

Hockey AGM – Sunday, 18.05.2014

1. Welcome and Apologies

Welcome to the AGM of the Hockey Section, it is good to see you here supporting and interested in our sport and club, especially to those who enjoyed the annual dinner last night!

This AGM is open to all members of Ipswich Sports Club and I'd be grateful if you could add your name to the attendee list.

Apologies were received before the meeting from:

Roger Girling; Paul Whetton; Judy Wright

2. Minutes of last AGM

- A few copies are available of last year's AGM minutes (circulate to room) and are online
- Ask the meeting to accept the minutes

3. Chairman's Report

This season is my second as Chair and I look back at a year of hard work on and off the pitch, toward securing the future of the club in the long term, building new friendships and working relationships between teams and within Ipswich Sports Club. If I had given my predictions this time a year ago I could not have hoped for such a great year, so I will be bold and say I hope for even bigger and better things to come when we meet again here in 2015!

It has been another successful year for adult and junior teams alike on the pitch. There were no relegations, one promotion with W1 getting back to National League Indoor Div 1, some 'seasons to remember' for many teams and we finish on the up with 9 thriving adult league teams, two men's vets cup teams, rumours of a reforming women's vets team, and the ever developing Juniors junior section, and indoor at the club becoming more prominent as the seasons pass.

Seniors

- This year has been a great year for weather, with no fixture impacted by the very wet start to 2014
- Special thanks to the Captains, Kat Wrinch & Mark Wrinch (Club Captain), Vanessa Allen (ULO)

- W1 - National League Outdoor Conference East - 8th; promoted to National League Indoor Div 1
- W2 - East Prem - 6th
- W3 - East Div 2C - 9th
- W4 - Suffolk Prem - 2nd
- W5 - Suffolk Div 1 - 3rd
- Women's Indoor – Suffolk League Runners Up

- M1 - East Prem B - 3rd

- M2 - East Div 2N - 7th
- M3 - East Div 5NE - 4th
- M4 - East Div 7NE - 3rd
- Men's Indoor – Borritt Cup and Suffolk Indoor League winners
- Men's O40s – 3rd round in Cup
- Men's Over 50 - playing in England Hockey Trophy Semi Final

Juniors

- Thanks to:
 - Ed Downie, Iain Bott, Helen Davies – outgoing junior co-ordinators, especially to Helen for taking on the organising of Sunday coaching this season
 - Welcome Chris Clough as Junior Chair
 - All the volunteer coaches, especially Jock, Sarah Logan and Nat Bass
 - To all the managers and organisers, Liza Bueno de Mesquita, and all the parents who have helped and supported this season.
- Girls' U18 - National Indoor Finalists
- Girls' U16 - National Indoor Finalists
- Boys' U14 - Brentwood Indoor Champions
- Boys' U12 - Suffolk Youth League Winners; Regional Outdoor Finalists
- Girls' U12 - Regional Outdoor Finalists
- U10s - Regional Outdoor Finalists
- England U21 – Hannah Martin, Kitty McWhirter
- England U18 – Clare Poole

Future of the Section

Off the pitch there has been a lot of work done exploring potential options for the future of the Hockey Section. The Hockey Working Group worked solidly through the winter months with numerous meetings, discussions, phone calls and emails all in support of the future of the club.

The conclusion is for next season we will continue to build on the great season on and off the pitch with the atmosphere coming back to Tuddenham, with games to be played there and at Henley Road. Meanwhile, opportunities to develop the TR site in the next few years, the HR pitch in the coming years, and additional capacity if required at other pitches in the town.

Thanks to Vanessa for setting up teas at Tuddenham so efficiently – this has supported the section budget significantly and would have made a loss otherwise

Findings were to explore using Rushmere for two slots a week for first teams whilst continuing to work on options for Tuddenham and Henley Road. This was agreed by Committee and presented to Council in February.

Discussions had happened with Ipswich School about the potential opportunity to play at Rushmere Sports Club site. However, since February, in spite of many attempts to make contact we have yet to make any real progress with IS or receive any commitment for the coming season. We will continue to try to discuss but this is not the focus for the coming season.

The condition of the two artificial pitches, which has been an area of concern for several seasons, has been significantly improved by focussed and sustained maintenance. Thanks to Roger G, Richard Wrinch, Andy Cutting and Graham Fretwell for their work so far and planned over the summer to bring them back to life still further with drainage works and full pitch cleaning.

Finally the ongoing conversation with Council about ways of working with Hockey (a principle sport of Ipswich Sports Club) has been extremely positive this season. We are breaking even as a section covering our costs as they stand today (league entry, umpires, coaches, balls, first aid kits!). I attend Council meetings every 2 months – **any volunteers to be co-opted to help on Council?**

ISC AGM - Wednesday 11th June 2014 7pm

- I am very pleased to announce only a small inflationary rise in hockey only membership fees has been approved by Council; Hockey only fees from 1st September are Adult £185, U16 £173 and U12 £117

Special thanks to Claire Webb, Judy Wright, Roger Girling, John Hauxwell and Lizzie Wheelhouse

Thanks to Roy Dunnett and Seven for their generous sponsorship

Summer League is up and running again, Back to Hockey bringing new ladies to the club, hosting EHB WorkPlace Challenge on Friday 4th July – lots going on, and lots to look forward to this year!

We have achieved so much as a club this season, and working together, lending a hand and getting involved we are starting to build the kind of club we all wish it could be. Last night's Annual Dinner was best I can remember, and the socials during the year have been well attended – I look forward to many to come next season (my liver does not!)

As ever during the summer there is much to put in place before the start of the league season and your Committee will be working hard over the next 8 weeks to confirm coaches, training times, and pre-season arrangements. Thank you for your attendance and good luck for the coming season!

4. Election of club officers

[See list]

5. AoB

- Club Day : Saturday 30th August?