

Chesterfield Hockey Club

Minutes of the Annual General Committee Meeting of the 27th April 2009 held at the Brampton Manor Club

Present

Gary McCormick, Brendan Molloy, Bob Battye, Dudley Walker, Marl Fonseca, Jamie Cluer, David McCormick, Les Hawketts, Mac McCran, Adam Bointon, Rob Anderson, Tony Bointon, Pete Julian, Christian Battye, Neil Adams, Tom Wilton, Alex Frazer, Richard Chappell.

Apologies

Mark Neale-Eyre, Jonno Hodgson, John Nash, Matt Cluer, Chris Bee, Martin Fisher, Nick Roberts

Minutes

Accepted. (Rob Anderson proposed, Mac McCran seconded)

Matters Arising

All covered by the Agenda items.

Secretary's Business (note read out)

Firstly many thanks to Nick Roberts for his assistance this season, he makes my life a lot easier.

No real problems to report for this season, all is running smoothly.

As I mentioned at the last committee meeting, I would like to stand down as secretary. This looks unlikely to be an option due to lack of interest from Club members to carry out roles of officers. As a club, we need to somehow address this, A role on the committee should not have to be a job for life, and others need to be persuaded to contribute and not constantly expect others to do it all. Too many think they have a right to simply turn up and play and not put anything back into the Club.

Mini Hockey / Youth Development

Mark Fonseca has now completed 2 years in this role. 100 kids between age range of 6 – 16 yrs attend each weeks sessions and 33% of these are girls. All coaching and organisation is done through volunteers. Mark is hoping to qualify as a 2nd level umpire during the summer break.

The training is based on England Hockey Stix Skills. Sunday sessions are also run and are very popular. We are running 2 U12 and 2 U14 teams. More coaches are needed, and certainly by 2012 this requirement will be more urgent. Parents' assistance makes up a good proportion of assistance in training. A volunteer website for Wednesday evening training is available and it is hoped that volunteers will be more forthcoming in the new season, rather than relying on the few regulars.

Thanks to Nick Roberts who has attended 80% of sessions, and also to Mark's wife Sally and children Luke and Kirsty.

St. Mary's Pitch

No report from John Nash, however, Gary reported the following

The pitch is now 8 years old and the pitch is still looking good and is well maintained. Some lights have failed and these are very expensive to replace. A costing exercise is underway to determine if the lamps should be replaced one at a time, or if it is cheaper to replace all lamps when the specialist equipment used to raise and lower the gantry's is on site.

The relationship with the school is very good.

The old goals were scrapped.

Chairman's Report and Recommendations for 2008/9

On the playing side, most teams played better before Christmas.

- The 1st Team through circumstances played without an overseas player and proved that their squad, on their day, were a match for any team in the league – injuries certainly took their toll after Christmas. I am still disappointed about the team's disciplinary record, especially the senior players. Watching the matches it is easy to see when the senior players loose it, the younger players seem to follow.
- 2nd XI contested the league right to the end. I think that they would have won the league if it were not for the unfortunate illness to Joe Bloxham. He was just beginning to play some fantastic hockey before his illness.
- 3rd, 4th and 5th XI's never really got going. Each had some good results and at times played some good hockey, but the old problem of inconsistent availability took the toll.

The decision to persevere with the 5th Team was the correct thing to do, although travelling to Derby to play top of the league with 7 players made one wonder. Mac again did a great job in plugging gaps left by players moving into the 4th's and 3rd's with youngsters being introduced into the Club.

Mini Hockey continues to thrive under the direction of Mark Fonseca. For Mark to expand and improve the coaching set-up, he will require more assistance next season.

On the social Side, Mac continues to knock his head against the proverbial brick wall. The numbers attending are small, the events are highly entertaining and Mac continues to make substantial funds for the Club.

On the financial side; reduced numbers of players with more schoolboy members and a significant reduction in the number of matches has greatly affected our revenue. However, in tough times we are determined not to increase the cost of hockey.

Looking Forward I am still concerned that there are a number of key positions within the club that still have not been filled and we desperately need some young blood on the committee.

On a positive note: Chris Battye 's return to hockey has seen him look at reviving summer hockey: Jamie Cluer's return should boost the 2nd XI and our coaching set-up.

The big challenge is to get back to consistent team selection, which means a higher level of commitment, in particular 4th and 5th teams players. Mac has now heard every excuse under the sun for reasons to not turning up.

Treasurer's Report and Recommendations for 2008/9

At the start of the season, we budgeted for overseas players at £3000 - £4000. In the event, even though we ended up not having overseas players, we still had to pay out approximately £900 for anticipated accommodation.

The profile of members in teams is tending towards juniors and this affects income.

Monies coming in from Socials are very important and it is very disappointing that these are not well supported.

Coaching: A grant from the Derbyshire Hockey association contributes to paying John Nash.

The consequences of not having overseas players means we have a profit of approximately £2000.

It is still the Club's intentions to bring in overseas players as it helps the Club all the way through and it is intended to get new players for next season.

5th Team make a major contribution to Club funds. Many young players are going to university in the new season. There are youngsters in mini-hockey who it is hoped will fill the gap.

The Subs arrangement of collecting these up front at the start of the season was successful and will continue. It is proposed that fees and subscriptions remain at current levels.

Proposed and agreed that subscriptions and match fees remain unchanged, and the rules for payment also remains. . (Bob Battye proposed, Rob Anderson seconded)

Proposed and agreed that the Treasurer's report is accepted. (Bob Battye proposed, Rob Anderson seconded)

Chairman of Selection Report

With the post of Chairman of Selection vacant, Mac McCran gave his assessment.

Although there is no chairman, by the end of each Monday evenings selection, we have had 5 teams. Come Saturday, it is a different story, and in the main it is the youngsters letting us down. In many instances their commitment was lacking, and two games were forfeited in the 5ths due to these shortages. With juniors coming through, it is hoped that we will see the fruits of Mark's efforts.

Various options were discussed to ensure commitment and attendance, amongst these were :

- Mobile Texting
- Monthly Selection.

Social, Fund Raising and Sponsorship

Mac's full report was tabled and will be published in Scoop. Summary:-

Golf Day - £269

Sponsored Run - £112

Casino Night – Ripley Lions put a lot of effort in for this evening and attendance was very poor. They donated £50 back to us. Those who turned up had a most enjoyable evening.

Christmas Dinner - £26

Bonus Ball – This has the potential to earn over £600, but it has not been well supported.

Race Night – This is always a good evening, and thanks to sponsors HTM and Brampton Manor.

Total raised this season was £1500.

Election of Officers 2008/9

| Officer | Election | Officer | Election | Officer | Election |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President | Re-elect | Fixture Secretary | No nominations – deferred to Committee | 2 nd Captain | Jamie Cluer |
| Life Members | Re-elect | Publicity Officer | Re-elect | 3 rd Captain | Re-elect |
| Vice Presidents | Re-elect | Hon Auditor | Re-elect | 4 th Captain | Les Hawketts / Brendan Molloy |
| Chairman | Re-elect | Umpires Secretary | Rob Anderson | 5 th Captain | Re-elect |
| Secretary | Christian Battye | Hockey Development | Re-elect | Committee | Re-elect |
| Asst. Secretary | Re-elect | Social Chairman | Re-elect | Trustees | No election |
| Treasurer | Re-elect | Scoop Editor & Assistant | Re-elect | | |
| Asst. Treasurer | Mac McCran | Mini-Hockey Co-ordinator | Re-elect | | |
| Chairman of Selection | Bob Battye | 1 st XI Captain | Re-elect | | |

Any Other Business

Club First:- The revised portfolio is ready to submit, subject to one input required from John Nash which is due in May before we request for re-assessment. Failure to gain the approvals will have consequences for the Juniors, i.e. U9's. The process must be completed before August.

Possible Changes to Training Times: - At present, Stavely Ladies 1's and 2's want more pitch time – not less. For the new season, girl juniors will join our Wednesday evening 6 -7 pm junior hockey session, which will release more of the pitch for the Stavely Ladies session between 7 – 8pm.

India Gymkhana: - Dudley travelled to Richmond to see India Gymkhana loose to Richmond in the Vintage Cup Final yesterday. Chesterfield, who lost at home to India Gymkhana several weeks ago in the quarter finals have been invited to return the visit for a friendly fixture. This was gladly accepted and Dudley will liaise.

Summer Hockey: - Plans to join a friendly summer hockey league for 1 /2nd teams in the Nottingham area have collapsed due to lack of support. Chesterfield have registered an interest and are on the 'waiting' list to join the Beeston 6's summer league.