



IPSWICH HOCKEY CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.00pm, Saturday April 23rd 2016 at Tuddenham Road

AGENDA

1. **Attendees:**
Vanessa Mutimer, Helen Davies, Rosie Jackson, Kate Winger, Minal Patel, Sue Whiting, Nicola Miller, Faye Smith, Martin Taylor, A Hayes, Heather Dixon, Lucy Southgate, James Southgate, Claire Miller, Anthony Harper, Graham Fretwell, William Bloom, Richard Langton, Tom Wheaton, Edward Downie, Margaret Fairhead, Allison Glading, Sarah Offord, Lou Clark, Emma Rhodes, Rebecca Creed, Helen Hendry, Donna Mills, Lizzy Wheelhouse, Mark Wheelhouse, Hugo Sacker, Mary Sacker, Hannah Cooper, Sue Stenson, Gillian Sacker, Chris Burke, Andy Swindon, Chris Palmer, Kristine Ayling, Mariette Rix, Chris Clough, Alice Youngman, Charlie Heard, Howard Walker, Sophie Sexton, Emily Wheaton, Connie Bedingfield.
2. **Apologies:**
Apologies were received from: Emma Millar-Rix, Claire Webb, Roger Girling, Judy Wright, Mark Wrinch, Ed Driver, Kat Blake, Jeremy Blake, Ellen Turner.
3. **Minutes of Last AGM:**
Minutes of the last AGM (28/03/2015) had been circulated. These were noted and approved.
4. **Matters Arising:**
Juniors – hockey only membership update. The proposal was taken to ISC Council and was turned down. The membership structure remained the same.
5. **Chairman's report:**
Ness had taken over as Chair from Richard Wrinch during the season due to ill health. She welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked everyone for attending.

The Hockey Committee has been very strong, lots of people have stepped forwards working with hockey working group the day to day running of the section has gone very smoothly in general.

Particular thanks were given to Alice Youngman for doing such a fantastic job as social secretary and also for being on hand for advice and to help out with anything and everything.

Special thanks also to Ellen Turner, ULO is one of the least popular roles on committee but is vital to the successful running of our teams, I'm sure you'll agree that we could play a game with 10 players, or run committee without an official chair, but without an umpire at a game then its game over. Ellen took over the role around Christmas and has been amazing. I'm sure the umpires in the room will agree that she is very tenacious! So thanks to Ellen for stepping into the gap and doing it so well.

In lieu of my attendance at the club dinner On behalf of the club and myself I would also like to thank Alex Hayes, he has coached the W1 to indoor promotion, coached and helped coach the women's 2s, and all without remuneration. He has been both a blessing and a thorn, questioning my thoughts and what is best for the club at all times but overall I have been very thankful for his input.

Membership has remained stable, with over 150 adults across 8 regular teams and an extensive Junior programme.

Back to hockey responses have been amazing and the ladies 4th team has been rejuvenated with those new players. There is hope to run similar programmes again this season for both the men and ladies.

We have been granted some funding from Suffolk Sport for a coaching programme to work with local schools and promote our club within those schools. We are expecting to bring in some additional members via this. The programme has already started and is being well received by the schools attended so far.

- 3 schools, Copleston, Hadleigh High, Farlingaye
There have been approximately 20 youngsters at each session.
We have some funding left for next year and will be in discussions with those schools about the prospect of this being self funding.
It was discussed at ISC council about the prospect of 'corporate discounts being offered to state schools' which will be something we will definitely advocate for and will further help our satellite clubs cause.

Team positions

- W1 - Indoor – Promoted to Div 1 National League
Outdoor – Relegated to East Prem. Hoping to work hard and gain promotion back next season.
- W2 – Relegated to Div 2 East
- W3 – Promoted to Div 2 East
- W4 – Promoted to Suffolk Prem
- M1 finished 10 of 12 in East Prem A – aiming for Promotion next season. The other team, promoted with the M1 last season, finished bottom of the league and has been relegated back down showing what a tough league Prem A is.
- M1 Runners up in the Men's East Premiership Indoor tournament, and narrowly missed a place in the National League.
- M2 – Relegated to Div 3 East
- M3 – Safe Div 4 East (10 of 12) narrowly avoided relegation in the last game of the season. It was raised in the meeting that Newmarket have put in some late appeals and are now above

Ipswich in the league, but we are not relegated according to the league table, the situation for next season is now uncertain.

- M4 – Safe Div 6 East (9 of 12) also narrowly missed relegation.
- GU16 – Made it through to Indoor National Finals where they came 5th.

Junior Update

The proposal on a Junior Hockey Only membership was taken to Club Exec last summer, but was rejected. The main concern raised was the potential for similar requests from other sections.

The Sports Club agreed to provide fitness training on Sunday mornings prior to normal training, as part of a push to highlight the additional value of Club membership. This has been successful with 10-15 regular attendees.

Junior numbers have remained reasonably stable this year with around 100 regularly attending on Sunday mornings. These numbers are heavily skewed to girls e.g. up to 40 attending under 12 training. The number of boys remains a significant challenge.

All of the girls' teams had successes. The Under 16 girls did very well in the national indoor competition. Under 14 girls (with a side comprised almost entirely of year 8s) were very unlucky not to get through the group stage of the national competition, and look likely to do very well next season. The Under 12 girls reached the semi-finals of the East regional competition. The Under 10 girls also reached the East regional competition. The Under 12 boys and the Under 10 boys competed in the Suffolk competition.

Special thanks were given to:

- Anya Page for running the cake sales at Tuddenham Road on Sunday mornings, which have contributed a really good atmosphere within the club house during training;
- Glenyce Rogers for managing the registers and chasing people for membership
- All coaches for their support and commitment, and especially to Pidge for organising coaches week in week out.

Future of the club

IHC is currently at a crossroads and the next few years will determine where we end up as a club. One of our main issues and it is a problem shared with other Hockey clubs - it operates as a group of individual teams playing under the Ipswich name, rather than a single club sharing a common mission and set of objectives.

A major advantage the club has is the facilities and ongoing plans to develop these and our links into ISC. To maximise the potential of this and for the club to continue to grow and attract players it must move with the times.

The club needs to improve its brand to prevent it being seen as second class to other clubs in the area. Players & parents must like what they see at Ipswich HC and buy into what we are trying to achieve.

We must improve the togetherness of the club from top to bottom from the youngest age group to the seniors.

We need to do this together. It is down to everyone in the club.

6. Financial Report

HOCKEY SECTION FINANCIAL SUMMARY

1.1.15 - 31.12.15

	Actual to 31.12.15	Budget to 31.12.16	Forecast to 31 12.16
<u>INCOME</u>			
Playing Fees	5,410	5,955	5,664
Pitch Hire	695	0	0
Sponsorship	13,000	13,000	13,000
Teas	2,640	4,120	4,120
Summer League	7,049	6,900	5760
Fundraising	3,046	1,200	1,684
Academy	842	1,360	1,360
Camps	964	1,200	1,200
Total Income	33,646	33,735	32,788
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Coaching	(14,356)	(15,637)	(16,437)
Affiliations	(1,947)	(3,244)	(1,894)
Competition Fees	(3,481)	(2,950)	(2,950)
Travel Subsistence	(3,349)	(3,085)	(3,085)
Umpires	(2,865)	(4,215)	(4,855)
Teas Costs	(1,983)	(3,028)	(3,028)
Repairs and Renewals	(1,441)	(1,300)	(1,300)
Equipment and Kit	(812)	(1,350)	(750)
Other	(260)	0	0
Total Expenditure	(30,494)	(34,809)	(34,299)
Profit	3,152	(1,074)	(1,511)

The section produced a healthy profit of £3,152 compared with a budgeted position of break even. This was largely due to additional fundraising by the Ladies 1's, lower than expected teas cost due to a lack of staff for a proportion of the season and some residual pitch hire income.

The budget for 2016 was prepared on an "as is" basis and forecast a small loss.

This budget has since been updated to reflect the L1 relegation from the National League, reduced profit from Summer League activities due to lack of availability of pitch at Tuddenham Road and increase to the men's and ladies 2's coaching budget. A small loss is still forecast but this will be monitored and covered by additional fundraising as necessary.

7. **New pitch and upgrade of Clubhouse – project update**

Graham gave an update for the meeting from the Hockey Working Group. We have looked into replacing pitch, lights, fence and upgrades to clubhouse since 2010. Updates to the clubhouse is a separate (phase 2) project. We have approached 3 funding associations for grants; we have contribution of £50,000 from Hockey Foundation and are still awaiting responses from England Hockey (£49,000) and Sport England (£0-75,000). With other sources (e.g. members loans arranged) this would leave the club needing to borrow £100,000. It is possible this could be done for less with good project management.

The current pitch was laid 25 years ago and was expected to last for 12-15 years! The fencing and lights also need replacing. The lighting is supposed to be minimum 350 lux and is currently below 250 lux.

We have quotes for all of the work looking for the best facilities and are hoping to get a positive response from the grant making bodies. The responses will be received prior to the EGM.

A 'sinking fund' will be introduced for future pitch provision. A Business Plan will need to demonstrate income from pitch hire and this will include allowing the pitch to be booked out for other sports, including football. A fully functioning clubhouse will also be able to be hired out. Graham offered to liaise with members after the meeting re: options for pitch surface supplier e.g. in relation to bounce height. Full planning permission was granted in April for improvements in lights and car park at Tuddenham Rd.

Question 1: If this comes through by 12.05.16, will the work commence this summer?

A: The work will be done mid June to September although this has to go through EGM due to the need for a 'bridging loan' from ISC prior to the sale of Henley Road and constitutionally all spending over £100k has to be approved by Members at a general meeting.

Question 2: Worst case scenario we don't get any more funding, what then?

A: We may need to look at a phased approach starting with the pitch only.

Question 3: When Henley Road is sold will we then be able to do Phase 1 and 2 at Tuddenham Road?

A: Will depend on how much we need to loan as a bridging loan, as to what will be left from the sale of Henley Road, but the plan is yes.

Question 4: Are there blueprints for the proposals of improving the clubhouse at Tuddenham Road?

A: These are in place but not revealed yet as it is a second phase project, Chris Palmer highlighted the importance of upgrading the clubhouse as much as the pitch in terms of bringing the club together and re-branding.

Question 5: Will the longer term plan be to be separate from ISC?

A: The Hockey Working Group and committee's intention is that the hockey section is ambitious and wants to remain an integral part of ISC. There is no intention to leave ISC.

Question 6: How much funding would hockey be likely to get from the sale of Henley Road?

A: This depends on the sale and how much it is sold for i.e. to a developer or otherwise.

Question 7: Run offs are not great currently, are there plans to move the pitch and improve them?

A: We do not have land from Northgate to do that. This could possibly be considered should the site be further developed in future years.

Date of EGM is Monday 23rd May 7.30 at Henley Road. Hockey members are urged to attend.

8. Hockey Section Rules

The new proposed Hockey Section Rules had been circulated and were presented. It was noted that amendments would be made to a possible name change and kit change as appropriate following discussion at the later agenda item. There was a suggestion to include head of coaching in management committee, taking total to 10.

9. Adoption of Hockey Section Rules

These were approved unanimously.

10. Proposed Name Change to Ipswich SEVEN Hockey Club

Seven

- a. Have agreed to continue to support us at the current level of £13k plus VAT and other items, for a period of 3 years.
- b. We have agreed a new contract which allows us to offer extra sponsorship opportunities to other companies and therefore increase revenue.
- c. Has requested that we change our known as/ playing name from Ipswich Hockey Club to Ipswich Seven Hockey Club. This has been voted in favour at Hockey Committee and approval is sought at the Hockey AGM before taking it to ISC Council.

Following discussion it was agreed the 'Seven' should be included in the Club name change. It was agreed that Committee would discuss in more detail the change to either Ipswich Seven Hockey Club or Seven Ipswich Hockey Club at their first meeting. This would then be discussed with Roy Dunnett before finalising.

Vote: 25 for, 3 against, 6 abstained. This proposal was passed.

Action point: For final discussion at the next Committee Meeting.

11. Kit Change

The proposed new kit was displayed.

Ed Driver was thanked for all his hard work in going out to tender and getting new deals. We will be selling kit bundles on club day with a discount. As part of rebranding and changes, there is a proposal of changing our home kit colour to white instead of blue. This would bring the additional benefit of our current blue shirts being able to act as our away shirts for some teams. It is proposed that at the Committee's discretion we change to white, taking into account the colours of teams we play against in the leagues each team plays in. Views were shared for and against, with a suggestion for a club having 2 sets of club away shirts, this is difficult to manage and we do not have a budget for this at present, *Vanessa will put this suggestion forward to the new fundraising officer who will be voted in later.*

It was raised that although the new kit supplier will deliver with a quick turnaround, what if the new season starts and we haven't ordered kit early enough.

Vanessa to look into timing of Bulk Kit order and start of Season.

Vote: 15 for, 16 against, 1 abstained. This proposal for allowing committee discretion to change the main kit colour was not passed.

12. Election of Hockey General Committee members – see attached

Each role was outlined by Vanessa. It was highlighted what a good job Helen has done this year. The need for umpires was highlighted with encouragement for members to go on the umpiring course.

Chairperson: No nominations. (for urgent consideration at first Committee Meeting)

Vice chair: Alice Youngman, proposed by Vanessa Mutimer, seconded by Mariette Rix.

Secretary: Helen Hendry, proposed by Allison Glading, seconded by Minal Patel.

Treasurer: Helen Davies, proposed by Donna Mills, seconded by Mariette Rix.

Junior Chair: Chris Clough, proposed by Kate Wingar, seconded by Mariette Rix.

Mens Club Captain: Antony Harper, proposed by Chris Clough, seconded by Minal Patel.

Ladies Club Captain: Rosie Jackson, proposed by Minal Patel, seconded by Connie Bedingfield.

Fixtures & Competitions: Kim Griffiths, proposed by Alice Youngman, seconded by Kate Wingar.

PR & Media: Josh Cutting, proposed by Alice Youngman seconded by Minal Patel.

Welfare Officer: Connie Bedingfield, proposed by Vanessa Mutimer, seconded by Chris Clough.

Disciplinary Officer: Donna Mills, proposed by Allison Glading, seconded by Alice Youngman.

Social Secretary: Kate Wingar, proposed by Minal Patel, seconded by Rosie Jackson

Head of Coaching & Development: Andy Swindin, proposed by Kate Wingar, seconded by Chris Clough. Discussion to be held as to whether this is 2 posts within committee.

Umpires Officer: Vacancy

Mens 1st Team Captain: Shyam Patel proposed by Vanessa Mutimer, seconded by James Southgate.

Mens 2nd Team Captain: Mark Wrinch, proposed by Alice Youngman, seconded by Chris Clough.

Mens 3rd Team Captain: This post will be left open.

Mens 4th Team Captain: Will Bloom, proposed by Chris Clough seconded by Howard Walker.

Women's 1st Team Captain: Emma Millar-Rix & Charlie Anderson, proposed by Donna Mills, seconded by Sophie Sexton.

Women's 2nd Team Captain: Kim Griffiths, proposed by Minal Patel, seconded by Rosie Jackson.

Women's 3rd Team Captain: Vanessa Mutimer, proposed by Rosie Jackson, seconded by Alice Youngman.

Women's 4th Team Captain: Allison Glading, proposed by Helen Hendry seconded by Donna Mills.

Non-committee posts

Teas Co-ordinator: Vacancy

Fundraising Coordinator: Emma Rhodes, proposed by Allison Glading, seconded by Helen Hendry.

Equipment manager: Donna Mills, proposed Vanessa Mutimer and seconded by Sophie Sexton.

Action point: Vacancies to be addressed at first Committee Meeting.

13. Any Other Business

- 1) The Club's Mission statement and Club Ethos will be put on the website for information. This will all impact on elements of re-branding.

It is recognised that in some areas of the club new players or players moving teams haven't always felt at home and as a committee we would like to address that through revised mission statements and culture which will be published on the new website and then filter down via committee, coaches and captains – everyone here needs to do their part. If you see a new face in your team then please say hello and make them welcome

Selection policy will be circulated

Mission statement draft -

- i. To have 1st teams that play at and are committed to maintaining an Elite standard, whilst promoting a strong club spirit.
- ii. To focus on player development, through high quality coaching & opportunities to progress at all ages, and have teams that are competitive within their leagues.
- iii. To be a sociable and friendly club that provides a warm welcome to all.
- iv. To be a family club 'for life' with player opportunities at all ages and levels from grassroots to elite and from U8 to O65 so players can realise all of their playing goals without changing club

- 2) Dates for noting are as follows:

- 1st Teams – Start July fitness
- Trials and start of preseason – 1st week in August
- Club Fitness Wednesday 20th July Men & women
- Preseason – Stick & Ball
 - Ladies sessions - from Wednesday 10th August
 - Mens sessions - from Tuesday 9th August
- Academy – Introduction sessions, Thursday 15th and Thursday 22nd Sept with a view to start Thursday 29th Sept.
- Juniors – Open day/ Registration Sunday 11th September
- Junior training from Sunday 18th – Dec 11th and restart 8th Jan- 9th April 2017
- Club Day – 3rd September 2016

- 3) Website Change

There was discussion about the Hockey website and it was agreed that it is in need of an update. This would take into account the need to: redevelop club website, improve access to information across all teams, improve traffic to website via utilising one tool for availability, information & payments. Utilise increased traffic to maximise Sponsorship Opportunities

4) Fundraising

There will be a need for on going fundraising and several ideas were discussed including: EasyFundraising, 100 Club, Club Dinner Raffle.

14. Date of AGM 2017

To be Confirmed.