

ASHFORD HOCKEY CLUB

Read & Black Newsletter: AUGUST 2008



Chairman's Chatter

Well it may not have been a golden summer for weather, but the GB athletes made it a golden one at the Olympics, even though neither the Ladies or Mens hockey sides medalled. Hopefully you enjoyed the Games, had a good summer holiday/break and are ready for the new AHC season, both on and off the pitch. A lot has been happening at Short Lane during the summer, the Ladies have had two teams playing in the AHC Summer League with limited success! Eastcote A and B won the 'A' and 'B' competitions respectfully and all the participating Clubs seemed to enjoy themselves. The Men played some friendly games against lower elevens from local Clubs, but again did not have an organised league to play in. I am very pleased to report though that Ashford Cricket Club have had a very successful summer, with both the 1st and 2nd teams getting promotion and the 1st XI unexpectedly winning the Surrey 20/20 competition (£2,000 prize money). They now are playing in the South Final (£6,000 prize money!) in Canterbury on Sunday 14/9/08, where they have another semi-final and hopefully a final to play, before possibly progressing to the National final at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff later in the month. Congratulations on your efforts so far and good luck in Kent one and all. The cleaning and repairs to the astro pitch have both been completed and hopefully you will see the improvement and lack of surplus sand during the coming season. Please don't forget that all areas within the astro compound are NON SMOKING, so can I ask for your help to police this and the general cleanliness and use of correct footwear on the astro. The pitch is 10 years old now and needs some TLC to extend its life over the next few years, and everybody's help is needed. The second astro draw will be starting again in October, so if you haven't any tickets as yet, please complete a form from the Club Notice Board or Website to stand a chance in the monthly prize draw.

On the Ashford (Short Lane) Sports (A(SL)S) front, our new Bar Manager Tracey Appleyard has settled in very well and there have been numerous fund raising efforts and improvements (many thanks for continuing with the flower displays Elaine), to the Members bar in particular over the last few months. We now have a flat screen TV bought from the general members fund raising efforts and the current 'Bonus Ball' and other lottery schemes such as the 'Premiership Prediction' competitions are raising funds for the refurbishment of the covered chairs in the Members bar. It is all excellent fun and AHC has had several winners and we hope to continue the schemes during the winter, with our next Project probably being the replacement of the tables and chairs in the Function room. Jesse Donelan is currently drawing up a hockey based lottery scheme for the winter weekends, so please help support it and in turn help improve the facilities for all at Short Lane. Unfortunately many of the other proposed A(SL)S Projects have not been progressed and many new maintenance ones such as replacement of the bar fridges and coolant system etc., have become a priority and are taking up any surplus funds. Help is still very much needed in many areas and there is a list of the outstanding jobs (Snagging List) that we need help with on the general notice board, please contact Dave Baker, Stacey Kenward, Sophie Smart or myself if you can help in anyway. After two years of sterling work, Gordon Smith (thanks again Gordy) is standing down from running the Bar Rota, so it is vital that each team provide someone to cover the Monday and Tuesday night rota when allocated. AHC take over from ACC on Monday 6th October, and the shifts can be shared i.e. either one person does 6-8.30pm and another 8.30-11pm or two of you can do it together. It is vital that we share the load amongst all eligible AHC members and your Club Captains' will be sending out the allocated team rota within the next few weeks. Finally may I wish you all the best for the coming season, enjoy it in everyway and please try and spread the word about AHC and bring new members or would-be members down to the Club Day on Saturday 6th September or to the mid week training sessions. Players of all ages and playing abilities are needed and welcome, so bring your friends/family and who ever down if you can.

COME ON U RED & BLACKS - Lynne (07831-827690)

***** SUBSCRIPTIONS *****

There has been an increase in subscriptions for the coming season, SO PLEASE CAN YOU ENSURE THAT YOU UPDATE YOUR STANDING ORDER FORM BEFORE 1ST OCTOBER 2008 VIA ONLINE BANKING YOURSELF IF YOU CAN. The subscription rates are shown below. Members who do not pay before the start of November 2008 will not be considered for selection until their subs are paid. The rates are:

Senior playing member (Over 18 years at 1.10.08 and in employment)	12 payments of £26 = £312
Senior playing member (Over 18 years at 1.10.08 and unemployed, student etc.)	12 payments of £16.66p = £200
Junior playing member (Under 18 years at 1.10.08)	12 payments of £9.16pp = £110
Junior playing member (Under 14 years at 1.10.08)	12 payments of £5.83p = £70
Non-playing Member	£20

In addition, for Colts who only play on a Sunday in Colts leagues, the annual subscription is £50 or 12 payments of £4.16p.

A form for any members who would like to start paying their subscription by the above method is available on the Notice Board and on the AHC Website. May we remind you all about subscriptions; previously when you paid your subscription at the start of the season, you didn't normally get any reimbursement of it, regardless of how much hockey you played or whether you played summer hockey. However, now that many members are paying by standing order over a 12 month period, some are stopping their payments before all twelve i.e. their full subscription for the season, have been made; for what seems in many instances for no apparent reason. Thus AHC is not getting a full subscription from

AHC Committee Members for this Season

President	Martin Smith
Chairman	Lynne Morgan
Treasurer	Doreen Brown
Secretary	Phil Worsfold
Ladies Fixtures	Alex Saunders
Men's Fixtures	Andrew Barnes
Ladies Club Captain	Emma Hynes
Men's Club Captain	Andrew Barnes
Press Officer/Webmaster	Lynne Morgan/James Meers
Recruitment	TBA
Colts Manager	Peter Cottrell
Entertainments	Wendy Baker
Sport Club Representative	Jesse Donelan
A(SL)S Development Committee	Dave Baker, Stacey Kenward, Sophie Smart
A(SL)S Maintenance Committee	Lynne Morgan

Pitch Etiquette

May we remind all members and spectators that if they are not involved with the game being played, they should remain behind the spectator side line barriers at all times. Members should not be 'knocking up' or using the goals or areas of the pitch whilst matches are being prepared for or in progress. In addition smoking within the confines of astro pitch and the use of glass drinks containers is prohibited.

Pitch and Grounds Litter

Please put all your litter, empty cups/ bottles etc., in the litter bins provided when you have finished your game and/or training. Please don't leave it for somebody else to clear up.

Club Kit available to buy this season-

Socks - £6.00, Sizes Small (3-6) and Large (7-12)

Unisex AHC black Warm up jackets @ £28

Unisex AHC black Fleece @ £27

Contact Doreen Brown or Lynne Morgan for further details - all sizes available.

Ladies league shirts £20 each.

AHC Tracksuit Trousers @ £27

AHC Men's black Shorts @ £14

Men's shirts - contact Peter Cottrell.

Ashford Antiques News

* Congratulations to former 1st XI super star and coach Bacchus on his wedding in Tuscany this summer. You have broken some of our hearts Colin, but we wish you and Brid all the best for the future and we hope to see you again soon.

* The vintage AA's had another summer bash at Jane English's summer house on Friday June 13th. Surprise attendees were Greta Mattar and Sue Martin, the former of whom is now spending time travelling in India. Mavis Lane and staunch Derby County supporter Sheila Kinnear also put in their first appearance, alongside most of those who attended last year's event. A good nostalgic time was had by all and thanks are due once again to Jane and hunky son Josh, who not only helped us with the drinks and Chinese food, but most importantly kept us up to date with the Euro 2008 football scores.

* Several AA's both, male and female, as well as AA's YTS member Hannah Stokes attended the never to be forgotten Nelson Mandela 90th Birthday Concert in Hyde Park in June. Although we didn't have time to have an AHC team photo with the great man, we did get a birthday wishes text from AHC displayed live on the big screens for the entire world to see. Shame I didn't include the AHC website address or a contact number for the millions watching to use! See the AHC Face book site for some of the photos taken.

* Unfortunately in the last Newsletter I forgot to mention that long time AHC player and Men's fixture secretary Yasdi Merchant also attended AHC Legend Bruce Cotton's farewell game and party in May. It was good to see you again Yas and sorry we didn't have time for a good catch up.

* The Cotton family have arrived safely down under and are based in Perth at present. Some have heard from Pauline that all is well so far. We hope to stay in contact and will let folks know when full e-mail contact is made.

Lynne - lynne.morgan@live.co.uk

Weddings/Engagements

Congratulations to Ladies 3rd XI Vice-Captain, Hannah Richards who married Guy Mock (son of AA Janet) this summer, so once again there will be a member of the Mock family playing for AHC.

Congratulations also to Alex Barlow and Natalie who got engaged in July.

Lisa Cunningham got married on Friday 29th August to James Bowen-Dawes

Stork Club

Mark Smith had a baby boy in July and he is called Oakley Harrison Smith.

Digger and Nat are expecting their first child in December and likewise Donna Lee Bayliss and her husband in February.

Social Dates for your Diaries!

Socials are a great opportunity to meet up with everyone from the club to have a good old catch-up, a few laughs and probably more than a few pints of sbab!

Lots of people (especially Wendy!) work really hard to organize a variety of social events and those of you who attended any of last years' will know that they are a hell of a lot of fun!

So have a look at the dates above, put them in your diary and keep them free, its always great to see as many members as possible at these events and remember all the money raised goes into making Ashford Hockey Club the best it can be! Hope to see you all there!

Hynes and Digger

6th Sept - Club Day

REGISTRATION: 12.30pm

INSTRUCTIONS: 1pm (basically teams will be announced, rules given etc)

GAMES START: 1.30pm PROMPT! Teams will be placed in 2 pools, the winners of pool A will then play the Runners-up of pool B and vice-versa in semi finals, the winners of these games will then play in the final to decide who will be crowned Club Day Champions 2008!

COST: £2 (Adults), £1 (colts/children)

PRIZES!!!!

Prizes will be awarded to the winning team (obviously!), but there will also be the opportunity to win a prize for the Top Goal Scorer (both male and female) and Player of the Tournament (male and female), this will be decided by a number of people watching and playing throughout the day, so make sure you show off your silky skills!

BBQ

A bbq will take place during the later part of the afternoon to re-energise all you hard working athletes and supporters, so make sure you keep a couple of quid for your burger!

SOCIAL!

Once the hockey has finished we will be having a nice chilled out social in the players bar, so please stay around and have a few drinks!

ONE FINAL THING FOR GK!

This year we are trying to do something a bit different in terms of GK for club day, we are hoping to have enough goalies to allocate to each team, so that everyone has a fully kitted GK! So if you are a GK or are thinking about being a GK this season can you let me know whether you are coming to club day so I have a rough idea of numbers! Thank you! Please email me on ehynes@hillingdongrid.org

Other Social dates for the year but yet to be confirmed are

8th Nov - Details to be provided later

13th Dec - Xmas Party

31st January - Details to be provided later

28th March - End of season Party

25th April - Details to be provided later

Tours

30 of the mixed players dressed up as Doctors/Nurses for this years Wayfarers Mixed Festival on July 5-6th see the AHC face book for the scary pictures

Recruitment

Players or would be players, umpires, coaches, managers, helpers, spectators of all ages and abilities are urgently needed by AHC. We are losing players, especially 'senior ones' from the men's sides and not getting replacements and are in danger of losing a team. With 20 teams covering Men's, ladies, Juniors and Mixed hockey, we pride ourselves on offering high standards of hockey and making sure we have a good time in the bar afterwards! We pride ourselves on not only offering a high standard of hockey, but also supporting the developments of our colts players to their highest capability and also offer coaching and opportunities and our Colts sections need extra members. Please help us spread the word, name and reputation of AHC., as we feel we have a lot to offer:

- Our Ladies sides play in the Middlesex Leagues and Supported by qualified and experienced coaches.
- Both our men's' 1st XI and 2nd XI play in the highly competitive Southern Leagues and offer National League Standard Hockey.
- Coaching from Premier League experienced players is available every week.
- Our Lower XI men's sides play across the Middlesex and MBBO Open leagues., and are supported by qualified and experienced coaches who have played the game at various levels.
- We have an umpiring training scheme and many qualified umpires to help novice and new umpires.

Colts Hockey

Peter Cottrell - Junior Coordinator. colts@ashfordhockeyclub.co.uk 07803 263488

Team Managers:

The teams would be organised by:-

U9 mixed - Sam Clarey (C) Jakki Wheeler (C)

U11 girls - Sam Clarey (M & C) Jakki Wheeler (C)

U11 boys - Sam Clarey (M & C) Jakki Wheeler (C)

U12 boys - Jakki Wheeler (M & C)

U14 girls - David Sutch (M) Adrian Hewes (C)

U14 boys - Adrian Hewes (M & C) Jakki Wheeler (M & C)

U16 boys - Ian McAllan (M & C)

U16 girls - David Sutch (M)

U18 boys - Gordon Smith (M & C) Cliff Pocock (M&C)

U18 girls - Alison Boxell (M) Laura Samouel (C)

All teams - Adrian Hewes (C) Peter Cottrell (C) Mark Appleyard (C)

(M) Manager (C) Coach

Your Captains for this Season

Ladies 1s - Capt: Laura Quinn and VC: Stacey Kenward

Ladies 2s - Capt: Hayley Eames and VC: Victoria Newman (Freddie)

Ladies 3s - Capt: Hannah Stokes and VCs: Hannah Mock

Ladies 4s - Capt: Nicola Humphries and VC: Anna Davis-Hale

Mens 1s - Capt: Ollie Smith and VC: TBA

Mens 2s - Capt: Andrew Barnes and VC: TBA

Mens 3s - Capt: Ian Parker and VC: Jesse Donelan

Mens 4s - Capt: Amit Bhamra and VC:

Mens 5s - Capt: TBA and VC: Peter Greatorex

Mens 6s - Capt: TBA and VC TBA

Mixed - Stacey Kenward

Season Starts again – Get ready to go.....

Wednesday August 27th

MENS 1/2S TRAINING RESTARTS 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Tuesday September 2nd

COLTS TRAINING RESTRARTS 6.15pm for a 6.30 start for U9 boys and girls, U11 boys and girls and U14 Girls. We are looking for as many new players as possible so please bring down your friends.

LADIES TRAINING RESTARTS 7.30pm-9.30pm

Thursday September 4th

LOWER MENS TRAINING RESTARTS 7.30pm-9.00pm

Colts training 7.30-8.30pm

Saturday September 6th

CLUB DAY - Mixed 7-aside Tournament

Tuesday September 9th

LADIES TRIALS 7.30pm-9.30pm

Saturday September 13th -
FRIENDLIES

Ladies 1s V Old Kingstonians Away 2.30-5pm

Ladies 2s V Aldershot & Farnham Home @ 10.30

Ladies 3s V Surbiton 4 Home @ 12.00

Mens 1s - TBA

Mens 2/3s - TBA

Mens 4/5s - TBA

Saturday September 20th -
FRIENDLIES

Ladies 1s V Wimbledon 2's 10.30-1.30

Ladies 3/4s Blackboard Session

Mens 1s V High Wycombe 1s Home @ 1.30

Mens 2s V Oxford Hawks 2s Home @ 3.00

Mens 3/4s V Phoenix & Ranelagh 2s Away @ 1.00 Rivermead

Mens 5/6s V Phoenix & Ranelagh 3s Home @ 4.30

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST

Mens 1s V Gore Court Home EH CUP

Saturday September 27thd -

Ladies 1s V West Hampstead 2s Away League

Ladies 2s V Surbiton 3s Away Friendly

Ladies 3s V Maidenhead Away Friendly

FRIENDLIES FOR
EVERYONE ELSE

Ladies 4s V Hamp & West 7s Away League

Mens 1s V Oxford Hawks 1s Home @ 1.30

Mens 2/3s V Eastcote 2/3s Home @ 3.00

Mens 3/4s V Eastcote Simbas Home @ 4.30

Mens 5/6s V Eastcote 8s Away @10.00 Eastro

Saturday October 4th-

Ladies 1s V Hendon 1s Home @ 12.00

Ladies 2s V Staines 3s Home @ 10.30

Ladies 3s V PHC Chiswick 3s Away

Ladies 4s V PHC Chiswick 5s Away

Mens 1s Staines 1s Home @ 1.30

Mens 2s V West Hamp 2s Away @

Mens 3s V Newbury & Thatcham 2s Home @ 3.00

Mens 4s V British Airways 3s Away @

Mens 5s V PHC Chiswick 5s Home @ 4.30

Mens 6s V Gerrards Cross 5s Away @

Have a great season everyone and more importantly enjoy your hockey!

Ed.