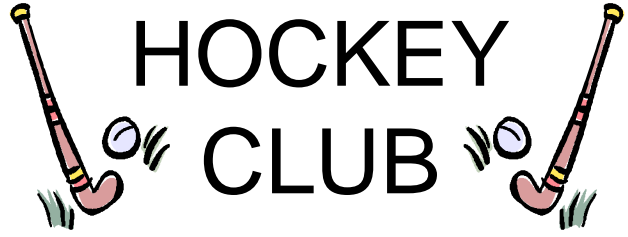


FRESH.

forest, reddish, edgeley, stockport, hadfield

NEWSLETTER

STOCKPORT HOCKEY CLUB



Issue 3
August, 2007

Come On Down...And The Rain Did!

Thursday 28th June, 2007 was the first of our informal selection evenings, I say informal but those of you who were there may beg to differ! Rik Stewart put players through their paces and we had a relatively good turn out of over 35 players which given the heavy rain I would say was good. There were also a number of you who did let us know that you were unable to attend the sessions and were still interested in playing for Stockport Hockey Club next season.

Following the 2 sessions there was a selection committee meeting which at the time of going to press the meeting is still 'in progress' 3 weeks later! In all fairness we have made the initial selection of teams and we have moved through a number of agenda items – if only you knew what work was going on behind the scenes in preparation to make things happen next season you would think some of us didn't have day jobs!

That said, we are sure it will be worth it and we have done our best to create winning teams at all levels. We have also put great emphasis on creating a Club for All and we wish to establish an open and supportive environment where players, officials, volunteers and parents feel comfortable providing positive as well as constructive feedback so that we continually improve. We have also discussed and agreed code of conducts for players, coaches and spectators which we will expect everyone who is associated with the Club will sign up to. Establishing good practice in the Club is something we are keen to do as without it we cannot gain Club 1st Accreditation which is what we have started to work towards and is really what many of us were already doing but we just needed to update, review documentation and ensure we put our theory into practice throughout the Club.

I've digressed! Back to team selection. Some of you have asked what this has been based on and there was little rocket science to it and as we are human we cannot claim to have got it 100% right but in all honesty that is what we strived to do. Our aim was to establish 2 very strong teams so that we had a fighting chance of winning both the 2nd and 4th Divisions. We also wanted to ensure we could offer development opportunities for younger, new or returning players along with social hockey for those players whose sights are no longer set on playing for England! The main inputs to selection for the 1st and 2nd team were Stockport Rep Team; number of Reddish 1st team games played and the feedback from the 2 selection sessions we held. Then there were the practical issues of positions you play in and your commitment to being available to play/train each week. Selection for the 3rd and 4th team was based on mixing skill, experience with youth as well as trying to keep social groups together from previous teams you played for.

So in a nutshell there isn't much between the 1st and 2nd teams or the 3rd and 4th teams which means players will be interchangeable and we will have some flexibility to give players an opportunity to play on other teams as and when possible. We have highlighted players we will be approaching to ask if they will take on the role of captain and/or vice but again as we go to press Beckham, Terry, Gerard haven't got back to us as yet so watch this space!

Stockport Hockey Club Website www.stockporthockey.co.uk

When Does Our Season Start?

Our first meeting of the new teams will be an aptly called "FRESH Worthy" Club Tournament on Saturday, 8th September starting at 12pm at Werneth School which will be a round robin tournament. We need players to get to Werneth for 11.30am so we can sort teams out, give kit out and get ourselves organised. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Teams will compete against each other and we have invited a 'guest' team to enter, there is everything to play for and a short presentation of winners prizes will take place at the end of the tournament.

Team Kit

Yes, believe it or not colours were decided upon and we have gone for navy/sky blue top, navy skirt and navy/sky blue hoop socks and we will also have an away team kit of navy/red which will be provided as and when we have a clash of colours. Players will be able to purchase the kit for £20 from the club, this covers the cost of the top, hoop socks plus the embroidery of the number and club logo. You will be responsible for buying your own navy skirt/skort if you do not already own one.

Training

Training will commence on Thursday, 13th September at Werneth. The cost of training is included in your registration fees so it's worth turning up. This season we have Adam Jones and Lars from Holland who will be delivering the coaching and the more of you who turn up the more productive the session will be and teams will improve. It is important that if you cannot make training that you let your captain know. 1st and 2nd team players are expected to turn up for training in order to be selected to play the following Saturday.

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

Registration Fee U13: £40

Leisure Key: £50

Registration Fee Over 13: £60

Payable by end of October, 2007

Match Fee: £3

Leisure Key: £2

Payable each week

Team Kit (inc. number): £20

Match fees will be reviewed at the end of December, 2007 to make sure we are covering our costs.

Please pay all fees promptly, if you have any problem with payment please speak to your team captain as soon as possible as we can use our discretion to help with any financial difficulties.



Sad News...

It is with regret that we have to let you know that Maggie Fiddler from Reddish Green Ladies H.C. died in July. Maggie was an excellent player, captain and club member during her time with Reddish Green. She will be greatly missed by all her friends and colleagues not only at Reddish but also in our newly formed Stockport Hockey Club. There will be a minute's silence at the start of the FRESH Worthy Tournament in memory of Maggie and discussions are taking place for a suitable tribute in memory of her. Further details will follow and our thoughts are with her family at this sad time.

Important Dates

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|---------|--|
| 8/9/07 | FRESH Worthy Tournament
11.30 a.m. at Werneth School |
| 13/9/07 | Training Commences Werneth
6-7 p.m. Junior U13's
7.15-9.00 p.m. |
| 15/9/07 | Stockport 3 rd v Bolton 3 rd
11.30 a.m. at Werneth School |
| 16/9/07 | Urmston 2 nd v Stockport 1 st
Away TBA |
| 16/9/07 | Macclesfield 3 rd v Stockport 4 th
1 p.m. at Tytherington |

The Club handbook with important club information and details of all our fixtures will be handed out at the FRESH Worthy Tournament.

And Finally

Please complete the enclosed registration form if you have not already done so and return it in the pre-addressed envelope (stamp needed). We are really looking forward to our new season as a new club and hope everyone enjoys their first season playing together as Stockport Hockey Club.