

# Shefford & Sandy Hockey Club

## Annual General Meeting 2007

Sandy Upper School, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007

**Present:** Hannah Bartram (Chair), Tony Payne (Treasurer), Karen Hall (Secretary), Samantha Andrews, Cheryl Whaley, Matt Wilson, Julie Barnes, Tina Fury, Mike Tipper (Fixtures / Umpires Secretary), Paddy Walsh, Tessa Chiswell, Steve West, Siobhan Stevens

Apologies: Denise Moody, Sharon Ephgrave, Kevin Wilson, Kath Constantine, Gina Kelly, Rob Kelly, Kirsten Rayner, Lorraine Croft, Donna Butler, Grain Harding, Marjorie Cakebread, Theresa Bouchier, Sarah Cullip, Nikki Peake, Mark Liddiard, Simon Flint, Liz Orbell, Tiff Irvine, Andy Cusack

### 1. Welcome by the Chair

Hannah welcomed those present. Unfortunately, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running, there were insufficient members present to constitute a quorum so the meeting was unable to vote on any issue. As a result, an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) will take place before training commences on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### 2. Appointment of tellers

Tony Payne and Mike Tipper

### 3. Chair's report

Having started on a high, with 4 teams gaining promotion the previous season, 06/07 was a mixed season for the Club. However:

- We have seen some good junior players coming into the senior teams.
- We successfully ran a U13 mixed hockey tournament at Sandy, and secured sponsorship from the Kier Group at Tempsford.
- The U18s boys had a few good wins in the national U18 Cup before being knocked out by Old Loughtonians.
- Social events - we ran a successful End of Season party, and found a good new venue. We also organised the summer BBQ last August, and the Quiz Night in February
- A key expense for the Club last season was the development of new website, plus purchasing additional shirts.
- We put lot of people through Level 1 umpiring course, and introduced the voucher scheme where players that umpire do not pay match fees.

Future challenges include:

- **Volunteers:** A key challenge for the forthcoming season is recruiting new Committee members and other volunteers to help the Club run smoothly. As you will be aware, we need several new Committee members plus Team Captains. The more people that help out, the less onerous each task becomes! I would like to extend a big thank you to the outgoing committee members for all their hard work, and to the remaining Committee members and others that help keep the Club going. A lot of work goes on unnoticed behind the scenes, and often

unappreciated, so can I take this opportunity on behalf of the Club to thank all those that contribute.

- **Juniors:** Developing the junior section of the Club is critical, as many of these players then move into senior teams. We want to take forward relevant elements of the England Hockey accreditation scheme, *Clubs First*, particularly developing a Child Protection Policy, and continue engaging with other Bedfordshire Clubs. Captains need to be aware that England Hockey has introduced a new rule, which is that no U13 can play in league hockey game.
- **Seniors:** It would be good to encourage players to try out for the County squads. Trials in May 08 - more info will be provided via the Club website.
- **Umpires:** A continual issue is securing umpires. The Club paid for a number of people to do the Level 1 umpiring course, and we are now looking for them to start practising their new skills.
- **Sponsorship:** The Club has benefited on several occasions in the past from sponsorship, and we are keen to retain and expand this where possible.
- **Constitution:** This needs revising, and the new draft version will be put on the website for comment. We will use the EGM at the start of training to approve the changes.
- **Communications:** we are keen to see more and more Club communications going out via the website and e-mails. This helps reduce the admin burden and costs for the Club. Where people do not have access to e-mail or the web, we will need to make alternative arrangements.

#### **4. Treasurer's report**

See separate report

#### **5. Presentation of subscription proposals**

It was proposed to leave membership subscriptions at the same rate as for 06/07

It was proposed to raise match fees to £8 (adults) and £4 (juniors) for the forthcoming season. The reasons for this are: Increased cost of pitch hire of c 7%. Introduction of a voucher scheme for playing umpires reducing match day income.

Without raising match fees the club would not cover its costs in 07/08.

#### **6. Club and team captain reports**

See separate report

#### **7. Election of Officers**

Due to insufficient representation, the meeting could not vote on the election of officers. This will take place during the EGM on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. Job descriptions are available on the SSHC website. The nominations are:

- Chair: Hannah Bartram to remain
- Treasurer: Tony Payne to remain
- Secretary:
- Ladies Fixtures Secretary: Di Tipper to remain
- Mens Fixtures Secretary: Mike Tipper to remain
- Ladies Club Captain:
- Mens Club Captain:

- Junior Hockey Co-ordinator: Steve West
- Social Secretary: Cheryl Whaley
- Ladies 1s team captain: Samantha Andrews
- Ladies 2s team captain:
- Ladies 3s team captain: Julie Barnes & Kath Constantine
- Ladies 4s team captain: Siobhan Stevens and Liz Or bell
- Mens 1s team captain: Tony Payne to remain
- Mens 2s team captain:
- Mens 3s team captain:
- Mens 4s team captain:
- Mens Vets team captain: Mike Tipper
- Mixed Team captain: Matt Wilson

#### 8. **Any other business**

- **Pitch:** Complaint about the state of the pitch. Response – the whole pitch is due to be replaced for the start of the 2008/09 season. However, Mike Tipper agreed to look into problems with the pitch being ‘scuffed’ around the goals.
- **Teas:** still not enough in quality or quantity. Hannah to talk to the leisure centre manager.
- **Summer BBQ:** Cheryl offered to organise the summer BBQ. Likely to be held end of Sept at the Tippers in Potton. More info to follow via the website.
- **Coaches:** there was some concern about the declining attendance at Tues training, particularly from Christmas onwards. Steve West is now Senior Coach for the Club, and suggested that captains should discuss with him and the other coaches what they want. Probably easiest after the first training session on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- **Mixed games:** Matt Wilson agreed to organise a team for the Cup, and friendlies.
- **Goalkeepers:** there is a shortage of GKs in the ladies section. Advert to be posted on the SSHC website, and to get in touch with local schools.
- **First Aid Kit:** each team has to have its own first aid kit. This should be bought / updated using match fees – but receipts need to go to Tony.
- **Selection procedure for the ladies:** problems encountered last season were raised as being an ongoing issue for the Club. There is a Selection Policy (see the website for more info) but it was felt this had not resolved the problems. It was suggested that the issue was left to ‘rest’ over the summer, then the ladies club captain and team captains should get together at the beginning of the season to discuss squads, etc.
- **CRB checks:** It was pointed out that CRB checks for other activities are not necessarily pertinent to hockey. As good practice we encourage every team to have at least one person who is CRB checked. Someone will co-ordinate this for the forthcoming season.