

The Playing Offer

Behaviours are changing with some players not wanting to play every week but are happy to play at any time of the year. They want opportunities that provide good experiences but are also local enough to allow room for other interests and commitments. Club need to ensure their playing offer matches their members demand. Currently, no offer for Flyerz however Walking Hockey is delivered in 6 clubs.

Hockey Heroes - [Hockey Heroes \(englandhockey.co.uk\)](http://englandhockey.co.uk)

A new 8-week introductory hockey programme delivered by clubs, aimed at children aged 5-8 based around an ethos of fun and inclusivity, with an emphasis on character development as well as physical skill development. Hockey Hero sessions has been successfully delivered with feedback from clubs, coaches, parents and players being a resounding success. Currently Hockey Heroes is being delivered in Basingstoke and Yateley.

Summer of Hockey 2024

Every 4 years clubs have a fantastic opportunity to capitalise on the additional media coverage to raise the profile and embed your club in your local community. Engage with new, different audiences by offering new playing opportunities and hockey experiences to foster and build relationships with local companies and schools for long-term sustainability.

England Hockey launched their Olympic activation programmes to recruit new members (all ages), volunteers or bring back some of those players that have drifted away as well as to celebrate our sport with your members.

- Pick Up a Stick Open Days & Activities
- Buddy Up with a local Primary School/s
- Digital Olympic Activity Booklet
- Path to Paris Challenge

DELIVER INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

Olympic Games Qualifiers (13 -21 January 2024)

Both GB squads claimed their place at the Paris 2024 Olympics back in January.

Talent Development – The New Way Forward - [Future Talent Strategy | England Hockey](#)

The purpose of England Hockey's Talent System is to produce greater breadth and depth in the talent pool, where the player is at the heart. The Talent Strategy is now in its third year, with more Talent Centres and Talent Academies being delivered. Havant (South Coast) is the nearest Talent Academy. The current Talent Centres in Hampshire are based at the following clubs – Basingstoke, Havant, Trojans and Winchester, with Fareham working towards accreditation.

County Junior Teams

There was a full season of County Team activity including competitions.

INCREASE OUR VISABILITY

BBC Coverage – Olympic Qualifiers

Increased exposure and accessibility to hockey through BBC iPlayer, Red Button and BBC Sport website and app. Thanks to your support, we reached the BBC Sport threshold, with a fantastic total of 634,000 streams and captured the attention of a broader audience. Hopefully, we will see more hockey on terrestrial television in the future.

FIH Pro League

Great Britain's men's and women's hockey teams compete in London this Summer. The Men will face Ireland, India, Spain and Australia. With the Women facing USA, India, China and Australia.

Super 6s Finals

The Super 6's competition was held at a new venue, the Derby Arena, in January 2024 for adults, junior clubs and schools.

England Hockey Awards 2023

The England Hockey Awards Dinner was held in Leicester on 1 July 2023.

ENHANCE OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

South Central Hockey - [South Central Hockey Home Page \(englandhockey.co.uk\)](https://www.englandhockey.co.uk)

The South Central Board and Management Committee oversees all South Central Hockey activity, with five committees established to develop the work in their respective areas.

1. Adult League & Competitions
2. Junior Leagues & Competitions
3. Officiating
4. Masters Hockey
5. Discipline

South Central Hockey Strategic Plan 2024-2029

The Strategy is currently being developed through the Board and Lead Committees, linking the key themes and values identified in the recently launched England Hockey Strategy. It will outline the objectives for the next five years for hockey in South Central and it is intended to help provide direction for everyone involved in hockey across the Area in helping to grow and develop our sport.

County Hockey Associations

The National County Standing Committee is consulted on County related matters including governance. All counties have access to the County Forum where documents and good practice are shared, in supporting Counties in their delivery and development, which has been enhanced by several virtual County Forums on a range of topics.

Hampshire & Dorset Club Networks

This year there has been three Club Forums held giving clubs the opportunity to discuss the main issues for the development of hockey across Hampshire and share good practice. Please give some thought as to what your club would like to see at these meetings so that they are beneficial and incentivise attendance.

The main themes for the Club Forums this season were:

1. **Planning for 2023/24 season**
2. **People Who Make Hockey Happen**
3. **Broadening Your Hockey Family**

Also, England Hockey held national online Forums on a range of topics, including Small Clubs Forum, Coaching, Safeguarding, Facilities, Community Engagement and Summer of Hockey 2024.

Club Strategy – What Makes a Great Club

What Makes a Great Club has been refreshed. Running through the heart of every great club are seven strands. They support your club to be the best it can be, help you provide the best experience to all involved and in the right combination will help your club become sustainable and succeed.

England Hockey ClubMark

There are 9 accredited clubs in Hampshire – Alton, Basingstoke, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Petersfield, Portsmouth, Winchester and Yateley. Congratulations to Basingstoke, Fareham and Yateley on achieving their re-accreditation this season. Available on the Club Portal, it is much more streamlined, with only 18 pieces of evidence required to meet this minimum operating standard.

Buddle [Your place to experience the wonders of community sport and physical activity | Buddle](#)

The new brand name is Buddle, formerly ClubMatters. Refreshed resources will have a much broader appeal and hope to engage and reach a wider audience.

Online Courses – Safeguarding, Umpiring & Coaching

All courses and workshops are available to book on the [Hockey Hub](#)

Facilities

Playing Pitch Strategies (PPS) in the Local Authorities, Help to ensure that our facilities are protected, improved or developed. As part of the process our clubs are asked to complete a PPS survey and it is essential that, if asked, your club completes these documents. It is vital that hockey data is correct and up to date in these strategies, to influence current facility provision but also more importantly evidence future demand. This evidence feeds into the England Hockey National Facility Strategy.

BE A STRONG AND RESPECTED GOVERNING BODY

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Framework

England Hockey's Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Framework is designed to support everyone in the sport with clear steps that can be taken together to address inequalities that exist within the game.

The framework consists of actions and initiatives aimed at achieving four key outcomes:

- To reflect society and ensure hockey remains relevant in the 21st century;
- To ensure safe, respectful, inclusive cultures valuing and welcoming everyone;
- To create access for anyone from any background to participate in hockey; and
- Ensure the reputation of hockey is regarded as excellent in its commitment to ED&I

Safeguard

There is a clear distinction between Safeguarding and Health & Safety.

- Safeguard will cover safeguarding and policies
- Safe Hockey will cover Health & Safety, Concession, Injuries etc

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and our updated website is designed to show what information is relevant to what audience by splitting it down to key audiences, making it easier to find.

Safe Hockey - [Safe Hockey | England Hockey](#)

Regardless of the activity taking place, whether in a game or training, creating a safe environment for everyone involved in hockey is essential. England Hockey strongly recommends that all clubs, organisations and their members take the time to read and digest the policies and guidance. It is the responsibility of everyone within the sport to create a safe environment for all who participate.

Injury Monitoring

The reporting of injuries sustained whilst training or during matches is a mandatory requirement for all clubs and associations who are members of England Hockey. As part of England Hockey's Injury Reporting Policy, England Hockey require clubs and associations to complete the England Hockey online '[Injury Reporting | England Hockey](#)' following injuries sustained that require one or more of the following:

- Treatment from a first aid specialist (e.g., team doctor/ first responder)
- Hospital treatment
- Subsequent visit(s) to a GP

Free Online Health & Safety Module

The module aims to provide guidance and ideas on how to deliver fun, safe and engaging sessions, and how we can put the best practice, policies and procedures in place to make sure that our sport is as safe as it can be. We would recommend all people involved in the delivery of Hockey activity complete this and refresh their knowledge every three years.

Finally, thank you for your support and hard work over the last 12 months. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Barbara Reynolds
England Hockey Club Development Manager
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Hampshire Hockey Association Constitution

Definitions

The following words and expressions shall, unless the context otherwise requires, bear the following meanings:

“**Area**” means South Central, one of the eight Area Companies.

“**Area Companies**” means eight Companies Limited by Guarantee with Constitutions approved by England Hockey (the Company) and admitted to membership of the Company to facilitate governance by the Company of hockey in eight geographical Areas of England as defined by the Company pursuant to the Company’s Articles and regulations made pursuant to those Articles.

“**Club**” means an association of persons or organisation, whether or not including ‘club’ within its name, established for purposes that include the playing of hockey.

“**County (Sub-Area)**” means an organisation, which facilitates the governance of hockey in England as a County (Sub-Area) within the geographical area of an Area Limited Company.

“**DC/AC**” term covering junior Development Centres and Academy Centres.

“**England Hockey**” or “**EH**” is the national association and sole and exclusive governing body for hockey in England.

“**HHA**” The Hampshire Hockey Association.

“**Members**” means all the individuals, corporations, associations, clubs, schools and organisations admitted to membership (of any class or category) of the HHA either pursuant to this Constitution or in accordance with regulations made pursuant to this Constitution whether entitled to vote at General Meetings or not.

“**Non-Voting Member**” means a member admitted to membership of HHA as a Non-Voting Member pursuant to this constitution and any regulations made pursuant to this constitution.

“**Schools**” means establishments for primary, secondary, tertiary, or further education within the HHA boundaries.

“**Voting Member**” means a member admitted to membership of HHA as a voting member pursuant to this constitution and any regulations made pursuant to this constitution.

“**Writing**” means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

All words in the singular also include the plural.

1. Title

The County (Sub Area) shall be called the **Hampshire Hockey Association** (HHA) and is a member of both **England Hockey** (EH) and **South Central Limited** (the Area) and is subject to and has agreed to abide by the regulations, rules and policies of EH and South Central. The boundaries of HHA shall be the geographical boundaries of Hampshire and Isle of Wight as confirmed by EH from time to time.

2. Aims and Objectives

The principal objective of the HHA shall be to carry out to the best of their ability, and as resources shall allow, such functions as may from time to time be delegated to the HHA or otherwise required by EH within the county area, which for the avoidance of doubt may include the promotion, development and encouragement of all forms of hockey for adults, young people and children within its membership in accordance with the Articles of Association of EH and the Area and in accordance with the regulations, rules and policies issued by them, from time to time.

In addition, it shall:

2.1 Arrange such competitions as may be approved by the General Committee of HHA.

2.2 Arrange representative and other matches

2.3 Select and train squads of players to represent HHA

It will also:

2.4 Offer support to its members in their efforts to develop hockey

2.5 Raise funds by any means approved by the General Committee (GC).

2.6 Be run as a non-profit making organisation.

2.7 Ensure as far as practicable that there will be unrestricted access for all who wish to participate in any aspects of hockey activity and that all participants in hockey are treated fairly, equally and with respect.

2.8 Give consideration to any matters not specifically set out in this Constitution.

3. Membership

3.1 There shall be two classes of membership: Voting and Non-Voting.

3.2 Voting Members shall be the clubs who are members of EH listed as Voting Members for the time being in the register of members maintained by EH and allocated to the Area and HHA before 1st September of each year.

3.3 Non-Voting Members shall be members listed as Non-Voting Members for the time being in the register of members maintained by EH and allocated to the Area and HHA before 1st September of each year and all schools and other organisations playing hockey under the Regulations, rules and policies issued by EH and the Area and which are situated within the boundaries of HHA referred to in clause 1 above and any individuals or organisations who HHA may admit to membership from time to time on such terms and subject to such criteria as EH may permit or maybe provided for in regulations made by EH.

3.4 Honorary Life Membership or Vice-Presidency may be conferred on past officers of HHA and others who have rendered special services to HHA by a resolution passed by a simple majority at a General Meeting of HHA. Such Members shall have no right to vote at a General Meeting and shall not be required to pay a subscription.

3.5 Individual HHA membership shall be open to past players, players, officers, and others interested in hockey. Such membership shall be authorised by the GC on application. Such members may pay a subscription as determined by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) but shall have no voting rights.

3.6 All members shall be bound by this constitution and by all regulations, rules and policies passed by EH and the Area from time to time and failure of a member to comply with those regulations, rules and policies will be subject to action as laid down in those regulations, rules and policies.

3.7 No member shall be entitled to vote at any General Meeting (GM) unless all monies then payable by the member to EH, the Area and HHA have been paid.

3.8 HHA may create any other categories of membership as it shall see fit. Such powers duties or privileges attaching to all such classes of membership shall be such as HHA may from time to time decide but no such categories of membership shall have voting rights.

4. Officers

4.1 The main officers of HHA shall be:

President (non-voting)

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

4.2 The officers shall be elected annually at the AGM and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next following AGM. The officers shall be eligible for re-election provided that no person may hold the same post for a continuous period of more than nine years ending with the Annual General Meeting at the end of the ninth year.

4.3 If an officer does not complete their year of office, a replacement shall be appointed by the General Committee for the remainder of the year.

4.4 The GC has the authority to co-opt officers or GC members to vacant positions not filled at the AGM who shall hold office until the next AGM.

4.5 No officer shall receive remuneration in respect of their holding office unless expressly approved by a resolution at a GM. Expenses reasonably incurred may be paid in accordance with the expenses policy.

5. General Committee

5.1 Subject to the overriding powers of a GM the general business of HHA shall be administered by the GC which shall be responsible particularly for:

- (a) the interface between HHA and EH, the Area and the clubs and schools affiliated to HHA
- (b) the representation of HHA in dealings with other outside people bodies or organisations.
- (c) preparing an annual budget for HHA.
- (d) supervising the workings of any Sub-committees of HHA.

5.2 The membership of the GC shall be the main officers listed above (see 4.1) and include Sub-Committee leads who may also be required to represent HHA at their respective Area meetings such as:

- a) Junior Hockey Co-ordinator
- b) Player Pathway Administrator
- c) Communications Officer
- d) Masters' Co-Ordinator
- e) Adult Cup Competitions Co-ordinator
- f) Welfare Officer
- g) Up to 2 members without portfolio (from different clubs)

5.3 If the Chairman is absent, their place shall be taken by the President or Vice Chairman and if both are absent then by one of the officers elected to take the chair at that meeting by members present.

5.4 Each member shall have one vote irrespective of the number of capacities in which attending other than the Chairman who shall also have a casting vote. Decisions shall be by simple majority and motions and nominations must be proposed and seconded by those present and entitled to vote.

5.5 Four members, at least one of which must be an officer, shall form a quorum.

5.6 The GC has the power to form Sub-Committees and/or Working Groups as they perceive necessary.

5.7 The GC has the power to co-opt any person onto the committee. They may also invite any person to attend for all or part of a meeting. The latter shall not be entitled to vote.

5.8 The GC shall meet at least four times a year on dates to be notified in advance at a venue to be decided by the GC or by electronic means.

6. Records to be Kept

Sub-committees and working groups shall report in writing to the GC and minutes of all meetings and decisions of all of these bodies shall be kept from the date of the meeting or decision for a period of at least 10 years.

7. General Meetings

7.1 Annual General Meeting

7.1.1 The AGM shall be held in each year at a venue to be decided by the GC or by electronic means. Not more than eighteen months shall elapse between the date of one AGM and that of the next.

7.1.2 Notice of the AGM shall be made available to members of the GC, secretaries of each member club, appointed representatives of each member school and other member organisations, Honorary life members, Vice Presidents and other individual members of HHA 21 days before the date of such meeting together with:

- (a) a copy of the agenda
- (b) a list of nominations for officers and GC
- (c) a copy of the annual accounts and report by independent examiner
- (d) a copy of the previous AGM minutes

7.1.3 Business to be transacted:

- (a) Receive the previous AGM minutes
- (b) Review by the Chairman
- (c) Presentation of reports and accounts by officers and members of the GC.
- (d) Receive the accounts.
- (e) Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the accounts.
- (f) Election of Officers, Vice-Presidents and members of the GC.
- (g) Determination of subscription fees and entry fees for the following season.
- (h) Any other business allowed at the discretion of the Chair of the meeting.

7.1.4 The constitution shall not be amended, HHA be dissolved, or any resolution passed at a previous GM be rescinded, except by a resolution, details of which shall be given within the calling notice for the AGM and which will require an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of those present and who are entitled to vote and voting.

7.1.5 Written notice of any proposed alterations to the constitution shall be received by the GC no later than 31st March prior to the AGM and shall be accompanied by the name of the proposer and seconder.

7.1.6 No proposed amendment to the constitution shall proceed in accordance with 7.1.4 without prior notice in writing of the proposed changes being sent to the Company Secretary of EH and confirmation being received from EH that such changes are acceptable.

7.1.7 Subject to the provisions of clauses 7.1.4 and 7.1.9 all business at the AGM shall be transacted by a simple majority of those present entitled to vote and voting and all motions and nomination shall be proposed and seconded by persons entitled to vote at the meeting.

7.1.8 The meeting shall be chaired throughout by the Chairman or if not present, by the President or Vice-Chairman. In the absence of any of these officers, the meeting will elect one of the members of the GC present to Chair the meeting.

7.1.9 The following, if present at the meeting shall be entitled to vote:

(a) The officers of the HHA and members of the GC.

(b) Up to two representatives from each Member club with both men's and women's league teams, provided that all monies payable by the Member club to England Hockey, the Area and the HHA has been paid.

(c) One representative from each Member club with only women or men league teams, or only a mixed team or teams, or which offers only recreational hockey such as junior hockey, Flyerz, or Walking Hockey, provided that all monies payable by the Member club to England Hockey, the Area and the HHA has been paid.

No person voting shall cast more than one vote other than the Chair of the meeting who may in addition have a casting vote.

7.1.10 The Chair of the meeting may permit any other person whether or not that person is a representative of a member to attend and speak at the meeting.

7.1.11 Ten member clubs or fifty percent of member clubs (which ever shall be the lesser figure) present and eligible to vote and at least three members of the GC, including two of the President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall form a quorum.

7.2 General Meeting

7.2.1 The Secretary shall convene a GM at any time:

(a) At the request of the GC.

(b) Upon receiving a motion in writing signed by an officer or at least eight member clubs or thirty percent of the member clubs, (whichever shall be the lesser figure).

Every motion in writing shall clearly state the reason for such request.

7.2.2 A meeting called under 7.2.1 (b) shall be held within six weeks of the receipt of the motion in writing to be held at a venue to be decided by the GC or by electronic means.

7.2.3 Notice of the GM shall be made available to members of the general committee, secretaries of each member club, appointed representatives of each member school and any other member organisation, honorary life members and other individual members of HHA, 14 days before the date of such meeting together with all resolutions to be proposed thereat. No other business shall be transacted.

7.2.4 The provisions of clause 7.1.4 and clauses 7.1.6 to 7.1.10 shall apply to the GM.

8. Playing Qualifications

8.1 Players must comply with the qualification standards defined by EH to be eligible for selection for any representative games played under the name of HHA.

9. Finance

9.1 HHA's income shall be derived from membership subscriptions, competition entry fees, and player registrations, and it shall be subject to the approval of the GC from any other appropriate source. Such income shall be used to further HHA's aims and objectives as defined in this constitution and for any other purpose as a GM or the GC may determine.

9.2 Membership subscriptions shall be determined by the AGM and shall be due on 1st September each year or as otherwise agreed by the GC.

9.3 The income and expenditure account and the balance sheets shall be made up to the end of March in each year and shall be examined by an independent examiner. They shall be presented at the AGM.

9.4 Expenditure included in the approved annual budget may be authorised by the Treasurer. Additional items of expenditure over £250 outside the approved annual budget should be subject to approval in principle at a meeting of the GC, or in an emergency by a minuted meeting of at least 3 officers of the HHA, and then authorised by the Treasurer.

10. Means of Communication to be used

All communications between HHA and its members shall be in an electronic form, the format of which shall be agreed by the GC. All meetings may be held in person or by electronic means.

11. Indemnity

HHA shall indemnify each of its officers and officials against any claim which may arise from any action taken with the authority of HHA. For the purpose of this clause an 'official' shall be deemed to be any person serving on a committee or sub-committee of HHA or in a coaching and umpiring capacity for or on behalf of HHA.

12. Insurance

The GC, acting on behalf of HHA, shall take out such insurance that meets the standards approved by EH relevant to the activity provided by, and on behalf of HHA and may pay the premiums thereon out of its General funds.

13. Complaint/Appeals Process

Any complaint or appeal other than those arising from the EH disciplinary code will be dealt with under HHA's complaint process, as set out from time to time.

14. Dissolution

On a resolution being passed by a GM to dissolve HHA, the GC shall realise the assets of HHA and make provisions for its liabilities. The remaining assets at the date of dissolution shall be paid out in such a manner that benefits the sport of hockey as shall be determined by a GM or, if such a meeting so decides, by the Officers.

15. Matters not covered by the Constitution

The GC shall have the power to act on any matter on which the constitution is silent, but action shall be taken at the next GM to ratify the action which has been taken.

Date amended and adopted 8/ April / 2024



Hampshire Hockey Association

www.hampshireha.co.uk

President: Michael Harvey



Minutes of the Hampshire Hockey Association Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2024 on Zoom

The following members of the HHA Council were in attendance:

Michael Harvey	President
Richard Wood	Chairman
Phil Gibbs	Acting Secretary
Ian Southgate	Acting Treasurer
Richard Macer	Non-Portfolio Member

A full list of Club representatives is at the end of the minutes.

1. Welcome. The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

The President took the chair of the meeting.

2. Election of HHA Chairman. The President proposed, and Tracey Talbot (B & SN) seconded, Richard Wood to be the Chairman of HHA for the forthcoming year. He was elected Nem Con.

The Chairman then retook the chair for the meeting and thanked the membership for their support.

3. Apologies for Absence. One received – Esther Nash (Waterside Ladies)
4. Minutes of the 2023 AGM. Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Paul Morgan (Yateley), the minutes of the last AGM were approved by a unanimous vote.
5. Chairman's Report. The report was presented; there were no questions.
6. Financial Report. The report was presented; there were no questions. The primary loss over the past 12 months had been paying for the website's conversion after the unfortunate passing of Tex Lane. The HHA still holds the Claire Wilkinson Fund; Rowena Shepherd (one of the nominated Trustees of CWF) is continuing to make efforts to clear the trust fund through HMRC. The affiliation fees and cup entry fees were proposed by the Treasurer with a modest increase, seconded by Sheela Putt (Andover) and unanimously agreed.

7. Hampshire Cup Report. Despite not being run through the website, the Hampshire Cup competitions had been played and led to a successful, if wet, Hampshire Day at Basingstoke. It is intended that the competition will be supported by the website next season. It was proposed by Michael Harvey (Adult Cup Secretary) that the cup competitions continue in their current form for all Hampshire clubs and those outside the Hampshire Borders who had traditionally been part of the competitions (having paid the relevant fees), seconded by Ian Barber (Bournemouth) and carried unanimously.
8. Hampshire Juniors Report. Calum Crichton (Juniors Coordinator) presented his report. He would like more state schools to take part and more access to facilities with two pitches, as this would reduce the time spent completing junior events. He hopes to bring in junior cup competitions next season. He asked for support from clubs to help with umpiring. There was a discussion about U12s wearing masks for penalty corners, and he will come up with a proposal for next season. The AGM noted that Havant Boys U12s had reached the In2Hockey National Finals.
9. Hampshire Player Pathway Report. Koo Janzen (Player Pathway Administrator) presented his report and stated that the next season cycle had commenced with a reasonable intake of new talent. The updated figures for participation are shown in his attached report. In response to a question about young umpires, he directed the meeting members to discuss this with South Central Officiating.
10. Talent Academy Report. Paul Marks (Talent Academy Representative) presented the report on this EH initiative. The TA will report annually to the HHA AGM.
11. England Hockey Representative report. The report by Barbara Reynolds (England Hockey Counties Representative) was presented; there were no questions.
12. HHA Constitution. England Hockey has determined that all English counties will have a stand-alone Hockey Committee and provided draft guidance for creating new County Hockey Constitutions. Richard Macer (NPM) led the creation of the new HHA Constitution, in conjunction with England Hockey, which he presented at the meeting. He proposed adoption, seconded by Sheela Putt (Andover) and unanimously agreed.
13. Election of Officers.
The Chairman proposed, seconded by Gordon Scott (Fareham), the following Officers:
 - a. Vice-Chairman remains vacant (PMN. Expression of interest received)
 - b. Secretary Phil Gibbs
 - c. Treasurer Ian Southgate

The following Sub-Committee leads will continue in post:

 - d. Junior Hockey Co-ordinator Calum Crichton
 - e. Player Pathway Administrator Koo Janzen
 - f. Communications Officer vacant (PMN. Expression of interest received)
 - g. Adult Cup Competitions Co-ordinator Michael Harvey
 - h. Welfare Officer vacant (PMN. Expression of interest received)
 - i. Non-Portfolio Richard Macer

14. Any Other Notified Business. None

The meeting closed at 20:23

Phil Gibbs

secretary@hampshireha.co.uk

Richard Wood

Chairman@hampshireha.co.uk

Attendees

Name	Club
Ian Southgate	Alton HC
Vicky Small	Alton HC
Lisa Crack	Andover HC
Sheela Putt	Andover HC
Claire Brockbank	Basingstoke HC
Tracey Talbot	Blandford and Sturminster Newton HC
Ian Barber	Bournemouth HC
Becca Stemp	Chichester HC
Jo Brown	Eastleigh Ladies HC
Matthew Ashley	Eastleigh Men HC
Colin Bradbury	Fareham HC
Gordon Scott	Fareham HC
Donna Sutton	Gosport HC
Iain O'Neill	Haslemere HC
Laura Dadswell	Haslemere HC
Paul Marks	Havant HC
Ian Barber	Havant HC
Lia Harper	New Forest HC
Marie Cook	Petersfield HC
Mark Broadmeadow	Petersfield HC
Adrian Potter	Poole HC
Ed Smyth	Portsmouth HC
Adam Durston-Hillyer	Salisbury HC
David Rigby	Southampton HC
Emma O'Neill	Southampton HC
Martyn Solomon	Swanage and Wareham HC
Shaun Barriball	Trojans HC
Chris Glover	United Services Portsmouth HC
Mary Edwards	West Meon HC
Michael Harvey	Wimborne HC
Richard Macer	Winchester HC
Andy Craig	Winchester HC

Paul Morgan
Calum Crichton
Koo Janzen
Richard Macer

Yateley HC
Junior Coordinator
Player Pathway
Non-Portfolio Member

DRAFT



Hampshire Hockey Association www.hampshireha.co.uk

President: Michael Harvey



Chairman's Report to the 2024 AGM

Welcome to you all, and thank you for attending the 2024 AGM. This will be the last AGM where Dorset teams aligned to Hampshire will be present. Part of the England Hockey reorganisation, which resulted in having eight areas, also restructured the Counties. Dorset will, once again, be a stand-alone County, and we wish them every success. This restructuring requires counties to adopt a new constitution, which is being proposed to the AGM tonight.

As you probably know, we lost a great servant to hockey with the passing of David 'Tex' Lane early this year. Besides being an umpire and coach, he was also responsible for several hockey websites, of which Hampshire was proudly one; unfortunately, due to his illness, Tex was unable to carry out several enhancements that were needed to keep the website up to date. However, with grateful thanks to Koo, the website is now running as it should be, and Hampshire now owns the website. We will be looking at using it to its full potential in the coming months, BUT we will need clubs to enter up-to-date contact details so that we can keep you informed of developments. This will not replace GMS (groans, I hear), but all of the junior events and the Adult Cup will be shown on our own website.

The Hampshire Adult Cup was run this year, with a reduced number of teams due to a lack of response from clubs. Details of the competition and results are in Michael Harvey's report in this folder. The AGM is your opportunity to decide whether you, as the Hampshire Clubs, want an adult competition next season.

This past year has seen a lot of activity at the school and junior club levels within Hampshire. We are very lucky to have a paid position that organises and runs Junior School and Club Competitions. Hampshire is responsible for club junior development at Under 8/10s and Under 12s and schools up to U18. For the 2023-24 season, the Junior Administrator ran 20 school competitions for U11s up to U18s, with over 2,000 young players taking part. The role has also managed the U12 Hants Leagues (60 teams) and the U8s/U10s friendly festivals (18 clubs involved), which has resulted in over 1000 juniors having access to regular Sunday matches. Calum Crichton will update you all on the Juniors area in his report which will be added to the folder when available.

To cover the costs of this role, HHA have for many years requested a Levy Fee from clubs; the fee last season was £30 per adult team for those clubs within Hampshire and for those clubs outside of the Hampshire boundary but who play in the Hampshire Junior Leagues. Remember, most players in adult teams would have come through a junior side at some point, so the work benefits adult clubs. I hope you would agree that we need to keep junior development going to keep growing the sport we all love so much!

There will be a proposal that a Junior Administrator levy be charged for each ADULT team next season.

It is a requirement of England Hockey that all adult teams be affiliated with their county. HHA has determined that a team affiliation fee for all adult teams will cover all necessary



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expenditures. The new Treasurer will update you on proposed affiliation and competition fees at the AGM.

As you will see from the election of Officers and committee, there have been a couple of changes during the season – Frankie is stepping down as Vice-chair, and Mike has resigned as Treasurer; Heather stood down as Secretary and Junior Administrator when offered full-time employment. I am pleased to say that Phil Gibbs has stepped in as acting Secretary, Ian Southgate has taken on the role of acting Treasurer, and Calum Crichton has taken over as Junior Administrator. All three are willing to stand for season 24/25. Matthew has also stood down as a non-portfolio member (this role is mainly to cover eventualities during the season).

There is a constant need for umpires at all levels and for all ages/genders, and clubs are encouraged to promote umpiring within their teams and membership. There is plenty of opportunity for umpires at the junior level to gain experience.

I look forward to serving you again next season as we continue to grow in supporting hockey in Hampshire.

Regards,
Richard Wood

Treasurers Report for Hampshire Hockey Association 2023/24

Having stepped in towards the end of the season, I first want to thank Michael for his hard work in keeping the accounts up to date and in a place that it was easy to continue.

You will see from the final position of the accounts we have suffered a loss of around of circa £2.1k over the season. The main cause of the loss has been due to the sad loss of Tex Lane as previously mentioned, as his company hosted our Website for many years and we have had to pay to get the rights to the website and move it to a new platform

Looking ahead to the 2024-25 season we have prepared a Budget and to break even next season we are going to have to increase the entry fees to the leagues and competitions as well as reintroducing an Affiliation Fee on all Clubs; and Schools that enter our competitions. This will include those Hampshire Clubs who are playing their league hockey in a different area. A breakdown of the fees are as follows.

		2023-24	Proposed 2024-25 Fees	% Increase
Clubs	Junior Administrator per Team	30.00	30.00	0%
	Affiliation per Club	0.00	20.00	100%
	Adult Cups Entry Fee	30.00	35.00	14%
	Junior Leagues Entry Fee	20.00	25.00	20%
	Junior Cups Entry Fee	25.00	30.00	17%
	In 2 Hockey Entry Fee	30.00	35.00	14%
Schools	Affiliation Fee	0.00	20.00	100%
	Schools In 2 Hockey	40.00	45.00	11%
	Schools Cups & Festivals	40.00	45.00	11%

Yours

Ian

Financial Year June 2023 to May 2024

Income & Expenditure

Income

	2023/2024
Claire Wilkinson Fund	0.00
Contributions to J.C.Administrator	6,270.00
Hampshire Cup	1,980.00
Overpayments	260.00
Schools	6,960.00
Club Junior Leagues	1,300.00
Club Junior In-2-Hockey	1,650.00
Interest	406.65
Total Income	18,826.65

Expenditure

Claire Wilkinson Fund	0.00
Administration Costs	0.00
Junior Competitions Administrator	7,505.00
Meeting Costs	454.48
Website	1,944.44
Hampshire Cups	2,031.00
Club Junior Leagues	930.00
Clubs In-2-Hockey	218.26
Schools	7,695.00
Sundry Expenses	191.45
Allocation Between Funds	0.00
Total Expenditure	20,969.63

Excess of Income over Expenditure -2,142.98

Balance Sheet

Current Assets

	May-24
Bank and Cash Accounts	35,102.32
Sundry Debtors	0.00
Total Assets	35,102.32

Liabilities

Creditors	0.00
Accruals	1,014.00
Total Liabilities	1,014.00

Net Assets 34,088.32

Financed By

Accumulated Surplus from Previous Years	36,231.30
Surplus This Year	-2,142.98
	34,088.32

	Split of Funds		
	Brought Forward	Reallocations	Income
General Funds	18,616.84	-948.00	666.65
Club Adult Cups	0.00	0.00	1,980.00
Club Junior Leagues	2,480.00	-2,480.00	1,300.00
Club Junior In-2-Hockey	510.00	-510.00	1,650.00
School Cups	-2,855.00	2,855.00	4,520.00
School In-2-Hockey	2,192.00	-2,192.00	2,440.00
JC Administrator	-3,275.00	3,275.00	6,270.00
Claire Wilkinson Fund	18,562.46	0.00	0.00
	36,231.30	0.00	18,826.65

2022/2023

18,562.00
4,225.00
0.00
0.00
7,800.00
2,480.00
1,350.00
134.00
34,551.00

0.00
387.00
7,500.00
33.00
0.00
0.00
0.00
840.00
8,463.00
0.00
0.00
17,223.00

17,328.00

May-23

36,231.00
0.00
36,231.00

0.00
0.00
0.00
36,231.00

18,903.00
17,328.00
36,231.00

Expenditure	Carried Forward
2,590.37	15,745.12
2,031.00	-51.00
930.00	370.00
218.26	1,431.74
7,695.00	-3,175.00
0.00	2,440.00
7,505.00	-1,235.00
0.00	18,562.46
20,969.63	34,088.32



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Adult Cups Secretary's Report to AGM – 10 June 2024

The County was pleased to be able to run the 7 Adult Cup Competitions in 2023/24. There were 66 entries across all competitions compared to 78 when the competitions were last run in 2021/22.

I had hoped that the cups could have been administered on the County Website, but there were too many gremlins still in the system to make it work. This meant that we had to again use GMS despite having to rely on their support team for setting up fixtures, and them rather unhelpfully including them as Friendlies. Posting results and next round matches was therefore not as efficient as I would like, and possibly contributed to 14 ties throughout being decided by a walkover. Others, however, were the result of clubs not organising their fixtures early enough and then not being able to agree an appropriate date within the 'play by' windows. It is frustrating for both County and Umpiring administrators when matches are conceded at very short notice.

Hampshire Day was hosted by Basingstoke on a particularly inclement weather day, and I would like to thank all the teams, umpires, officials and club helpers who combined to ignore the elements and enjoy a good day of hockey. The roll of honour was as follows:

	<i>Winners</i>	<i>Runners-up</i>
Mens Cup	Fareham 2	Fareham
Mens Plate	Southampton University	Fareham 3
Mens Trophy	Winchester 3	Portsmouth 3
Mens Vase	Andover 3	Southampton Otters
Ladies Cup	Fareham	Basingstoke
Ladies Trophy	Hamble	Isle of Wight
Ladies Vase	Southampton University 2	Winchester 3

Adult Cups is one of the activities which Counties are empowered to organise under their new Constitutions. Hampshire is willing to continue to organise the Cups, maintain the annual Hampshire Day event, and to continue to allow entry to clubs which have historically been eligible to enter (given that it is unlikely that out of county teams are unlikely to have an alternative local cup competition available). 18 of the 32 eligible clubs supported the competitions this season. It would be the intention to manage and publicise the competitions through the updated County Website, which would hopefully improve the capacity for clubs to administer their participation on a more timely basis.

Feedback from clubs will be welcome at the meeting, following which a vote will be taken on whether the Cups should continue in their present form.

Michael Harvey
Cup Secretary
17 May 2024

Hampshire Junior Report 2023/24

Introduction

After eight years of dedicated service to Hampshire juniors, Heather Windust has done an excellent job. Her hard work and commitment have led to a significant increase in the number of juniors participating in clubs and schools. We extend a massive thank you to Heather from all the clubs and schools.

Transition to Calum Crichton

Starting in October, Calum Crichton has taken over the role. All leagues and tournaments have been set up by Heather, ensuring a smooth transition.

Schools

Participation

A total of 103 girls' teams and 79 boys' teams entered Hampshire competitions. We aim to further increase participation from state schools year on year. Fortunately, there have been minimal issues between schools and tournaments. However, England hockey competitions have impacted school entries, as they now directly enter with England hockey. Consequently, the standard of Cup competitions at the U16 and U18 levels has been affected.

2023/24 Season Highlights

2023/24		
Winner	Runner Up	
West Hill	Stroud KES	U11 In2
Farleigh	KES	U12 In2
LWC/Embley		13 7s Festival
Kings	Farleigh	U13 In2
KES Witney	Ryde	U14 Trophy
KES	Churchers	U14 Cup
Bohunt	Romsey	U16 Trophy
Churchers	KES	U16 Cup
Farnborough Hill	Embley	U18 Trophy
Peter Symonds	KES	U18 Cup
2023/24		
Winner	Runner Up	
Durlston	Stroud/KES	U11 In2

Ballard		U12 In2
Ryde	LWC	13 7s Festival
PGS	KES W	U13 In2
Island Free/Thornden		U14 Trophy
LWC	KES	U14 Cup
Thornden	Ryde	U16 Trophy
LWC	Kings	U16 Cup
Barton	Bedales	U18 Trophy
Peter Symonds	Churchers	U18 Cup

State School Tournaments

Several new state school hockey tournaments have been initiated by England hockey. Island Free School and Kings have been successful in these tournaments.

Additionally, KES U14 reached the National finals of the U14 Tier 3 competition.

Clubs

Congratulations to Alton U10 boys for making it to the national In2 Hockey finals. However, there are areas for improvement in the 2024/25 season:

- Ensuring teams play in the correct league.
- Encouraging more girls' teams in Division 1
- Enhancing the user-friendliness of the website for clubs

Club Results

- **U10 Girls**
 - Winner: Haslemere HC
 - Runner-Up: Romsey HC
- **U10 Boys**
 - Winner: Winchester HC
 - Runner-Up: Alton HC
- **U12 Girls**
 - Winner: Romsey HC
 - Runner-Up: Winchester HC
- **U12 Boys**
 - Winner: Haslemere HC
 - Runner-Up: Havant HC

Leagues

Hampshire U12 Winners

1. **Hampshire Under 12 Division 1 (Women)**
 - Winner: Haslemere Wizards
2. **Hampshire Under 12 Division 2 East (Women)**
 - Winner: Haslemere Witches
3. **Hampshire Under 12 Division 2 West (Women)**
 - Winner: Romsey
4. **Wessex Under 12 Division 1 (Men)**
 - Winner: Petersfield Kites
5. **Wessex Under 12 Division 2 East (Men)**
 - Winner: Gosport Pirates
6. **Wessex Under 12 Division 2 North (Men)**
 - Winner: Basingstoke A
7. **Wessex Under 12 Division 2 West (Men)**
 - Winner: Salisbury Otters
8. **Hampshire Under 12 Division 2 North (Women)**
 - Winner: Winchester Yellows

Calum Crichton 19/5/2024



HAMPSHIRE HOCKEY

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

PLAYER PATHWAY



Cycle: 2024-2025

Chairman:

Koo Janzen
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Isle of Wight
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koo.janzen@hampshirehockey.net

Performance Director: Dave Miles
dave.miles@hampshirehockey.net

Director of Coaching: Kevin Small
kevin.small@hampshirehockey.net

Head Coach (goalkeepers): Dean Davis
dean.davis@hampshirehockey.net

Secretary:

Darren Freemantle
10 Marlborough Close
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO7 5TE
darren.freemantle@hampshirehockey.net

Player Pathway Group report to AGM May 2024

Personnel

Our group is made up of:

Koo Janzen – chairman

Darren Freemantle – secretary

David Miles – performance director

Dean Davis – head gk coach

Mike Nicholls – welfare

Dan Grinstead – non-portfolio

Kevin Small – non-portfolio

The only change to our set-up is that Kevin Small has stepped down as Director of Coaching but will retain his position on the committee as a non-portfolio holder. We will start the search for a new DoC in due course.

I would like to acknowledge the passing of a past Hampshire coach and committee member Chris Bennett and the man who developed our pathway management system and who is more responsible for our success than he ever took credit for, David ‘Tex’ Lane. Both these individuals have been influential in Hampshire in their own way and we miss them dearly.

EH Pathway and Talent System

My fears surrounding the new England Hockey talent development system, as expressed in my report to this AGM 12 months ago, have come to pass (as expected).

While the South Coast TA run at Havant HC has kept to the spirit of the TA, others have not done so. I get reports from other counties that TAs run in Guildford, Reading and East Grinstead are flouting the rules and are openly running TA feeder camps in anything but name. When I challenged England Hockey on this in a recent virtual County Forum group, I was told that these camps were run by “the club” and not by the “Talent Academy”, (which is also ‘the club’ so how that is supposed to be ok, I am not sure).

I also asked England Hockey how they justified abandoning the Player Pathway and with it, the PC, which has now left hundreds of players with no access to advanced hockey training beyond the AC. They tried to challenge my facts and figures but when I pressed the matter, I was told this was not the place to discuss this and was told that I should take this up with EH privately.

The other thing we predicted several years ago when the idea of the Talent Academy was first muted by Ed Barney and Heather Williams, in that it would cause a massive shift of players to the clubs that hosted these

TCs and TAs, has also come to pass. I have been told many of our Northern Hampshire clubs have lost junior players to Guilford and Reading.



Hampshire Development Centre (DC)

The 2024 Hampshire DC is due to start this weekend (26 May). By and large we will be following the new format we trialled last year, with a few changes and updates to streamline the process and make it more cost efficient.

A copy of our syllabus can be found on the website: <https://www.hampshirehockey.net/dc-syllabus>

At the time of writing this, we have 719 confirmed players in the DC, 65 of which are goalkeepers. I expect this number to go up in the days leading up to the start of the cycle, as it does every year. To put the numbers in perspective, with the 94 players that are in the PC, which runs concurrently with the DC albeit on different days, we again have just over 800 players engaged in Hampshire activity between May and July, which equals last year's record.



Academy Centre (AC)

Sunday 19 May saw the last round of matches in the Southern Counties AC Championship and I am pleased to report that the Hampshire U13 Girls are champions of their league. A medal presentation evening will be organised in due course.

You can see all the other league tables on the Southeast and South Central Hockey websites.

The South Counties AC Championship includes all the counties from the old South area except Middlesex is now London, and is split in South and North.. Other counties are Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire. It is a shame that a couple of the counties had to withdraw an age group from the competition due to low numbers. The counties have now agreed that the U17 teams can be augmented with U18s to make sure they have enough players at the older age groups for future years.





Performance Centre (PC)

As mentioned above, one of the predicted results of England Hockey's travesty that they call the Talent System, is the fact that after AC, there are a large number of players we would previously have nominated for the PC, that now have nowhere to go.

Except for the very rich and privileged few that can afford to take part in the Talent Academy (which is restricted to 25 boys and 25 girls between the ages of 15 and 18), the remaining talented players need a programme where they can receive appropriate coaching and maybe some relevant match play. The DC is not appropriate for them. EH is fond of saying 'right player, right environment' but they have now completely removed that environment from these players...

To this end, we created the Hampshire Performance Centre (PC) for the 2023 cycle. A series of dates that will run around the same time as the DC, this programme will cater for players nominated by the Hampshire AC coaches at the end of this current AC cycle.

The Hampshire PC will be led by our Performance Director, Dave Miles, and he will select a number of high-level performance coaches to join him and deliver sessions that will really stretch these players.

For dates and venues, please see the PC page here: <https://www.hampshirehockey.net/performance-centre>

This year I have heard that Oxfordshire are running something similar, and I am hoping we can come together at some point for some Inter-PC match play. We are also talking to Guernsey about sending a team over to us.

Hampshire Player Pathway website

As you are aware, we have been running a dedicated website for the Hampshire Player Pathway for over a decade now.

Last year's proposal to use the Player Pathway website to also showcase and promote junior club and school activity in Hampshire was, unfortunately, not pursued.

www.hampshirehockey.net

Hampshire Player Registration System

With the passing of David 'Tex' Lane in the early part of this year, we were faced with a challenge to maintain our Player Pathway Management System. Thanks to the help of a few individuals, I was able to gain access to the root code of our system, as well as that of Surrey and the web system of the HHA, and we were able to transfer these over to a new server under the care of a developer.

While a number of issues have come to light since, our system is working at 100% now and plans are already underway to continue to enhance and improve it for the future.

Koo Janzen, 24 May 2024

koo.janzen@hampshirehockey.net

South Coast Talent Academy - Report for Hampshire HA AGM

Mobilisation

In March 2023 England Hockey granted Havant a two year licence to run a Talent Academy for the local catchment area. Talent Academies form part of the Talent System Framework and are aimed at players aged 15 to 18 who show the potential to play at the higher levels of the game i.e. national age group, national league and international. The catchment area for our TA runs from Swanage in the west to Littlehampton in the east, together with the Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. There are now about two dozen TAs across the country. Each TA has two squads of around 25 boys and girls.

During the summer of 2023 the operational structure of the TA was established. Whilst Havant remains responsible and accountable for the operation and performance of the TA, from the start we have been insistent it be called the South Coast TA. This is to demonstrate that it's for the benefit of all players, clubs and schools in the catchment area.

A management board was established consisting of:

David Faulkner (Chair - Havant HC)
Peter Beard (Technical Director)
Heather Windust (TA Manager)
Helen Watson (Safeguarding Officer - Havant HC)
Gordon Scott (Fareham HC)
Richard Penrose (Winchester HC)
Paul Marks (Secretary/Treasurer - Havant HC)

Over the course of the season representatives from Bournemouth HC (Gavin Rusling) and Poole HC (Casey Fudge) have joined the board.

A coaching team was recruited and consists of:

Merijn Van Willigen (Head Coach - Boys' Squad)
Alex Leach (Head Coach - Girls' Squad)
Slavik Paziuk (Coach - Boys' Squad)
Daniel Faulkner (Coach - Girls' Squad)
Tim Hoare (Goalkeeper Coach)

Given the high levels of pitch usage at Havant, HMS Temeraire in Portsmouth was selected as the main base for training. Thanks to the efforts of Steve Lemon (Fareham HC) a rebate was obtained on pitch hire costs.

Spond was selected as the main operational and communication tool for the TA. The Spond system is used for:

player recruitment and records,
event communication - training and matches,
attendance records,
invoices and payment collection,
secure and auditable individual and group communications (akin to What's App)
web site (currently in development)

Spond has been a big success and has significantly reduced the administrative task of running the TA.

Programme

Three assessment events were held during September, following which the two squads were selected. Due to the withdrawal of players from Trojans, a follow up assessment for girls was held in November to bring numbers up to the requisite levels.

Currently we have squads of 28 boys and 28 girls, including seven from Guernsey. Players come from 13 different clubs and 26 schools. The split between state and private schools is 47% state, 53% private overall. I

The coaching programme runs from October until July, culminating in a four day festival at which all TAs across the country take part. Our programme follows a four week cycle of three weeks on the pitch (two hours per week) and one week off pitch activities. The on pitch coaching has been supplemented with matches against local teams (Portsmouth, Fareham and Havant) and from January onwards games with other TAs in the South & West (Reading, Bath, Bristol and Exeter).

For the whole of December and January, the coaching programme moved indoors using the facilities at Portsmouth Grammar School and Portsmouth High School.

To support coaches and players, the TA has just purchased a VEO video camera and video coaching support software from NAC Sport. The camera sits on an extendible pole and tripod and is programmed to automatically follow the ball during matches and training. The software allows the video to be analysed and segmented into clips. Players can do their own analysis of their performance and coaches can easily compile clips of play as feedback examples for players.

For our off pitch programme, a relationship has been established with the Sports Science department at the University of Portsmouth. This has enabled us to pull in masters' students to work with the players on aspects of sports psychology, strength and conditioning and nutrition. Guy Guppy, ex Havant player and now a university lecturer in sports science, has also supported the programme. Steve Godwin (Fareham HC) has been a big supporter of the TA, both in providing online sessions on umpiring and rules knowledge, but in also supplying umpires for matches.

Working in conjunction with Bath TA and an outside software company, the TA has helped specify and develop software to support each player's individual development programme (IDP). The software allows the players and their coaches (TA, club and school) to work on and share feedback on the key focus areas for each player.

Finances

In the first year of operation (2022/23), the cost of attending a TA was a minimum of £750. In our view, even with the availability of bursaries, this was an inhibitor to participation and inclusivity. Thanks to:

the delivery of our off pitch programme through volunteers;
discounts given on pitch hire costs;
parent donations; and,
a significant donation from The Fat Face Foundation

the cost to parents for the full programme has been kept to £575. This only excludes the end of season festival, which is costed and funded separately as it is limited to 20 players from each squad. One parent requested and was given a full bursary to allow their child to attend the TA.

Stakeholder Management

There are three sets of stakeholders who have been the focus of attention during the first year of operation of the SCTA:

Parents

Clubs

Schools

Zoom meetings have been held each term with all three sets of stakeholders. For parents, this was the ideal opportunity for us to explain the programme, the personnel, our ambitions, values and how we wanted the TA work. Parents have also been encouraged to attend the off the pitch Zoom sessions with their son or daughter.

With clubs it was an opportunity to reinforce the message that this was a South Coast TA and not an opportunity for Havant to grab their best junior players, as has been the case elsewhere in the country. Over the course of the season we hope that our actions have backed up our words. Certainly the numbers of clubs in attendance has grown over the course of the year, hopefully on the back of feedback from players and parents. Less successful to date has been our attempts to engage with feeder schools, with usually only two or three in attendance. This is something we will look to work and improve on in the coming season.

Summary

Overall, with still a couple of months to run, it has been a very successful first year and many of the aims have been met:

Costs to parents was over 20% down on the previous year;

The playing programme included a substantial period of indoor hockey;

There has been a full off the pitch programme to support the development of the whole player;

Technology has been used to the full to simplify administration of the TA and maximise the player experience; and

Clubs have started to believe we mean and act what we say and that this a TA for the whole hockey community in this area.

Proof that perceptions are changing comes from the recent Open Assessment events held in March and May. These are aimed at players who want to join the TA in September and gives them a flavour of the TA environment and the coaches an opportunity to sign post which players should come back in September for the final assessments.

For the Boys sessions, we had 42 players from 14 different clubs and 24 schools. 62% of the players were from state schools and 38% private. On the Girls side, we had 50 girls attend from 12 clubs and 27 schools. The state v private ratios were 48% state: 52% private.

David Faulkner, Chair, South Coast Talent Academy
Paul Marks, South Coast Talent Academy

25 May 2024