

This report has a greater focus on off pitch changes to impact the results of the teams going forward and a smaller focus on our performances, results and training due to a short season.

Results

The Men finished 11th out of 12 in a 6 game season.

The Women finished 3rd out of 12 in a 5 game season.

Training and Friendlies

We trained as a collective on every occasion, training was well attended and the players' attitudes were 1st class. The appetite for friendly matches varied during a confusing year of hockey for the squad.

Performances

The women's performances in the league this year were consistently strong for the league they were in. The men's performances demonstrated they can compete with the best in the league on their day but were inconsistent.

Squads

Women

I am very pleased to say Becca A will be staying on this year as captain and a Vice will be announced later in pre-season.

Bryce W. will be joining the team as Manager this year taking on some of the administrative jobs. I'm delighted to have his support and feel fortunate to have another club member put their hand up for a voluntary position. Bryce's position now allows Becca and I to have a greater focus on the On Pitch roles. Liz George remains as Assistant and Fitness Coach in a voluntary role.

Over the last two years the squad has been transient, once again we will lose some players - Megan heads to London and Molly to University. Tash and Pagey will be missing for part of the season but we hope to see a return from them as soon as they wish to be involved again. These are significant losses however I've been buoyed by performances of our Under 18 players in the summer league and we will still have a strong and committed core of adult players from the last two seasons.

Men

This year sees Barney and George step down after four years as Captains. They've been a great team - Barney helping the team bond together and giving a level headed perspective in all situations. George has been a role model for quality on pitch performances and leadership. Both George and Barney have championed developing our younger members of the club, being ambitious and playing with pride.

Will Kellett will be taking over as Captain and a decision on Vice Captains will be made later in pre-season.

Connor Porter joins the men's team this year as Fitness Coach in a voluntary role, he has a wealth of experience in youth development and is excited by the prospect of working with adults once again.

Phil Smith will support our GKs on a consultancy basis in a voluntary role.

The squad has not lost anyone at present and has been bolstered by Harry S returning to the club and Darsh T joining from the Midlands area. We will be introducing a few under 15s to the squad training

group this year and have seen good performances from our under 18s in summer league matches, we will be looking to expose a couple of these under 18s to 1st XI hockey this season.

Opportunity to play - A few changes have been made over the last 12 months with training.

Pre-season now starts in July rather than August, this extra time is spent honing foundation skill, fitness and position specific skill.

A 2nd training slot will be opened up again for the 1st and 2nd XI squads in 2021. This will include the opportunity to play indoor hockey and gain fitness expertise in a gym.

1st XI Pathway

The 2nd XI, Under 16 and Summer League Team are the **final stepping stones** for players moving into the 1st XI.

Playing experience

Matches have been recorded this season and privately shared on our youtube channel this year although the footage has not been great. We've added to the off pitch support of both teams again with Managers and Fitness Coaches.

The club is investing in Video technology which allows the players to highlight parts of the game themselves and collect a better view of the games.

Competition Entry

A desire to be ambitious and provide an opportunity to play the game means that this year the men will enter the south central indoor competition as well as the national cup.

The women will be entered into the national cup competition.

This will mean extra time commitments from some volunteers and playing members of the club and will provide further competitive and development opportunities for the playing members.

Facility

To offer a sense of pride, belonging and ownership we will be looking to make some small changes to the clubhouse and pitch side - Painting, Photos, Highlights of past success, Flags, Banners, Pitch tidy.

Underpinning the Future

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

Finally some word of thanks, to Andy Camp for his financial and organisational support this year. Becca Atkins for her on pitch leadership and administrative support. Barney Williams and George Brooker for their on pitch leadership and direction they took the team in over the last four years.

The club members and committee for their continued support.