



NORWICH CITY HOCKEY CLUB

NEWS LETTER JANUARY 2005

Chairman's Chat

I am pleased to inform you all that this year's affairs have been running fairly well and on behalf of all Club members I would like to thank all new members of the Executive for their input and add that it is very encouraging to see some new faces taking an active part in the running of the Club.

In January, work will start on the new Clubhouse. This is an exciting time for the Club and should prove to be a real bonus, making the club a more cohesive unit.

Norwich City Hockey Club will have to raise **£50,000** towards the cost of the new building and to this end we have asked Debbie Bryant, Richard Innes and John Grange to head up a small committee to co-ordinate fund raising. Eventually **all members** will be involved in some form or other as it will take a tremendous effort from everybody to **raise this amount of money**. If anybody has any ideas or suggestions please contact Debbie, Richard or John.

I would like to welcome all new members to the Club and hope you will enjoy yourselves while you are part of the Club, which will see the beginnings of new horizons for Norwich City Hockey Club.

This year will be a very memorable year for the Club. As well as the building of the Clubhouse commencing it is also the **75th Anniversary of Norfolk Wanderers Hockey Club** (Norfolk Wanderers being one of the clubs that formed Norwich City Hockey Club). Celebrations will be along similar lines to those held for the Norwich Grasshoppers Centenary Day. All events will take place on **7th May 2005** and will be held during the day culminating with the Annual Dinner Dance in the evening. Please make a note of the date, **as your support will be paramount**.

On behalf of all on the Executive Committee I would like to send Season's Greetings to you all and look forward to seeing you all on the hockey pitch and in the clubhouse at a later date.

Peter Wright

Welcome Back

Firstly, I hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas festivities, and would like to wish you a Happy and Successful New Year.

This is an exciting time for Norwich City Hockey Club as we will be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of

Norfolk Wanderers Hockey Club during 2005, but perhaps of greater significance is the, development of a Clubhouse which will start in January and should be complete by September.

The Wanderers 75th Anniversary will be celebrated on 7 May and will take the form of a number of matches, currently planned are a mixed match, junior matches and two matches of former Wanderers including the return fixture against Grasshoppers. The day will also include the Annual Junior Presentations. The day will conclude with the Annual Dinner Dance. More details of the day's events will be published in the coming months. Former Wanderers member Richard "Pud" Rosher will also be bringing a team from his current to Norwich during April as part of the celebrations.

The clubhouse development is a result of Taverham High School attaining Sport Specialist status. The clubhouse will fulfil the schools need for additional changing and classroom facilities during the day, but the development is very much a community affair with the Parish Council providing the land and funding coming from a number of sources including the Dfes, Taverham High School PTA, Broadland and Norwich City Hockey Clubs, local Councils and private businesses. Outside school time, the facility will be used for changing by both Hockey Clubs and the Football Club and by the Hockey Clubs as a Clubhouse. Planning permission has been approved and user agreements with the school agreed which should provide the signal for work to commence in January. The club is committed to raise £50,000 towards the project and I urge you all to contribute towards this in whatever way you can. With nearly 500 members (Vice-Presidents, adults and juniors) we ought to be able to achieve this.

Finally, you may have heard that Louise Willgrass, lost her life in the tsunami whilst holidaying in Thailand. Louise is the mother of junior member Ben

Willgrass and former junior members Emily and Michael. We extend our condolences and deepest sympathies to the Willgrass Family.

Ali Wardale

Help with Mini-Hockey

After several years of running the mini-hockey section Ali Wardale will relinquish the role of mini-hockey co-ordinator at the end of the season. As both his children, Chris and Holly, will have moved out of mini-hockey, he would like to become more involved with the older age groups within the club and also county sides. In addition, he would also like the Club, with help from members and parents, to achieve Clubmark accreditation (national recognition that we run a safe junior section).

As Youth Development Officer, a role he is happy to continue, he will maintain his interest in the mini-hockey section and its development in conjunction with the mini-hockey co-ordinator(s). He will also be available to help with coaching at mini-hockey sessions if the need arises when available.

A number of clubs that run mini-hockey sections have parents as well as club members involved in the administration including such activities as taking the register, confirming players for tournaments, looking after team kit, acting as co-ordinator for an age group and even helping with coaching. We have had one or two parents involved in some of these activities, but now need to find some more. The development of the clubhouse at Taverham, may make undertaking some of these tasks easier next season.

In order to spread the load it may be easier to have a co-ordinator for each age group (under 13 girls, under 13 boys, under 11 girls, under 11 boys and under 9's). One or more individuals could undertake this task for each age group. Ali will still be helping for the remainder of the season and it would be good for a handover to take place during this period.

If you are willing to help in any way, or would like more information on what is involved, then please contact Ali on 01603 812216 or at

AliWardale@aol.com.

New Coaching Session for Women

During the summer and first half of this season we have received a number of enquiries from women who have not played hockey since either school/university or since the arrival of children. We have not had an appropriate coaching session for these women, so our intention is to start a new session on Wednesday's, 6.30pm – 8pm from 5 January. If you know of anyone that may be interested contact Ali Wardale (01603 812216) or enquiries@norwichcityhc.co.uk for further information.

Coaching Sessions

Coaching sessions recommence after the Christmas break on Wednesday 5 January, Thursday 6 January and Sunday 9 January. Attendance at coaching sessions is particularly important for the remainder of the season as some teams strive for promotion and

others battle against relegation. Presently we have one or two teams in the latter category.

Club Kit

The new club shirts arranged by Nick Hooper look extremely smart and comments received about the colour and quality have been very favourable. If you require a club shirt please contact Nick on 01603 473105. The cost of the new shirts is £25 including numbering which Nick will arrange. Those who would like a new shirt who already have a polo shirt purchased in the last two years (provided it is still in good condition) will be able to trade in their old shirt for a discount on the new club shirt. The returned shirts will be used as youth kits and will be the property of the club.

The club has a small stock of socks and shorts available and these items of kit are also available via Gilmour Sports.

Social Events

A very successful Horse racing Evening was held in October that raised over £500. Our thanks go to those who attended and enjoyed a very exciting evening, those who bought horses for the event and to the following organisations that sponsored the event:

Overbury's - Event Sponsor

Opus Insurance Services

JA & PE Wright

The Playbarn

Eastern Storage Equipment Ltd

RBR Potatoes Limited

Empresa

A big thankyou to Matt Brine, Willis and team for organising an excellent event.

A similar event has been provisionally booked for 19 February.

Child Protection Policy

As is the way of the world now, the Club has been advised to put into place a Child Protection Policy and other guidelines alongside it so that it can promote itself as a safe sports club for both for children and adults. The Norfolk Hockey Association has taken the lead in this and produced a detailed Child Protection Policy. The Club has now signed up to this, as have many other clubs within Norfolk. The next step is for guidelines to be drawn up for the various things Club members do every match day. Initially, the Norfolk and Club policy will be made available, through the Captains and over the bars at the Club rooms, to all members. Once some guidelines for "good practice" have been written these will also be given to all of the Captains. Any member can ask for copies of these once they are available. The idea is to keep you all up to date and involved in this as much as possible and so any feedback, particularly on the "good practice" guidelines, will be welcome.

Membership

If you have not yet paid your Annual Subscription it is well overdue. Please send your **payment and completed Membership Form** to Trudie Cunningham at the following address...

6 Old Chapel Road, Freethorpe, Norwich, NR13 3LU.

If you are an under 18 (as at 1st September 2004) please could you ensure you complete the Youth Membership Form. Membership Forms can be found on the website in the information section. If you are under 13 (as at 1st September 2004) you do not need to pay an Annual Subscription. If you have any queries/concerns with your annual subscriptions please look on the club website at www.norwichcityhc.co.uk and go to 'information' or see below. Alternatively contact Henry Wanchoo direct on 01603 812220.

Late Payment

	Subscription
Full Members	£65
Full Members – unemployed	£37.50
Student Members (18 – U23)	£37.50.
Junior Members (13 – U18)	£32.50
Under 13 (Mini-hockey)	Free
Associate Members	£15
Family Membership	£120
Life Full Membership	£500

Those who have joined the club since October will pay a reduced annual subscription.

Coaching Courses

We are very keen that those involved in coaching, club members or parents, at any level have some form of coaching qualification. To ensure that we are protected for insurance purposes every coaching session should be led by a qualified coach. For the vast majority of our coaching sessions we are able to achieve this, but ideally, we would like a qualified coach for each group within a coaching session. The Level One Award is the basic coaching award (minimum age 18) and is of 18 hours duration. A number of courses are run through the year in the East Region. Courses planned locally for 2005 are as follows:

Norwich, Norfolk	- March 6 th , 13 th & 20 th
Peterborough, Cambs	- April, May
Harleston, Norfolk	- June 26 th , July 3 rd & 10 th
Cambridge, Cambs	- September

If you would like to attend a Level 1 course please contact Ali Wardale (01603 812216 or AliWardale@aol.com) for further details. Any existing Level 1 coaches who would like to take the Level 2 course should also contact Ali.

For those under 18, those that cannot spare 18 hours or who would like an introduction to hockey, including coaching then there is the Leadership Certificate. This is a 10 hour course aimed at parents, players or

students who want to assist in the introduction of the game, especially with younger players. This is a course the club would need to organise, but if there is sufficient interest, we can do so. To register your interests please contact Ali.

Umpiring Courses

With the decrease in pool umpires all clubs now have to provide umpires for a number of league matches each season including our own matches. These umpires have to be Level 1 qualified, if not points can be lost – this is true for all Ladies matches and some Men's matches. We only just have sufficient qualified umpires to meet our obligations and when one of these umpires is unavailable, it generally means that someone has to double up. We have been fortunate just recently in that, a couple of parents that had not played hockey have taken up umpiring and have completed their Level 1 qualification. Congratulations to Julian Pitt and Julian Ashby.

Taking the course will also give you the opportunity to learn the rules – there are an awful lot of players that complain about the umpiring, but have never read the rules!!

Another enticement to umpiring, especially for some of the younger players, is that a fee of £8 is payable for each league game umpired. Hence, for those of you in full time education that played and umpired a game on a Saturday you would end up in pocket.

The club will pay the course fee for members to attend the Level 1 course.

Level 1 umpiring courses are scheduled for 13 March and 15 May.

Further details can be obtained from Ali Wardale.

Communication

E-Mail address – keep in touch: If you have received a printed copy of this newsletter, but now have an e-mail address by which we can contact you please e-mail enquiries@norwichcityhc.co.uk with your e-mail address. You will receive more information and earlier.

Half Term Report – Mini-Hockey

We have had an upsurge in membership again this season (now around 95), with more children still looking to join. We have good numbers in most age groups though could use a few more under 11 girls. We are again trying to ensure that all members have the opportunity to play in at least one tournament during the course of the season. For this age group our aim is to develop all players rather than try to achieve good results in the club tournaments. However, the under 11 boys have done well in their tournaments having had a steady squad of boys for around three seasons. We have been fortunate with coaches/helpers and our thanks go to those parents that have volunteered to help and to some of our older boys who have been coming along. Again, we would encourage coaches/helpers to become qualified to help us with insurance protection.

Finally, we would implore parents to help with the running of the mini-hockey section in whatever capacity you are able.

Half Term Report

With the loss of several players to university at the start of the season and few joiners, the club has been left with fewer players to select from. This has had an impact on most teams. The ladies 1st XI following their promotion to East Division One had a terrific start to the season being unbeaten in their first six matches, however despite subsequently facing some of the top teams they have only lost four of their twelve matches and lie in 7th position. Should maintain a mid-table position. In the Cup the Ladies bowed out to National League side Hounslow and Ealing, but the 7-2 scoreline was no disgrace. The Ladies are still in the Trophy having beaten Maidenhead 5-4 on golden goal having equalised just before full-time. In the next round scheduled for January 16 the Ladies are at home to Marlow. Please come along and give them your support.

Leading scorers are Mel Pitts – 13, Dawn White - 9 and Cheryl Barnett – 8.

The Ladies 2nd, 3rd and 4th XI have all found it hard going having moved players up, but the pleasing aspect is that we have several talented youngsters who are now getting the opportunity to play at a higher level. However, it will take a while for these youngsters to adjust to playing at a higher level and in the meantime each team is currently situated at the bottom of the table.

The 2nd XI have only managed two wins and a draw one of the wins coming in the last game before Christmas. They lie in 10th place. Should secure further wins in the New Year and maintain Premier Division status.

Leading scorers are Sue Tomlinson - 4, Teresa McInally – 3, Lynn Suckling – 2.

The Ladies 3rd XI have managed a win and a draw and like the 2nd XI their win came in the last game before Christmas. They lie in 9th place. Will find it difficult to avoid relegation.

Leading scorers are Claire Strickland – 3, Vicki Mason – 2, Rebecca Green – 2.

The 4th XI have achieved a win and two draws in the league and again the win came in the last game before Christmas – a familiar theme here. In friendlies the team has notched up a further three wins. They lie in 7th place. Should improve enough to avoid finishing bottom.

Leading scorers are Sara Ffrench-Constant – 8, Emily Moore – 5.

The Men's 1st XI have had an up and down season producing a mixture of very good and relatively poor performances and lack the necessary consistency. Consequently, they find themselves in 5th place in the league with 5 wins, 2 draws and 5 defeats. Will finish in the top half, but a good second half of the season

could see them push for promotion. Sadly, they are out of both the Cup and Trophy.

Leading scorers are Jeremy Elliott – 14, Mark Sibson – 10, Mark Lintott – 6.

The Men's 2nd XI have suffered through the loss of players and following their promotion last season have found it difficult in Division 2 North with some of the junior players having a steep learning curve. There have been only two wins and two draws to date which leaves the 2nds in 11th place. Need some good performances to avoid relegation.

Leading scorers are Matt Brine – 11, Richard Silvester – 8.

The 3rd XI have a young side (mostly under 18) with few experienced players and again have found a higher league a difficult proposition. They have recorded 4 wins (2 against a withdrawn team) and 1 draw so still have some work to do to maintain their status in this league. They currently lie in 10th place. Will need to work hard in order to avoid relegation.

Leading scorers are Joe Fisher – 5, Nigel Cushion – 4, Chris Wardale – 4.

The 4th XI rarely field the same team two weeks running and find it difficult to attain consistency, however with the dangerous Ady Marr they always have a chance. They have achieved 3 wins and a draw and lie in 11th place. Must work harder to avoid relegation.

Leading scorers are Ady Marr – 14, Steve Playford – 3

The 5th XI have had their best season for several years and have won all except three matches with only one defeat and that was a 9-1 defeat at the hands of Harleston vets in a friendly. Unfortunately, two league games that were won were awarded to the opposition due to higher teams being unable to field sides. The 5ths are 2nd in the league and are if they continue their form are candidates for promotion.

Leading scorers are Simon Deakin – 15, David Kidner – 10, Paul Gallop – 7.

The 6th XI having moved up a large number of their experienced players have an inexperienced side, but have found some older players to help out. They have achieved 7 wins and a draw and lie in 5th place. Should finish mid-table.

Leading scorers are Paul Gallop – 7, Richard Innes – 3, Lewis Burton – 3.

The colts have only played 3 fixtures but are unbeaten. The under 15 boys have bowed out of the cup. Having comfortably beaten Dereham 10-2 in the first round they then lost to Ipswich on penalty strokes having conceded an equaliser in the final minutes.

The under 18 boys continue to perform well beating Old Loughtonians last years cup runners-up in the first round. Their opposition in the second round, Chelmsford, were unable to raise a side so the boys now play Blueharts at home on 20 February.

The under 15 girls of whom we had high hopes beat Ipswich 4-0 in the first round, but then lost 3-2 to Dereham in the second round despite having the better of the play.

