



WIMBORNE WAYFARERS HOCKEY CLUB

Welcome to the 2021/22 season!

Members will no doubt have seen the recent publicity regarding the future of QE Leisure Centre. Dorset Council manage the Centre on behalf of the School and are looking to terminate their involvement on grounds of overall cost and value for money. There is a public consultation on the topic open until 7 November, through which users of the Centre can express their views and concerns. The Club will be responding to the consultation (found at [Consultation launched on future management of Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre - Dorset Council news](#)) in due course, but members are encouraged to respond personally as well. If the Council resolves to withdraw from the management agreement, they have to give 24 months notice, and we therefore expect that any change would probably not be effective until April 2024. However the issues surrounding the funding for re-laying the playing surface and restoring the overall condition of the pitch facility to what it should be will remain. There will be interesting times ahead while a resolution to these issues is worked through with all interested parties.

As previously advised, this season sees a substantial restructuring of league hockey throughout England. We will see the benefits with less travel to away matches, but there will be some administrative matters which EVERYONE will have to comply with in return. In particular matches will be managed through a new national Game Management System (GMS) written by EH which requires ALL players to register before they can play a league match. This replaces the registration system which has been operated by the ladies leagues for many years (and which has been dealt with by the Club on your behalf), but is now extended to cover the mens leagues as well and requires everyone to input their personal details to the system. Although the system went live earlier this month, there have been teething difficulties and at present player registration has been paused. We will advise when the system re-opens for registration together with detailed instructions. It is imperative that everyone complies with this one off request as soon as success to the system is possible.

While there are no longer any **Covid-19 protocols** affecting outdoor activity, it is still a requirement for you not to attend a hockey session if there are Covid symptoms or other self-isolating restrictions at home. We trust that you will all be responsible in all matters Covid and continue to minimise the transmission of the virus. We have been very fortunate not to have had any significant outbreaks amongst our membership, and want that to continue so that everyone can reap the benefits of playing outdoor sport.

Fixtures are as per the attached fixtures document. Because of the GMS teething troubles, not all clubs have yet input their start times to the system. A further update will be provided and the website will be updated when the timings are complete. League gap dates are set aside by EH for national cup competitions, and we have entered the Ladies 1s, Ladies 2s and Mens 1s into their respective Cups. We have also entered the Ladies Over 45s Cup and the Mixed Cup, which will continue on Sundays as in the past with first round ties scheduled for 31 October and 21 November respectively.

It is important that everyone advises their **availability** as early each week as possible so that teams can be selected with minimal last minute issues. We do not want to have to be scrabbling around late Friday or early Saturday re-hashing match sheets prior to push back!!!

You will all receive a personal invoice within the next 2 weeks to deal with the outstanding balance from last year's subscriptions (due to or by the Club), any amounts due from summer activity, and subscriptions for the coming season. Details on how to pay will be included in that communication.

We think that we will be able to confirm the contact data which we hold with that input by you to GMS. so that there are no issues in the unfortunate event of an accident or insurance claim. If your personal details change, please update GMS accordingly without delay.

The first **social** of the season will be on Saturday 25 September and will be a Race Night staged at Colehill Social Club. Further details are being circulated by the new Social Committee (Todd Clark, Rhian and Daisy Lowe).

Playing kit (other than shirts, for which an order has been placed) and non-playing **kit** is available at <https://www.hawkinsport.co.uk/clubs/hockey-clubs/wimborne-wayfarers-hockey-club> on a 7-10 day delivery timescale.

The Club's **Code of Conduct** is attached for good reasons. Firstly, we need all players to represent the Club with appropriate standards of behaviour and sportsmanship. Secondly all must be aware of the sanctions that are now required to be applied by League Regulations if a player receives too many cards:

- 4 yellow cards in the season will lead to a 1 match suspension.
- 2 further yellows will lead to a further 1 match suspension.
- Thereafter each subsequent yellow will lead to a further 1 match suspension.

After match **hospitality** will be possible again at Colehill Sports & Social Club (BH21 2QR), but we will not have access to the kitchen at least until they review their Covid policies again in November. Teas will therefore be limited to pre-prepared sandwiches/finger buffet items and disposable plates. Each team will need to ensure that there is no rubbish left on site before they leave.

Adult **training** arrangements for Men remain on Tuesdays from 2000 to 2130. We have an extra 30 minutes on a Wednesday from 1900 for Ladies training which will end at 2100 as usual. Warm ups should take place off-pitch before these start times so that best use is made of available pitch time.

Reminders:

- Please be aware of the continued lack of low level fencing near the gate to the pitch which could be dangerous to spectators and younger family members outside the cage during matches
- Astros and flat trainers only
- The Club's insurance policy only covers civil liability for the actions of club members. Accordingly anyone who has not paid a subscription or put in place a standing order arrangement is not covered.
- While we have moved the Club's insurance policy to one arranged through EH which has better personal accident cover than hitherto, members may wish to consider arranging their own policies if they require more comprehensive cover.

Contacts for general club administration:

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Enjoy your hockey, and here's to a successful season!!

Michael
September 2021