



WHAT'S THE SCORE

NEWSLETTER NO.1
WORCESTER HOCKEY CLUB



SEASON 2008-2009

Welcome to the new season! A special welcome to those of you who are new members or are considering joining us. As President I do try to meet all new members as I am around most Saturdays in the Bar and would be very happy to buy you a drink!

We have a new member of the coaching staff-**Terry Duffy**- who has moved into the area recently. He has lots of experience mainly coaching women so as it happens he will be taking over from Andy Langlands who has resigned to pursue his playing career with Stourport. A very warm welcome to you Terry as well.



During the summer as a club we have been reassessed by England Hockey and I am very pleased to report that our status has been reconfirmed. This is very important as it is a statement that we run the club in a safe and responsible manner for juniors in particular. Did you know that we now have 200+ junior members?

Many thanks to Mary Travers who bore the brunt of the work in putting together the portfolio which she submitted to E.H. on our behalf. This ran to over 50 pages-so a major effort.

Congratulations to **Barrie Roberts** who was awarded the Arthur Melly trophy at the A.G.M of the County Association held in May. This trophy is awarded each year for outstanding service to hockey in Worcestershire. So it is very pleasing that Barrie's efforts in the field of junior hockey have been recognised in this way.

Potential new clubroom.

For the last few months we have been in discussion with representatives of the Athletics Club, Nunnery Wood S.C. The 6th Form College and Nunnery Wood H.S to consider the feasibility of converting the garages / storage area near to the Artificial Grass pitch into a teaching area which would double as a clubroom together with a kitchen and a bar. Most important of all would be the addition of a new suite of toilets near to the sports areas. A new storage facility would have to be constructed elsewhere on the site. As you can imagine these discussions have been complicated but we do have an outline-very simple- plan which we believe we can all afford. All the parties are now seeking support from their various governing bodies to find out if/when they will be able to commit money to this project.

A.G.M 20th May 2008

The full minutes will be on the website but I thought I would highlight some points of special interest in addition to the potential new clubroom.

Officers. A few changes here. **Donna Holland** is the new fixtures secretary for the Women's Section and **Reg Sharratt** has taken over as Sponsorship and Fundraising Officer. All the other officers have agreed to continue for another season so many thanks to all concerned.

Captains.

Suzanne Symonds is the new captain of the Women's 1st x1, **Jeremy Drake** is to be captain of the Men's 2nd x1 and **Andy Brady** the captain of the 7th x1. Again many thanks to all of you.

Subscriptions.

You will be pleased to learn that we have kept these unchanged again for this season but the Committee is having to consider what to do about **match fees** given the sharp increase in the cost of fuel and food. You will realise that we do have to ensure that that as a club we break even each year. We have reserves which we have been very careful to safeguard for some years against the possibility that one day we might be able to acquire our own clubroom once again (see above). Our biggest single expense is the hire of pitches which now cost **£90 per match so match fees will have to go up.** On the subject of pitches we have negotiated with the Grammar School to use their new pitch at Fernhill Heath for some games.

Hockey Scholarships.

Did you know that we are now listed in the Prospectus of the University of Worcester alongside the County Cricket Club and The Worcester Wolves- the basketball team- as a club which awards these scholarships? You will appreciate this is an important development in maintaining the strength and vitality of the Club. Andy Waters, Mary Travers and Paul Merrell are to be congratulated for organising this .

Ttraining.

Yes it is that time again and of course you want to get fit and improve your skills! So the crucial days and times are :-

Men

Tuesdays at N.W.S.C.

Club training 7.30-9.00pm
1st and 2nd x1's 7.30-10.00pm

Women

Thursdays at N.W.S.C

7.00-8-30pm

Juniors

The Sunday morning sessions will start on **7 Sept. 9.30-11.00am**

And the midweek session on

Thursday 4 Sept.6.00-7.00pm

Congratulations to **Gerry Ogle** who was elected as a Vice President at the AGM.

Gerry was a very distinguished Captain of the 1st x1.on four occasions for a total of twelve seasons during the years 1985-2000 and was also selected for the County x1 many times.

Robin Brighton