



## Banbury Hockey Club - Junior Newsletter 2011/12

Dear Players, Parents and Friends,

**Welcome to the 2011/12 junior hockey season.** We are looking forward to another successful season with quality coaching sessions and plenty of opportunities for competitive matches. We are always very grateful for support on and off the pitch – thank you to all the volunteers, supporters and drivers of last season, please continue to help us.

Last season we achieved some major successes at junior club level with the Boys U14 and U16 teams both winning their Oxfordshire league competitions. The U14 girls were runners-up on goal difference in their league and they also qualified for the regional finals, whilst the U16 girls were also runners-up in the Oxfordshire league. The U8s, U10s and U12s all equipped themselves well in the festivals and tournaments entered and this season we plan to build on this with a more structured series of competitions for them to play in.

We have **Clubs First Accreditation**, which is valid until 2013 and we will continue to work to provide a **Safe, Effective and Child-friendly Hockey Environment**.

### All Change Again

Following extensive consultation, England Hockey has made the decision to return to basing junior club competitions on school year groups rather than calendar years. However the 'Single System' activities that operate outside the clubs and which lead up to England level (i.e. JDC, JAC, JRPC etc) will remain based on year of birth not school year.

For further details of the single-system please using the following link to the England Hockey website:

[http://www.englishockey.co.uk/player\\_pathway.asp?section=898&sectionTitle=Single+System+\(LTAD\)](http://www.englishockey.co.uk/player_pathway.asp?section=898&sectionTitle=Single+System+(LTAD))

As a result of these changes our club coaching and team selection will be changed to reflect the return to the school year groups. Whilst these changes will result in some upheaval in the short-term, in the long-term we are pleased that we are able to keep school year groups together for training and matches as it has caused us some issues in the past few years.

### Club Day

Once again we are planning to start the season with a **Club Day on Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup>**. It will be a fun day of games and competitions, and a barbeque lunch. It is an opportunity for you to bring your family and friends, to see if they would like to become involved in the hockey club – new members are always welcome! Further details will be sent nearer the time and also posted on the website.

### Coaching

Coaching sessions will be on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday evenings** and **Sunday mornings**.

<b>Tuesdays -</b>	<b>Girls of Secondary School age (Year 7 - Y11)</b>	<b>6.00pm until 7.25pm</b>
<b>Wednesdays -</b>	<b>Boys of Secondary School age (Year 7 - Y11)</b>	<b>6.00pm until 7.25pm</b>
<b>Sundays -</b>	<b>Boys &amp; Girls of Primary School Age</b>	<b>9.45am until 11.00am</b>

**PLEASE NOTE SLIGHTLY LATER START FOR SUNDAY MORNING SESSIONS THIS SEASON**

Some junior players may also be invited to attend their respective senior training sessions. **Ladies'** training is at **7.30 – 9.00pm on a Tuesday** and **Men's** training is **7.30 – 9.00pm on a Wednesday**. If you want to discuss this further then please speak to Jenny Nunneley, Rob Gardner or one of the other lead coaches.

There will be 4 blocks of coaching with a break for half-terms in Oct & Feb, and a longer break at Xmas. For half-terms the break for the Sunday training will now be on the first Sunday of the half-term as this is historically when most people are away. The dates for next seasons coaching are as follows:

First block:	<b>September 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>until</b>	<b>October 16<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup></b>
Second block:	<b>Oct 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>until</b>	<b>December 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup></b>
Third block:	<b>January 8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>until</b>	<b>February 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup></b>
Fourth block:	<b>February 19<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>until</b>	<b>March 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> April 1<sup>st</sup></b>

**WE ARE PLANNING TO HOLD XMAS AND END OF SEASON EVENTS FOR THE JUNIOR SECTION THIS SEASON. PARENTAL HELP WOULD BE VERY MUCH WELCOMED. DETAILS TO FOLLOW. PLEASE TALK TO JIM/JENNY/ROB IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.**

## Weather

Hockey training will continue through most weather conditions. It is therefore advisable to make sure that players come prepared for cold and wet occasions i.e. waterproof clothing, jumpers, gloves etc. However please be aware that the pitch freezes quickly in very cold weather making it dangerous to use.

Training and matches will be cancelled if the pitch is frozen or covered in snow. If you are in doubt that a session will be held then **please check the club website** where there will be a message posted if training is cancelled.

## Matches

Fixtures for Girls and Boys U14 & U16 teams can be found at Fixtures Live by following the links from the Banbury Hockey Club website <http://www.banburyhockeyclub.co.uk/juniors.php>

There will be friendly festivals and tournaments against other local teams for the Under 8, 10 and 12 age groups.

One of the most important parts of our matches is the parental support, for both home and away games. We do of course need your help to transport the players to their matches. Encouragement on the sideline is always much appreciated and we would welcome any other offers of help. Team managers will contact players before each game with the details. There is a match fee of £2 to go towards pitch hire and administration costs. Please pay it on the day.

## Membership

Junior membership of Banbury HC will remain at £40 per member for the 2011/12 season. This season we are offering discounts for siblings as follows: Two junior members £70, Three junior members £90.

This subscription covers all training sessions, 24 in total to the end of the season. Membership forms can be downloaded from <http://www.banburyhockeyclub.co.uk/documents.php>

Please bring the form and cash/cheque (made payable to Banbury Hockey Club) to your first training session. **Laura Davis** has kindly agreed to continue as the **Membership Secretary for the Junior section**. She will have responsibility for all the age groups this year, so please make her job easier by completing the paperwork as soon as possible in the season.

### Missing Shirts – Please Check

Unfortunately we are missing several of the junior match shirts – particularly from the Under 14 and Under 16 boys and girls kits.

Please check whether you have any Club shirts at home and return them to Jenny or Rob ASAP

## Olympic Tickets

The Club has been able to purchase a limited number of Olympic tickets for sale to members. As an incentive to getting people to register and pay their subscriptions at the start of the season all junior and senior players registered by the end of September will be entered into a draw for the opportunity to purchase a pair of the tickets. Family memberships would only be entered into the draw once to ensure distribution throughout the club.

## Recruitment – “Bring A Friend”

Banbury HC pride themselves on the number of junior players that move through the Club to play at a high level in the Club's senior teams and for other cubs playing at a high level. In order for this to happen we need to continually recruit new junior members and provide them with quality coaching opportunities. The junior section had a lot of new members last season but there are still some age groups where we need both more boys and girls. We are planning to run a recruitment campaign in local schools but would also encourage players and their families to bring along new players to give hockey a try. We are happy to provide taster sessions without any pressure to join immediately.

## Communications

We would like to use our website and email for as much communication as possible. Please let us have your email address, if you have one, so that we can add it to our list. To keep track of what is happening at the club visit the club website: [www.banburyhockeyclub.co.uk](http://www.banburyhockeyclub.co.uk)

## Kit

**Players must wear shin pads and we strongly advise the use of a properly fitted mouth guard.** Shoes with soles suitable for AstroTurf for training and matches are advisable. It is important that appropriate clothing is worn for the weather and conditions. For matches we play in red socks, navy blue shorts/skirts and red team shirts (which will be provided). BHC shirts, shorts, skorts, socks and sweatshirts are available for purchase, some of which can be personalised. For the juniors this is coordinated by Karen Atkins: [Karenatkins@supanet.com](mailto:Karenatkins@supanet.com) or 07816 621678.

Looking forward to a successful season

***From the Banbury HC Junior Coaching team and Managers***

### **Junior Club Contacts:**

**Jenny Nunneley:** 01295 670250 or 07752 890006 [jnunneley@btconnect.com](mailto:jnunneley@btconnect.com)

**Rob Gardner:** 01608 737816 or 07941 750962 [robert.gar@virgin.net](mailto:robert.gar@virgin.net)

**Jim Chadbourne:** 07757 387145 (Sunday morning organiser) [jim@chadbourne.myzen.co.uk](mailto:jim@chadbourne.myzen.co.uk)