

WIMBORNE WAYFARERS HOCKEY CLUB
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO AGM 2022

Having survived and possibly thrived during the last two seasons, it was a joy to be returning to the 21/22 season on the familiar route we all know, without the restrictions of the pandemic. Back2hockey in August was well attended, enthusiasm to be out and playing sport freely, was evident by the good numbers turning out each week, including a good number of new players.

We had a new league structure imposed on us for this season, thanks to EH, and the Club became a member of the South Central League. This new structure saw the implementation of GMS, which was not without its initial issues. Thank you to everyone for your prompt "box ticking" to ensure our compliance

The season saw both our men's teams win promotion. Men's 1's secured their league win with 5 games in hand and an impressive goal difference. One particular individuals season aim of scoring 50 goals fell just short, and goals scored at training definitely do not count! Due to league rules on promotion, they will be playing quite a number of the same teams this coming season.

Men's 2's decided to play the long game and keep the excitement going until the last game of the season against Gillingham, finishing with a win, meaning that they won the league, having already gained promotion.

We were lucky enough this season to be able to maintain three ladies teams (against the grain when hearing of other clubs issues) all of whom enjoyed good seasons. Unfortunately due to the withdrawal of teams by other clubs, only one team from each league would be promoted, unfortunately therefore each team missed out on promotion by only one league position. No doubt promotion is just around the corner this season.

Wimborne's Junior section continues to be a membership area of the club we should all be proud of, evidenced by the numbers attending across a Tuesday evening, which has been as many as 60 this season. Our U10 & U12 sides both qualified for the Regionals, and enjoyed a trip to Bristol. Some great performances, namely the boys sharing of goal keeping duties was a wonderful experience, and our eyes are set on this season as we are able, due to their ages, to keep much of the teams the same. Thank you to the coaches for their efforts throughout the season.

We were lucky to be able to enjoy a number of Club Socials over the season, and a fantastic End of Season Awards Dinner. In my opinion that event encompassed what our club is, an environment where everyone, irrespective of age, are made to feel welcome and included. Thank you on behalf of the Club to the Social Committee for your work over the season.

Everyone will be well aware of the situation with QE and the Council's withdrawal from the site. Thank you to everyone who responded to the consultation, Mike will update us later in the meeting on the most recent developments and the future, in regards to this matter.

As always, thank you to Mike on behalf of us all, and to my fellow Committee Members for your hard work and contribution over the season, I may not say it often enough, but it is always very much appreciated.

ML – Chairman - June 2022