Annual General Meeting - Women and Men report 1st Team Report 2022

Results

The Women finished 10 out of 12. Target achieved having gone up this year.

The Men finished 2 out of 12, losing out on the league by goal difference They won the Tier 2 cup. 3rd in an Indoor competition held in London over christmas.

Training

Additional training time was on offer this year, starting pre-season earlier (July), as well as Indoor training and Gym training held at Bloxham School - a note of thanks for the school's continued support of Banbury Hockey club. Providing the facility and member of staff free of charge.

Women - Women's training was well attended, a focussed attitude of development, balanced with good humor was achieved. Skills, mentality, teamship and hard graft were our main focuses. Thanks to Liz, Jo, Harry S, Sasha and Tom for their support throughout the last 18 months.

Men - Men's training was well attended, supporting continuity. Training developed after input from the team into preparation for the weekend, fitness and work ons from the previous weekend. Thanks to Andy, Stuart, Matt for their support throughout the year.

Performances

The women's performances in the league this year were good for our experiences, although varied, as we beat sides in the top six but dropped points against the bottom four. The men's performances were consistently good but away from home should have been better.

Squads

Women

The squad is in a strong position going into next season. For success, the more senior members will need to remain a part of things consistently. Their support has been tremendous when tested this year. Our Junior section and junior players have stepped into the shoes of those who have moved on, showing our players to be skilful and full of character. The summer league has allowed 2nd team players, junior players and new players to be integrated and developed. The squad age and dedication is appropriate to make steps forwards over the next few years. It is worth noting the significant contribution Maddy has brought to the team this year on and off the pitch, she will be missed. That said it will be important for the club to fully back them sticking together again next year. It's an exciting time.

Men

This year's squad has been made up of 15 dedicated players and the support staff of Andy, Matt, Steve. Our U18 cohort have developed and contributed to this year's performances and results. The under 16 group we spoke about developing have been exposed to ample training and juniors at U15 are already being integrated into the group. It is worth noting the significant contribution George has brought to the team this year on and off the pitch, he will be missed.

Opportunity to play

Indoor training will remain this year although pre-season will begin for the men in August due to an extended season for the cup run. Some individual/group training will be held for the men between July and August for our key focus areas of the game and, developing junior players.

1st XI Pathway

The 2nd XI, Under 16 and Summer League Team remain the **final stepping stones** for players moving into the 1st XI. **Thank you to so many parents and volunteers who support this pathway.**

Playing experience

Video technology, mixed gender indoor training, get togethers off the pitch have all been implemented with an aim to boost player experience. Thanks to Kerrie for supporting the men with match teas throughout the year.

Next year we will focus on our clubhouse, changing room, pitch set up and off pitch support.

Competition Entry

A desire to be ambitious and provide an opportunity to play the game means we will look to enter the men's cup and consider indoor cups once again.

Facility

To offer a sense of pride, belonging and ownership we will be looking to make some small changes to the clubhouse - Highlights of past success, and current.

Underpinning the Future

We will continue to provide competitive opportunities on every occasion. As well as do everything within our power on the pitch and off the pitch to provide the best experience for the players and maximize their potential.

Thank You.

Next year, I will be stepping down as the Women's 1st Team coach as I take a role at Stourport as part of their women's 1st team set up and the Talent Academy.

Coaching the team and being a part of the Women's part of the club has been one of my most memorable periods as a member of any hockey club. A heartfelt THANK YOU to all those who have been a part of this time.

Finally some word of thanks, to Andy Camp and Bryce Wilkinson for their organizational support this year. Becca Atkins and Will Kellett for their on pitch leadership. Matt, Sasha, Harry S for their support with coaching. The junior coaches and managers who picked up the reins of my groups halfway through the season. David, Noel and Jo for their support off pitch. Lesley and Joyce for the significant amount of free time they have given to support both teams. And of course every club member and committee member who has supported you make the difference.