



Introduction

Welcome to the second edition of the Cambs Hockey newsletter.

During the summer we have held trials for all our age groups at various venues across the county, with the intention of making it easier to travel and reach a larger audience. We have also created development groups for those who haven't successfully made the full county selection. This allows players to migrate seamlessly between the two groups as they develop.

If you have any interesting news or articles or action photos you would like to include please let us know.

<https://www.cambshockey.co.uk>



Chairmans Message

Following the AGM in September we have now adopted the new constitution as advised by England Hockey.

We also welcome Vicky Benedikz who has volunteered to be Vice Chairperson and help the management committee. Vicky has been co-opted until the next AGM when she can be voted in..

I would also like to thank all our coaches who do such a marvellous job with providing excellent training but still making hockey fun!



Respect for the game

Respect for others

Respect for yourself

Respect for the facilities

See you soon!



cambs hockey newsletter

Incorporating Masters, Schools and Juniors

Meet our Coaches



We are very fortunate to have as our Head coach David Grammar. Not only is David extremely well qualified he also has vast experience within the County set up.

“I have been coaching hockey for the past 20+ years and in that time I have coached at

various Clubs, Schools, Universities, County, (including Cambs, Beds, Leics, Suffolk and Surrey), England Hockey Regional Performance Centres, England University Men's as well as England Hockey Futures Cup. Alongside this I run a hockey coaching company providing hockey camps in the school holidays”.

“When a serious knee injury curtailed my playing career, I still wanted to be actively involved in the hockey world and as I didn't want to become an umpire I decided to start coaching and take my coaching badges. I have been fortunate enough to stumble my way through to becoming an England Hockey Level 3 coach and also a Federation of International Hockey Level 3 coach. When time permits, I will be looking to embark on the FIH Level 4 journey”.

“I enjoy working with players of all abilities and it is great to see players developing at their own speed and not only becoming better hockey players but also developing the crucial life skills that participation in team sport provides.

I have been associated with Cambs Hockey for a long while, (15+ years if not longer)”.

Goal keeping

We are very happy to have our own specialist Goal keeping coach in Andy Stopps. Andy has been a great asset for Cambs coaching perhaps the most difficult group. He is often dealing with up to 20 keepers and fortunately he and his assistants manage to keep them occupied while still providing excellent 1:1 coaching.

Andy qualified as a Level 2 coach in 1994.” I've specialised in goalkeeper coaching pretty much all of my coaching life”.

“This first half of the season has been very enjoyable - we've been getting 18-20 goalkeepers at the sessions, which is excellent. Session design has been challenging, trying to get themes and exercises that work across the range of under 13s to under 17s but those are the kind of challenges I enjoy”.

We are trying to prepare them for the Talent Academy, which should be the aspiration for any player involved in the Cambs County set up.

Ideally, I would love to see all goalkeepers that have been involved in County to continue their hockey journey with clubs for many years to come.



An interesting fact - Andy has played first team league hockey for his club in five different decades. The 1980's, 1990's, 2000's, 2010's and 2020's. I suspect making that six decades might be a bit of a challenge!

Andy is determined to play at least once for England Masters - they have an over 80's side, so time is on his side!





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Masters News

O35 Women - Cambridge City lost to Bishops Stortford 2- 6 but did well considering they had 11 outfield players and no GK. St. Ives beat Pelicans 8 -1.

O45 Women – Cambridge City lost to a strong Harleston Magpies team 3-5 and City of Peterborough beat Leicester 2 -1.

O40 Men – City of Peterborough beat Dereham 10 – 1
O50 Men – City of Peterborough had a walk-over against St. Neots

O60 Men – Cambs O60 had a very close match with Suffolk O60 which ended in a 0-0 draw. Cambs just edged the shoot-out 4-3

Inter county tournaments will be held in April at the following age groups:

Men – O35, O45, O55 Women – O35 and O45, O55
Contacts: Tim Ireland – tpireland@gmail.com (MO60)
MO35 and MO50 to be confirmed
Sally Tippen – stcambs hockey@gmail.com (W035 and O50)

East trial dates are currently being organised and dates will be published on the East Masters website:
<https://www.eastmastershockey.org.uk>

If you are interested in attending a trial please make sure you have registered as a player on the website where you will find age group contacts. If you also wish to feed back on the **EH Masters survey** you will find a link to this too. **Deadline: 30 November 2023**

Schools Competition

Girls schools results (2 qualify for East)

U11 – 1st Perse Prep; 2nd St. Faith's
U12 – 1st St Faith's; 2nd Saffron Walden CHS
U13 – 1st St. Faith's; 2nd Perse
U14 Tier 2 – 1st Stephen Perse; 2nd Saffron Walden CHS
U16 Tier 3 – 1st Saffron Walden CHS; 2nd Stephen Perse
U18 Tier 3 – 1st Saffron Walden CHS; 2nd King's Peterborough (withdrew from East 3rd placed Wisbech Grammar went in their place)

Indoor (1 qualifies for East)

Perse qualified in all 4 age groups -U16 boys and girls and U18 boys and girls

In2 Clubs

The dates for the County rounds of the In2 Clubs are:-

U12 boys and girls – 25 February, U10 boys and girls – 10 March and slip date for both competitions – 17 March. Entries close 6 December and entry forms available from Sally Tippen – stcambs hockey@gmail.com

Some of our **Boys age groups** are not as full as perhaps they should be. County training is the next step in your progression within the player pathway and we provide excellent coaching coupled with festivals and matches. It's a great way to improve your hockey.

Order your County kit from STC Teamwear

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See you soon!