



Warwick Hockey Club Newsletter

Issue 4 — League Action Commences

October 2008

Good Starts in the League and Elsewhere !



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK !

Congratulations to Dom and Helen, now **Mr and Mrs Simpson**, who married on 20th September at St. Mary's Church.

The Wedding Service was conducted by our own President, the Reverend Roger Garrett, and as expected from two of the most organised people in the Club, they even managed to book good weather for the day.

The bride looked beautiful and everyone present enjoyed the service, wedding breakfast and reception. Indeed, so good was the day that even Stroppey's speech was well received !

Congratulations too to **Matt and Rachel Walmsley** who welcomed Ollie into the world last month

Talking of **Stroppey**, after a brief return to playing duties (including a yellow card after three minutes of his first game back), Andrew departs for Thailand on 5th November to undertake a Diving Instructor course and we wish him well for that.

Congratulations on the playing front to **John Kane** (Men's 2nds) and **Chris Sampson** (Men's 4ths) who both scored five goals in opening day victories for their sides, whilst **Duncan Gordon** (Men's 3rds) scored four times in a win for the thirds.

See page 3 for more details on how our teams have begun their league campaigns.

Contents

Page 1 - Congratulations to Committee Members

Page 2 - Update on Socials

Page 2 - Player Availability

Page 3 - Team Reports

Page 4 - Meet Sam and Remploy Automotive

Note

During the Warwick Foundation half-term (18th October to 1st November), the pavilion at the pitches is being re-decorated and will not be available for our use. Temporary toilet facilities will be available but there will be no changing facilities.

Social Update

25th October : Race Night

Tickets on sale now, a mere £2. Please see Mel Preece, Ian Best or your Captain.

You also have opportunities to buy ownership of a horse, with each race's winning owner getting a cash prize.

7th November : Bonfire Night

The Sports Club's annual firework display. Tickets £4 (Under 16s free) from Ian Best, Mel Preece or your Captain. There'll be a sweet stall, a raffle and a prize for the best pumpkin. Oh, and the bar will be open too !

13th December : Christmas Meal

We are returning to the Durham Ox, at a cost of £25 per person to include food and a disco. Anyone wanting to attend can register through the website, with payments being due in November. We're limited to the first fifty to sign up, so be quick.

The **Murder Mystery** and **Fantasy League** competitions are ongoing.

So far ten entrants have met sticky ends leaving 35 still alive and looking for their victims in the Murder Mystery game.

In the Fantasy League, the top of the table position has changed hands on each of the three weeks points have been available for. Pippa's crown already looks wobbly, but with the first transfer window opening, there could be significant changes.

2009 will bring our **Annual Quiz** and **End of Season Dinner**, plus other events. Watch out too for our **Team Challenges** !

Player Availability

Both sections have agreed processes covering selection. Key to our selection processes being effective is that captains and coaches have knowledge of player availability.

Hopefully by now, most if not all of you have completed and returned membership forms. These are used to create personal player accounts.

Each player can then request a log-in and password which allows you to access various areas of the website. See below for details of how you can gain a website log-in.

Once you have a log-in, please visit the Player Zone of the website.

From the Player Zone, select 'My Availability' from the drop down menu.

Doing so presents you with a list of dates on which we have fixtures. The first time you visit, you will see that our data shows you to be available for every game (indicated by a tick in a box next to the dates of which we have fixtures).

For any date you are NOT available, please click on the tick in the box. This will remove the tick.

You must then go to the bottom of the page and click the 'Submit' button. This updates your availability and feeds the information through to the Club Zone area of the site. This part of the site is used by captains when selecting sides.

Selection is undertaken weekly, usually on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please try to update your availability in line with this timetable.

If your availability circumstances change from Tuesday onwards, please text, email or talk to your captain as early as possible so that you can be replaced in a match day squad.

www.warwickhockey.co.uk

Visit our website for match reports, links to league tables, details of socials, weekly updates on the Fantasy League and Murder Mystery competitions, the intelligent debate and stimulating banter of our teamrooms, the latest club news and much more.

If you are not already registered with a log-in, email webmaster@warwickhockey.co.uk and you soon will be !

Note : I may have been joking when I referred to intelligent debate and stimulating banter !!!



Our Teams : Good Starts and Not so Good Starts !

Ladies Section

Ladies 1st Team : life in The Midlands Regions Feeder West Division isn't proving easy with three straight defeats. However, our points tally fails to tell the tale of three good performances, two against sides which retain 100% records. The expectation is that the side will soon be picking up the points which their performances deserve.

Ladies 2nd Team : after an excellent opening day win following last season's promotion, the team slipped to defeat away at perennial rivals Atherstone 1sts; the side that pipped us for the league title last season. Encouraging that the side continues to feature several promising youngsters who could well be pushing for first team places later in the season.

Ladies 3rd Team : well, what a beginning ! On the opening day, Rugby and East Warwicks were seen off 11-0, and the following week saw Coventry and North Warwicks defeated 5-1. Two superb performances which will hopefully flood the exceptionally young squad with confidence. Numbers attending training sessions mean we are actively working towards a Saturday 4th team for next season.

Men's Section

Men's 1st Team : Midlands 1 remains a tough division and the side has suffered two narrow 3-2 defeats in the opening fixtures versus Sutton Coldfield and Melton, the sides which occupy the top two spots in the division. Given better luck, as with our ladies firsts, points could already be in the bag so expect a climb up the table from next week.

Men's 2nd Team : renowned for starting each season strongly, the 2nds have surpassed themselves with two victories during which they've scored 17 goals (an 11-4 away win at Walsall was followed by a 6-1 defeat of Old Halesonians). The side seem productive off the field too with the wives of Captain James Allison and new recruit Steve Tabb both pregnant and new fathers Jez Hunt and Matt Walmsley in the ranks.

Men's 3rd Team : another side that went goal crazy on the opening day of the campaign, defeating Telford 8-1. The following's week's visit to Worcester proved tougher as the team slipped to a 1-0 defeat though. The squad remains optimistic and will be looking to return to winning ways this week.

Men's 4th Team : with two wins from two games and with 15 scored against 4 conceded, you'd expect that our 4ths would be sitting proudly at the top of the table. Bizarrely though, the team lies third. This week the side welcomes top of the table Stourport to Gallows Hill for a game which should test the team's promotion credentials.

Men's 5th Team : campaigning again in the same Central League South West 1 division as the 4th team, a couple of narrow defeats sees the side at the lower end of the table. As ever, the combination of experience and youth will take some time to settle and as it does so results will improve. 25th October sees the seemingly annual Battle of Gallows Hill with the fifths at home to the fourths !

Men's Veterans : the vets' season began promptly on 1st September and after a defeat against a strong Olton side followed by a no show from Evesham, normal service has been resumed with 4 wins and a draw. The squad remains largely unchanged, but a special mention should go to former Chairman Chris Hunt who has returned to playing duties after a long spell away.





Warwick Hockey Club

Exercise...Socialise...Energise...Enjoy!



For anyone who doesn't know, this is Sam Starvis.

Sam is Ladies Fixture Secretary and Co-Captain of the Ladies First Team.

As Fixture Secretary, Sam is responsible for organising all non-league games for all the ladies teams and for making and confirming the arrangements for league fixtures for the three senior ladies sides.

As Co-Captain of the ladies first team, Sam, along with Kirstin, shares all the responsibilities associated with picking a team, meet times, travel arrangements, writing reports, collecting money etc. etc..

Professionally, Sam works at Warwickshire College of Further Education, lecturing in Sports Science. Sam's journey to

Warwick has seen her born in Wensleydale (N Yorkshire), study her degree at Leeds University (W Yorkshire) and complete her Masters at Loughborough University. Sam spends significant time visiting family and friends back home and has two awesome nephews, Arthur (aged 2) and Jed (aged 7 months). Sam is a huge, huge X-Factor fan and will be making her annual pilgrimage to the live show early next year !

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We welcome Remploy Automotive as sponsors of our Men's Veteran's side. This sponsorship deal provided new, subsidised home and away shirts for the team and also ensured additional finances became available towards junior section coaching costs.

[Sponsor Warwick Hockey Club](#)

If you would like more information on the sponsorship opportunities available with Warwick Hockey Club, then please contact us at contactus@warwickhockey.co.uk