

Welcome

This is the twenty third Newsletter in the current format. It is only three months since its immediate predecessor and takes Club news to the start of what will be (in April 2019) the Club's 125th anniversary. A celebratory pre-season dinner was held on 8 September 2019 in preparation for April and is reported upon below.

Legends Memorial Game

An enjoyable day was had on 9 September at PRG, following the Men's 1st XI squad's second consecutive warm up game against Brooklands Manchester University.



The Legends squeaked a 3-2 win over the Supervets XI. Former 1st XI players, Mark Crowley, Gulsh Mandair and Dan Williams made more than cameo appearances for the Legends. The Judge (Nick Coleman) was equally cameo and impressively lasted the game, unlike Chris Elliott, whom, it is reported, played the first five minutes before giving way to Richard Chapman for a spell on the right wing. It was particularly good to see the Legends bringing the next generation to play. There were appearances from youngsters from the Dixon, Wicknemeratne, Stanyard, Mandair and Crowley families.





Dinner

A dinner was held at the Waldorf Astoria in the Aldwych on 8 September to celebrate the start of the 125th season and was attended by more than 130 guests. With the backdrop of a photographic montage compiled by Mark Clews, with images covering the 125 years, President Richard Sykes welcomed guests and introduced his immediate predecessor, Guy Mayers, who, in turn, welcomed his immediate predecessor, Peter Boizot, who was able to attend the opening of the dinner, having travelled from his home in Peterborough.

Guy recounted Peter's introduction to Hampstead, his eagerness to play hockey, his formation of PizzaExpress (and its effect on hockey generally) and, above all, his philanthropy. The Club was indebted to Peter, amongst other things, for its frequent use of Kettner's in Romilly Street and its introduction to Westminster City Council and access to Paddington Recreation Ground. This had led, ultimately through the Peter Boizot Foundation to the exclusive funding of a water-based pitch at the Ground. Peter had also acquired the Carlton Tavern as a clubhouse, having spent considerable sums in converting the basement into changing rooms.

Later, Richard Sykes called upon Todd Williams twice a former coach of the Men's 1st XI, to introduce three past Chairmen (Nick Coleman, Richard Chapman and Oz Rankin) and the current Chairman, Jonny Witt, whom he then questioned over their tenures, with comic effect.

A fund-raising quiz on Club history and matters was then held, with two alternative answers (and instant elimination if the wrong answer was selected) that went to a tenth round before a winner was declared. A secret auction was also organised as a further fund-raising effort.

More senior members in attendance included John Chaumeton and Anthony Swing. Morley Pecker was sadly detained by an equally important dinner that evening in Brussels and sent his apologies. Also marking a return on a permanent basis to London from the Wirral were former club captains, Richard and Melinda James.

Women's Section

The most significant news of the summer break has been the appointment of new joint coaches for the Women's top teams, following the return to New Zealand of Mike Delaney.



Photo: Mark Clews

In his place the Club was delighted to announce that former Great Britain captain and double Olympic medallist, Kate Richardson-Walsh and former Ireland international and England U18 coach Sarah Kelleher would be acting as the Women's 1st XI coaches.

Kate played for Great Britain between 1999 and 2016 and captained the team for more than 13 years of her international career. She won a gold medal at the Rio Olympic Games and an Olympic Bronze at the London Games in 2012. She has amassed over 370 caps, to become Great Britain's most capped hockey player.

Sarah represented Ireland for over 10 years at senior level and gained 126 caps. She has had eight years' involvement in high performance coaching at international level and is the current coach of England U18's.

Kate will also be involved in the Club's junior section to coach and consult on the newly created Hampstead & Westminster Hockey Club Academy. She will be working closely with Alex Smart, the Club's head of Youth and Development and Kwan Browne of the Men's 1st XI on the development of junior members of the club on the England Hockey Player Pathway.

[East Conference: England Hockey League](#)

The fixture list has been issued but may well be subject to change.

29.09.18	Wimbledon (h)	1330h
06.10.18	St Albans (a)	1800
13.10.18	Sevenoaks (a)	1630
21.10.18	Horsham (h)	1330
27.10.18	Cambridge City (a)	1500
03.11.18	Bedford (h)	1330
10.11.18	Southgate (h)	1330
17.11.18	Ipswich (a)	1300
24.11.18	Harleston Magpies (a)	1330
02.02.19	Harleston Magpies (h)	1330
09.02.19	Wimbledon (a)	1300
16.02.19	Cambridge City (h)	1330
23.02.19	Sevenoaks (h)	1330
02.03.19	Horsham (a)	1530

09.03.19	Bedford (a)	1300
16.03.19	St Albans (h)	1330
23.03.19	Southgate (a)	1400
30.03.19	Ipswich (h)	1330

South League

In Division 2, the 2nd XI's opening fixtures are against Trojans 2, Oxford 1, East Grinstead 2 and Woking 1.

Middlesex League: opening fixtures

In the Premier Division, the 3rd XI will meet West Hampstead 2, PHC Chiswick 2, Hendon & Mill Hill 1 and Staines 1. In the same division, the 4th XI, will face Hendon & Mill Hill 1, Staines 1, Ashford 2 and Winchmore Hill & Enfield 1.

In Division 1, the 5th XI are due to play Indian Gymkhana 1, H&W 6, Teddington 4 and British Airways Hayes 1. The 6th XI are to meet London Wayfarers 2, PHC Chiswick 3, H&W 5 and Southgate 4

The 7th XI are in Division 2 and are to play against Hendon & Mill Hill 2, Southgate 5, Ealing 1 and Ashford 3

Men's Section

1st XI

Premier Division; England Hockey League

At the end of last season, Sevenoaks retained their place and are joined this season by University of Exeter.

In two weekends of pre-season matches, the 1st XI played the Universities of Durham and Exeter at PRG and on 8-9th September played a double header against Brooklands, as mentioned earlier. On Saturday the score was 7-4 to Hampstead and on Sunday 6-3 to Brooklands. Commentator Ross Bone spotted a possible correlation between the Saturday gala Dinner and the Sunday result.

Premier Division games will start a week earlier than originally forecast. The season break is still on 25 November 2018, to resume a week later now, on 10 February 2019, concluding on 31 March 2019. The Premier Division play-offs are scheduled for 27 and 28 April 2019 and may clash with the Anniversary Dinner, in which case the latter might need to be rescheduled. Two home games are expected to be played at the Lee Valley Hockey Centre (and not meaning Picketts Lock, as some more senior members might recall!)

22.09.18	Reading (a)	1800h
30.09.18	Wimbledon (h)	1330
07.10.18	Beeston (h)	1330
14.10.18	Sevenoaks (a)	tba
20.10.18	Exeter Univ (a)	1600
26.10.18	Holcombe (h)	tba [Lee Valley]
03.11.18	Surbiton (a)	1800
11.11.18	Brooklands (h)	1330
18.11.18	East Grinstead (a)	tba
25.11.18	Exeter Univ (h)	1330
10.02.19	Wimbledon (a)	tba
16.02.19	Reading (h)	1800 [Lee Valley]
24.02.19	Sevenoaks (h)	1330
02.03.19	Holcombe (a)	1800
10.03.19	Beeston (a)	1400
17.03.19	Surbiton (h)	1330
24.03.19	East Grinstead (h)	1330
31.03.19	Brooklands (a)	tba

The squad has seen five key additions over the summer. Felix Mathis has joined from the famous Harvestehuder HC, having played in the German League for six seasons, winning an EHL bronze

medal and the Euro Club Indoor championship. He is joined by Anton Sebastian Pöling also from Harvestehuder HC, who has represented Germany at U21 level. A midfielder, Paul Melkert has joined from HC Rotterdam, having made his debut at 17 years in 2007. He has played internationally for Holland at U16 and U21 levels, Great Britain development squad member, Toby Reynolds Cotterill has also joined from Loughborough Students to fill a goalkeeping vacancy, Finally, James Coates has joined from Canterbury, where he made his debut in 2013 when aged 15. He has been part of the GB U16-U23 squads and is a past winner of the Sultan of Johor Cup. He has played for England at U21 level.

Other Men's teams: opening fixtures

The 2nd XI defend their Premier Division title with matches against Spencer 2 on 29 September, then Teddington 2, Reading 2 and Bromley & Beckenham 2.

In Division 1, Zak Hond XI are to meet Indian Gymkhana 2, Spencer 3, East Grinstead 2 and Southgate 2, whilst the 3rd XI are to play against Richmond 3, Wimbledon 3, Spencer 3 and Southgate 3.

In Division 2, the 4th XI are scheduled to play Wimbledon 4, Bromley & Beckenham 3, London Wayfarers Vikings and H&W 5. The 5th XI are to meet Teddington 3, Spencer 4 Wimbledon 4 and H&W 4

New to Division 4, the Hammers XI are to play against Southgate 4, Richmond 4, Clapham Common, and Richmond Griffins.

Also new but to Division 5, the Thirsts XI are due to meet H&W Spaniards, London Edwardians 4, London Wayfarers Pirates and PHC Chiswick 3, whilst the Spaniards will play H&W Thirsts, London Wayfarers Outlaws, Imperial College Medics HRTs and Kings Alleyns 3.

In the Veterans League Division 1, the Vets XI will meet Reading Rustlers (on 6 October 2018) and then East Grinstead, Tulse Hill & Dulwich Artillery and Surbiton Jokers. This season, the minimum qualifying age for Veterans has been raised to 37 years.

The Supervets feature in the Supervets Division 2 and are due to play Reading, Bromley & Beckenham, followed by Old Loughtonians (in the Trophy competition) and then, back in League competition, OMT Demons.

EHL Reorganisation

In March 2018, England Hockey agreed changes to the structure of the Investec Women's Hockey League and Men's Hockey League. The changes will be implemented in the 2019-20 season. They are the first step in adapting to the Hockey Pro League (and international player availability) and follow requests from some clubs to review the domestic structure.

Consultation in February 2018 strongly supported an interim restructure to the leagues. The changes will be reviewed again after the Tokyo Olympics in 2020 (and after two years of the Hockey Pro League).

What are the changes for 2019-20?

For both genders the leagues will expand in size to three tiers, each of 10 teams:

Premier Division

Nine games will be played each side of the Christmas break in a traditional league format. The main change will be a three team playoff before Christmas (after half of the league programme) that will allow clubs a chance to earn a place in European club competition. This is designed to allow clubs with international players the chance to earn a place in Europe when their players are available for domestic hockey. The league champions, and other European place/s, will be determined by a three team end of season playoff. At the end of the season, the bottom team will be relegated and the ninth placed Premier Division team will go to a playoff.

Division 1 North and Division 1 South

The second tier of the structure will be two geographically split divisions. The winners of these Divisions will play off for one automatic place in the Premier Division and given a second chance to

play the ninth placed Premier League team for a place in the Premier Division.

Three Conferences - West, North, East

The third tier will be three Conferences operating in a similar manner to the current arrangements. The key difference will be that clubs' second teams will be able to join the Conferences, as long as their first team is at a higher level.

Several Regional Leagues have recently been won by second teams. The change is designed to allow more continuity in league structures.

Each Conference winner will be promoted. The teams finishing ninth and tenth of each of Division 1 North and Division 1 South will be relegated. The three runners up in Conferences will play off in a three team round robin, with the top team promoted to Division 1.

Eligible teams winning Regional Leagues will be automatically promoted to the Conferences with the same relegation playoff from the Conferences as is currently in place.

Indoor club hockey will remain in January, with the England Hockey run leagues restarting in February.

A set of standards for facilities, match day procedures and club operations have been discussed. The intention is to start to implement many of these from 2019-2020, starting at the highest levels. Details of these expectations are expected in due course, with all clubs being given reasonable notice and timescales for implementation.

Implications for the 2018-19?

The 2018-19 season will be transitional. The existing structure will exist but with different consequences:

Premier Division

No changes to the structure for 2018-19

Conferences:

Promotion arrangements to Premier Division will be unchanged. A round robin competition will take place between the ninth placed team in the Premier Division and the three Conference winners. The top two gain Premier Division status for 2019-20 (Premier Division Play offs).

The new Division 1 North and Division 1 South will be made up of the team finishing tenth in the Premier Division, the teams finishing third and fourth in the Premier Division Play offs, and the teams placed second to sixth in the three Conferences.

A round robin play-off between the three teams finishing seventh in the three Conferences with the top two teams qualifying. The remaining teams will play in the Conferences in 2019-20.

Regional Premier Leagues:

The top four placed teams in each of the five Regional League Premier Divisions will be invited to join the Conferences.

The number of players a club may register at any one time will be increased from 30 to 40.

The number of "overseas players" will also be extended from one to two. The regulations around overseas players remain complex and there is probably no useful purposes served in trying to paraphrase them here!

Next Steps

For the 2019-20 season details, including player registrations, eligibility and officiating appointments, are to be worked through with the support of the Regional Premier Leagues and officiating bodies over coming months.

The Future

The England Hockey Board foresees the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons being an interim position, and

subject to the Hockey Pro League, expect continued development of the domestic competition to further support the original objectives of the *Bridging the Gap* project.

County Championship

The 60th County Championship finals were played at the Nottingham Hockey Centre on Saturday 2 June.

In the A division semi-finals, Warwickshire beat Derbyshire 3-1 and Somerset beat Lincolnshire 3-2. In the final, Somerset beat Warwickshire 4-2 to win the trophy for the first time.

In the B Division semi-finals, UK Armed Forces beat Bedfordshire 3-0 and Surrey beat the Isle of Man 4-2. In the final, UK Armed Services beat Surrey in a penalty shootout after a 2-2 draw.

Mixed Hockey

The latter stages of the Tier 1 (formerly the Trophy) and Tier 2 (formerly the Plate) competitions took place at Lee Valley on 7 and 8 June 2018.

Tier 2

Semi finals

Dereham 2 Marlow 5

Formby 2 Bristol Firebrands 1

3 v 4: Bristol Firebrands 5 Dereham 1

Final: Formby 3 Marlow 2

Tier 1

Semi finals

Khalsa 4 Horsham 2

City of Peterborough 1¹ Repton 6

3 v 4: Horsham 2 City of Peterborough 4

Final: Repton 6 Khalsa 0

Repton were therefore declared the National Mixed Hockey Champions, having won the Trophy in the preceding year.

International Hockey

Hampstead's Sarah Robertson represented Scotland in the Commonwealth Games tournament on the Gold Coast, following her selection for Great Britain earlier in the season, in the tour to Argentina.

Harry Martin represented England at the Azlan Shah tournament in Ipoh, Malaysia in early March 2018, where they were defeated 2-1 by Australia in the final. He then went on to win a bronze medal for England in the Commonwealth Games, won once more by Australia



¹ Goal scored by ex-Hampstead 1st XI player, Joe Finding

We also congratulate Kyle White, who joined the club from Banbury in 2017, on the recent award of a full cap for Scotland, playing in the Hockey Open Series in Lousada. He scored a hat trick on his debut against Turkey in a 7-2 win that was followed by 2-0 defeats of Portugal and Gibraltar. A 4-1 loss to Russia was compensated by a 4-0 defeat of Belarus in the final match.

Barcelona Grand Masters

England claimed four gold and two silver medals at the World Grand Masters World cup in Barcelona. between the 21 and 30 June 2018. Gold medals came in the women's Over 60s and 65s and in the men's Over 65s and 70s. Silver medals were won by the men's Over 60s and 75s.

Sue Merry hit a hat-trick as England won the Women's Over 60s World Cup. Helen Royan scored a double while Margaret Bottomley and Ruth Hine were also on the score sheet.

The team were 3-0 inside eight minutes as they dominated the match from start to finish to lift the title. England also took gold in the women's Over 65s with an unbeaten campaign.

In the men's Over 65s final England beat Australia 4-1. The teams were level at 1-1 heading into the second half before goals from Bill Deayton, Tim Smith and Jaswant Bansal led England to victory.

The men's Over 70s final was a classic that saw England twice come from behind to take the game to a shootout. Stephen Stowell scored twice to keep England in the contest before he kept his cool to score the winning penalty in the shootout.

Men 60+

Final

Netherlands 1 England 0

Bronze Medal

Spain 0 Germany 1

Men 65+

Final

England 4 Australia 1 (T Smith 2, Jaswant Bansal, Deaton)

Bronze Medal

Wales 2 Spain 0 (Johnson, Sparkes)

Earlier

England 2 Wales 1 (Deighton, Jaswant Bansal; Ian Johnson for Wales)

Captaining Wales was Hampstead's Richard Chapman and Dave Dixon appeared for gold medal winners, England

Men 70+

Final

England 2 Australia 2 (0-2 after shoot- out)

Bronze Medal

Netherlands 4 Germany 1

Men 75+

Round Robin Tournament Standings

Southern Cross

Australia

England

Netherlands

Men 60+ Trophy

Round Robin Tournament Standings

Southern Cross

Scottish Thistles

England LX

Netherlands

Men 65+ Trophy

Round Robin Tournament Standings

England LX

Netherlands

Southern Cross

Germany

Men 70+ Trophy

Round Robin Tournament Standings

England LX

Netherlands

Southern Cross

Alliance

Women World Cup

Final

England 7 Argentina 0

Bronze Medal

Netherlands 0 Scotland 1

Home Nations Tournament

18-20 May 2018

40+ Group

England ²	3	0	0
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Scotland	2	0	1
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Ireland	1	0	2
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Wales	0	2	1
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50+ Group

England	3	0	0
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Ireland	0	2	1
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Wales	0	2	1
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Scotland	0	2	1
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[The Pecker Grand Masters Report](#)

Morley sent this WGM report from his travels and we reproduce it here (with grateful thanks).

In 2002 the FIH men's World Cup was held in Kuala Lumpur. For some years previously, veterans' hockey (mainly over-60s) had been played in a number of countries, notably England where the LX Club had established a full list of domestic fixtures and had toured abroad extensively.

With the agreement of some other countries, a veterans world cup event was also organised in KL to coincide with Kuala Lumpur's main event. Although memory of some of the details has faded, the main ones remain: Ted Jones of Australia, who had been heavily involved in the planning, was the tournament's very efficient TD who insisted on perfection from his umpires.

Players, some of whom had not met each other for many years, came from all over the world to enjoy a tremendous event, with stars like Islahuddin of Pakistan bringing his hand-picked side. Umpires too, all volunteers, including the author of this piece, came from distant parts to KL to join the fun, . The success was such that more was wanted – and thus the World Grand Masters Association was formed there and then.

Many were involved in this organisation, which was ably led by Ted Jones himself as the first Hon. Secretary, and national veterans clubs were quickly formed where they had not existed previously.

² including ex-Hampstead players, Dan Pech and George Bretten



England goalkeeper displaying his joy at the fantastic contribution of his team's hero Dave Dixon

The 2004 Athens Olympics were only a couple of years away, and this was the start of WGMA (formed with 'neutral' England-born Peter Child now married and living in Germany, as President) taking place frequently – with an 'Olympic' tournament every four years to coincide – or played just after – the Olympics themselves, where possible in the host city.

In Athens, the veterans played on the Olympic practice pitches. Further such events took place in 2008 in Hong Kong (mainland China was not yet ready for what was developing into a substantial organisation), in London in 2012, and in Newcastle, Australia in 2016 (Brazil like China was not ready for Grand Masters). Every four years was not enough for these hockey-hungry vets. Thus our own World Cups were organised to coincide with the FIH's men's event, albeit not always in the same city.

Wonderful championships have been held in such venues as Hartleyvale in the South African Cape, Leverkusen and The Hague, and the past two weeks have seen the culmination with 1200 players enjoying the Barcelona (Polo Club) sunshine and camaraderie.

With 60+ events having developed over the years to create more age categories, now 60+. 65+, 70+ and 75+ (in the latter, one team had seven players over 80) around 2000 players and umpires and supporters congregated in Barcelona from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, USA and Wales.

The Jamboree these days has the additional benefit that Women's teams and umpires are now a full part of WGMA's festivities. What progress in just 15 years! Of course, two years out of every four has not been good enough. In the intervening years, there are now European and Asian championships, and many other events take place regularly throughout the world, bringing our hockey family together as often as possible. WGMA involving players over 60 years old has the advantage of comprising many players who have retired from work and whose families have grown up, enabling leisure time to be spent with their favourite sport and good friends – something that is not always possible these days when one is working hard in these difficult times.



Over-65s – England v Australia final

However, WGMA has since bred its own youngster, the IMHA, which caters for players over 35 who, as we do, want to carry on enjoying hockey with their friends. Discussions are presently taking place concerning the future of Masters Hockey under the FIH, with the prospects of the formation of a new organisation involving events from 2020. WGMA already has its 2019 events fixed, and is planning ahead to 2020.

The tremendous enjoyment which we 'oldies' have from our WGMA veterans organisation's tournaments could not have happened without an enormous amount of hard work from many people, including by those who organise the national teams and the hosts of our ever-growing events.

Administratively, the start under Ted Jones moved forward with the Presidency of Peter Child and Vice-President Bernard Verbunt from the Netherlands. Technically, a team under Dutchman Wim van Noortwijk built up a small body of umpires and officials, and it was a pleasure to be one of them. Now, the competing countries are encouraged to select and propose umpires, and the Barcelona event's programme listed more than 50 of them taking part there, including the aptly named Welshman Bruce Hockey.

The WGMA baby has certainly grown up. How soon will it be before we have over-80s events? In recent years Wim has successfully taken over as President from Peter, and he and his hard-working and most-efficient English Honorary Secretary Adrian Stephenson have worked tremendously to achieve the present successful organisation that is enormously appreciated by so many of our great hockey family. Long may it flourish. My thanks to all who have made it possible.



Richard Chapman and Dave Dixon

[The Pro League](#)

The new tournament that is to start in 2019 under the auspices of the FIH, replaces the FIH Hockey World League. The Pro League will also determine qualification for the World Cup and Olympic Games. Nine teams have secured their places for four years.

In July 2017, Hockey India decided to withdraw both their men's and women's national teams from the competition, as they estimated the chances of qualifying for the Summer Olympics to be higher when participating in the FIH Hockey World League.

India were named among the teams in both competitions but pulled out, citing apprehension that the women's team might not finish in the top four and might miss out on Olympic qualification. Hockey India also cited lack of clarity in the ranking system.

This withdrawal came amid reports of an uneasy relationship between the FIH officials and their Indian president, Narinder Batra and raised speculations about the Indian Federation's motives in pulling out, especially after having agreed at first.

The FIH subsequently invited Spain (men) and Belgium (women) instead.

Some say that the formation of the Pro League is a courageous but sensible move considering that the Pro League will effectively replace the latter stages of the World League, which used to be played in four stages on a biennial basis between 2013 and 2017.

It seeks to add more relevance to bilateral hockey contests, although Test series, as they currently occur, will continue outside the dates of the Pro League. It should help to spread the game to more markets and countries, especially with broadcasting planned for every match played in the Pro League.

The Pro League's has to avoid a conflict with the peak of the European club leagues, most of which run all the way until June and are the main source of income for players from around the world.

With the Pro League's financial model currently leaving it to Federations to finance their matches, it is unlikely that players will turn down lucrative club contracts to play for their country. It might therefore lead to reopening the club versus country debates in global hockey.

The Hockey India League (HIL) also takes place around this time of the season, but it is likely to be pushed back to the end of 2019 in case a place is for India's participation after all

Teams

Men

Argentina Australia Belgium Germany Great Britain Netherlands New Zealand Pakistan Spain

Women

Argentina Australia Belgium China Germany Great Britain Netherlands New Zealand United States

The nine men's and women's teams will compete in a round-robin tournament with home and away matches, played from January to June, with the top four teams advancing to the grand final at a pre-determined location.

Great Britain

The men's and women's teams will play as Great Britain in 2019 and 2020 as they lead up to the Olympic Games in Tokyo, then as England in 2021 and 2022.

Great Britain's men begin their campaign on Friday 25 January 2019 away to Spain, and their first home game is the return fixture against the Spanish on 4 May 2019.

Great Britain's women play their first match away to New Zealand on Sunday 10 February 2019, and their first home match is against the United States on Saturday 27 April 2019.

On 19 May 2019, both the men and women play at home to Belgium and the Australia on Sunday 9 June 2019. On 14 and 15 June 2019 they will meet the Netherlands at home, before the big finale also at home to New Zealand on Sunday 23 June.

All Great Britain men's and women's home matches will take place at Lee Valley.

Pakistan's men's team are due to play their home games in Scotland. They play host to Argentina on Sunday 12 May 2019 and then face Great Britain's men in Glasgow on Saturday 25 May 2019. Their visitors on Sunday 16 June 2019 will be the Netherlands.

Full GB programme

25 January	Spain v GB (M)
10 February	New Zealand v GB (W); New Zealand v GB (M)
16 February	Australia v GB (M); Australia v GB (W)
23 February	China v GB (W)
31 March	USA v GB (W)
6 April	Argentina v GB (M); Argentina v GB (W)
24 April	Germany v GB (W)
27 April	GB v USA (W)
28 April	Germany v GB (M)
3 May	GB v China (
4 May	GB v Spain (M)
5 May	GB v Pakistan (M)
18 May	GB v Argentina (M); GB v Argentina (W)
19 May	GB v Belgium (W); GB v Belgium (M)
25 May	Pakistan v GB (M)
30 May	Belgium v GB (M); Belgium v GB (W)
1 June	Netherlands v GB (W)
2 June	Netherlands v GB (M)
6 June	GB v Germany (M)
7 June	GB v Germany (W)

9 June GB v Australia (M); GB v Australia (W)
14 June GB v Netherlands (M)
15 June GB v Netherlands (W)
23 June GB v New Zealand (M); GB v New Zealand (W)

[Euro Hockey League 2018](#)

HC Bloemendaal won their third EHL championship, defeating SV Kampong 8-2 in the final, having won in 2009 and 2013. In the bronze medal match, HC Rotterdam beat Royal Herakles 5-4.

In the League, a field goal scored two points and a corner only one. (Thus, on a traditional basis, the final was won 4-1)

26 May 2018
HC Bloemendaal 6 HC Rotterdam 0
SV Kampong 6 Royal Herakles 2

27 May 2018
Bronze
Royal Herakles 4 H C Rotterdam 5
Final
S V Kampong 2 HC Bloemendaal 8

The tournament witnessed a final farewell to Jamie Dwyer, now 39 years old, who is returning to Australia, having scored with his last act for the club in the final. He played for H C Bloemendaal for six seasons between 2004 and 2011, He had bade farewell twice before only to return. However, by his own account, it will not happen again.

[Umpiring](#)

Prompted by a Club publication of 1970 that has come to light (*see below, for the introduction*), we invited the President of Middlesex County Hockey Umpires, aka H&W's Tim Forte, to provide any umpiring news that might be topical. Well-schooled in legal matters and no doubt conscious the maxim *delegatus non potest delegare*³, Tim then asked the Association's secretary, Ed Bateman to respond and we are grateful to him for this.

The MHUA is always pleased to be asked to contribute to club newsletters. It is an opportunity to fly the flag for the Association, its 200 members and the county, regional and national umpiring success outlined in the annual report to the AGM available at our website mhua.org.uk but it is also an opportunity to recognise the hundreds of non-affiliated occasional umpires that give up their time each Saturday in all weathers to officiate club games.

I thought I would use our input to discuss some hockey rule myths that come up regularly at games of all standards across the county. There are no new rules this season and some of the most recent new rules (playing the ball above the shoulder and no longer taking the ball back 5 metres from the circle for an attacking free hit) appear to have bedded in.

Before doing so, a mention and a 'doff of the cap' to the life and memory of international umpire Christopher Todd who died in August aged 72. Christ officiated at 110 internationals. He was appointed to six World Cups (a British record) starting with the 1975 event in Malaysia and finishing with the 1994 World Cup in Australia, two Olympic Games and three European Nations Championships. His sad death encouraged friends to re-circulate an excellent 'Hockey Umpiring Top Tips' guide published by Chris in December 2017. It has practical advice for all umpires and umpire coaches from aspirant to international and can be accessed at our website by clicking Information on the landing page and then Information and Downloads.

So let's bust a few rule/interpretation myths....

'You can't aerial into circle' – yes, you can if it is done safely. In practice, it will rarely be safe as the circle will be crowded and umpires should be calling it early to prevent danger. But there can be

³ a delegate may not delegate. An agent to whom an authority or decision-making power has been delegated by a principal or higher authority may not delegate it to a sub agent unless the original delegator expressly authorises it, or there is an implied authority to do so. (It is a fundamental principle of administrative law).

occasions when a keeper remains on their line and an attacker is at the top of an otherwise undefended circle when it is possible.

'A player cannot tackle when on the ground' – yes, they can providing they are not obstructing. If a player goes to ground and in making a tackle interferes with a player then the penalty is likely to be high.

You can't tackle from the 'wrong side' – there is no longer a wrong side. Skill levels are such that players appear to be able to 'pick' the ball from impossible positions and angles. Providing they don't interfere with the player in possession then 'play on'.

'If the ball is shot at goal having not first left the circle at a Penalty Corner then umpires should whistle immediately for a free hit defence' – no, 'play on'. It does mean however that a shot cannot result in a goal until it has left the circle and a defender's foot on the line that would in other circumstances be a Penalty Flick becomes a Penalty Corner. Normal rules of danger would apply so anything raised toward a defender on route to the goal would likely be judged dangerous.

HAMPSTEAD HOCKEY CLUB

January 1970

Dear Member,

In compiling and distributing the attached Notes I have two objectives.

First to encourage the member who is 'resting' to volunteer his services as an Umpire.

Secondly to increase a player's enjoyment of the game by inviting a fuller understanding of the Rules of Hockey and their interpretation/application by umpires during play. (Based on the principle that if a player knows what makes an umpire tick there will be less 'ticks' from players)

I would ask the reader to take kindly into account that my Notes are informal aides, scribed I believe, within the spirit of the Rules of the game.

The most important duty the rule book requires from an umpire is that he should act in good faith. The technical difficulties of application will disappear with practice. The rules are framed to encourage players to out-wit the opposition *not* the umpires.

It is speculative whether an abundance of advice makes for efficient umpiring but I would be willing to discuss queries anytime - except on the field of play.

Yours sincerely,

“Mac”

Club Umpire

Telephone:
01-883 3302

Yesteryear
95 years ago

HAMPSTEAD HOCKEY CLUB.

OAKWOOD,
LEATHERHEAD,
August, 1923.

DEAR SIR,

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will take place at THE FIRST AVENUE HOTEL, HOLBORN, W.C., on *Friday, September 14th. at 5.30 p.m.*, and the Committee hope that you will make a point of attending.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting.
2. Accounts for Season 1922-23 (*see over leaf*).
3. Election of Officers for Season 1923 24.
4. Any other Business

There will be a Practice Game at Richmond on September 22nd, at 3 p.m. Members are particularly requested to attend and bring white and coloured shirts.

I am,

Yours truly,

J. H. BENNETT,
Hon. Sec.

HOCKEY WORLD THUMBNAIL SKETCHES B G Lampard-Vachell

(Wales, Glamorgan and Hampstead H.C.).

Has been the right-back for Wales whenever available since 1920 and distinguished himself in the big games played for his country. He has been capped on eight occasions, and on his present form, is likely to be the right-back for Wales on many more occasions. Is one of the be-spectacled brigade, but this does not interfere with his general play. Tackles finely, is fast, dashing, and hits the ball with judicious strength and cleanly. Likes playing against the English forwards because he does this in ordinary club hockey, Hampstead H.C. being his club. Was unfortunate not to gain his "blue" at

Cambridge but would have done so had he not exceeded the number of terms when a resumption of University hockey took place after the war. Is a member of the Cambridge University Wanderers and the assistant secretary. Born in Wales, but his practically learned the game and developed it in English hockey circles.

Notable Personalities

III. – A Foremost Welsh Full Back

B G Lampard-Vachell

B. G. LAMPARD-VACHELL, well known in London hockey circles by virtue of his being a member of the Hampstead H.C., is a Welshman by parentage, and since the Welsh H.A. has always looked well after its Anglo-Welsh hockey players this leading full-back has been right in the front rank for his country in recent seasons. Mr Lampard-Vachell first played for the Gloucestershire County eleven in 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914. He also took part in the Cambridge University Freshmen's match in 1913, while he was given a place in two of the 'Varsity trial games in 1913-14. He toured in Germany and Denmark with Mr. A. E. Y. Terrestrial's eleven of Oxford and Cambridge Wanderers during the Easter of 1914 – then war broke out, and the big hiatus continued until the season 1919-20 when Mr Lampard-Vachell was given a trial in the Cambridge University Seniors' match. He also took part in the 'Varsity trials in season 1920-21. His form warranted him getting his "Blue", but unfortunately for himself, it was found that he had exceeded the residential limit at Cambridge and he was not qualified, though he was certainly the best full-back at Cambridge that year. Joining the Hampstead H.C. in season 1921-22, the Welsh International has continued his membership up to this date. In the seasons of 1920-21, 1921-22, 1922-23 he played for the Glamorganshire County teams, and in 1919-20 season he received his first "calls" for his country and played against England and Scotland. Since that time, Mr Lampard-Vachell has played in all the Internationals for Wales, and last season he was honoured with the captaincy of the teams. Well set up, of fine physique, very dashing in his play, fast on the ball and a sound and judicious hitter, the Welsh International has developed his game until he is undoubtedly one of the leading full-backs in the four countries. On the field he wears pince-nez, yet this little handicap does not hinder him in the least. He tackles with rare judgment and recovers rapidly if beaten by a forward, being tolerably speedy. He hits the ball clearly, is good in his passes, and it is a real treat to see him playing alongside such a master of back-play as J.H. Bennett for the Hampstead H.C., from whom Mr. Lampard-Vachell would probably admit that he had gained much in his improvement in recent years by watching the English International in his methods and tactics. May Wales enjoy his valuable services for several more years to come!



Lampard-Vachell on the ball

30 years ago

At a Committee Meeting held on 5 September 1988, (attended by Peter Boizot, Richard Chapman, Mike Hick, Ian Burnley, Nick Stevens Tim Cartmell, Nick White, David Harper, Steve Purnell, David Blakemore, Debbie Rookes, Melinda Miley, Melinda Bennett, Rachel Havers, Helen Moriarty, Roger Rookes, Greg Carr and Tracey Carr) Richard Chapman welcomed Greg and Tracey Carr, who has just arrived from Australia.

It was agreed that the first selection meeting would be held on 19 September and fortnightly thereafter at Pizza Express in Wardour Street. Peter Boizot was obtaining Peroni logos and the Committee decided that it would be mandatory to wear them on the shirts.

Match times were set for 11.30am (one match) 1.00pm (two matches) and 2.30pm (two matches). For League games, the men's 1st XI and women's 1st XI would start at 2.30pm and League games for the women's 2nd XI not before 1.00pm.

Tim Cartmell reported that he had written to several local businesses in the Paddington area and that he expected a reasonable number of donations in response. Whilst applauding his enterprise, it was felt that guidelines should be established to ensure that there will be no conflict of interest (Richard Chapman to prepare)

5 years ago

This season's memorial match was held on Sunday 8 September 2013 at Paddington Recreation Ground. It saw what was described as "a pulsating 5-2 win for the Supervets this time around". It enabled the Supervets to take the Harry Watson memorial trophy.

Having suffered a reverse in 2013, a significantly stiffened Supervets, thanks to Andy Brookes, Richard James and Rakesh Patel, played some good passing hockey. They also scored some splendidly well taken goals, from Peter Talboys and Chris Somes-Charlton in particular.

The Legends replied with two goals of their own but the feature of the game was the outstanding goalkeeping of Tim Forte and Steve Pennington whose play belied the fact that the Memorial Game is the only time in the year they put on the pads.

A number of supporters, including Harry Watson, direct from Alicante, were on the sidelines and players and supporters enjoyed the hospitality in the Carlton afterwards.

Finally

We salute the return of two of Hampstead's higher scoring forwards....



Next edition

All being well, this will cover the first half of the 2018-19 season to the mid-season break. If you have any news or comment, please direct it to mail@velwell.eclipse.co.uk.