

Hon Secretary,
Rosemary Prince
12 Valley View Close
Colchester
CO4 9UN

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Rosemary.prince@btinternet.com

Colchester Hockey Club AGM 2008- Notification.

The Annual General Meeting of the Colchester Hockey Club will be held on Thursday 10th July at the Castle Park - 7.30 for 7.45pm start.

All members are invited to attend.

AGENDA

Chairman's opening address.

Apologies for absence.

Minutes of the last A.G.M.

Matters arising.

Captains reports-Men's 1st, 2nd,3rd, 4th,5th & Vets, Ladies 1st,2nd,3rd, & Youth.

Umpire's Report

Treasurer's Report & recommendations(pitch costs rising)

Future of the Sports Club/clubhouse update/Chairman & Tim Logan

Election of Officers ...see vacancy list below

Nomination for Life Membership

Centenary Update

Club History Update

Any Other Business

A copy of last year's minutes can be viewed on the club's new website.

www.colchesterhc.org.uk

Copies of the club accounts will be made available at the meeting

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AND/OR WISH TO NOMINATE A MEMBER FOR A POSITION, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY AS AT TOP OF PAGE. (ENSURE THE PERSON YOU ARE NOMINATING IS IN AGREEMENT).

AWARDS PRESENTATION for 2007- 08 SEASON

Following the AGM Club awards will be presented including top goal scorers and players of the season for each team. In connection with the player of the season awards team members should ring their captains to make their nomination known now.

Management Committee Officers willing to stand for 2008-09

Chairman...	Bryan Patterson
Treasurer...	Ben Harrington

Secretary... Shivaun Tijou/nom., form. Rosemary Prince
Fixture Secretary... Michael Pearce/nom., form. Gordon How
Umpires Secretary... Vacancy
Chair of Selection... Vacancy

Chair of Playing/Coaching/Selection Sub-Committee – Tony Elston

League Team Captains Ladies

1stXI... Naomi Allen/nom., form. Lucy Struth
2ndXI... Helen Wall/nom., form. Minal Patel
3rdXI... waiting to hear
Veterans... Vacancy

League Team Captains - Men

1stXI... Rohan Khaira/nom., form. Wayne Masters
2ndXI... Ed Nott/nom., form. Chris Harrington
3rdXI... Charlie Hardern
4thXI... Vacancy, form. Paul Short
5thXI... Vacancy
Veterans... TEAM DISBANDED for current season
Youth Representative.. Liam Phillips
Youth Manager... Helen Wall

NON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CLUB OFFICERS

200Club Secretary... Jacqui Crombie,Sarah Rose/nom., form. Paul Hollingsworth
Sports Club Reps.... To be discussed, currently only - Richard Dove
Social Committee... Nikki Brown,Jacqui Crombie,Sarah Rose
Kit Manager... Vacancy/form. Michael Pearce

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT SEASON 2007 – 08

The 2007-08 season.

Final team results:

	League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Position
Men's 1	East Premier B	22	6	4	12	52	57	10th
Ladies' 1	East Div 1N	22	11	7	4	49	36	4th
Men's 2	East 4SE	22	12	2	8	71	51	4th
Ladies' 2	Essex Premier	22	10	4	8	47	40	5th
Men's 3	East 5SE	22	7	3	12	42	59	8th
Ladies' 3	Essex Div 2	20	6	4	10	31	44	8th
Men's 4	East 6SE	20	9	2	9	51	39	4th
Men's 5	East 8SE	18	4	2	12	33	51	9th
Men's Vets	East Veterans League	22	3	1	18	28	88	12th

The Playing Side.

Our Centenary Year left us much to be proud about, and saw a lot of good hockey being played.

The Ladies' 1st's and 2nd's played really throughout the season, as did the Men's 1st's and 2nd's, and if that comment seems a little odd in relation to the Men's 1st's, then figures can never show the efforts that the Coach James Southgate, Captain Wayne Masters, and the squad put in. Too many matches after Christmas were lost by the odd goal, and the lack of availability of key players at different times, and some times on crucial days (and for variable reasons – such as work & other interests), no doubt contributed.

Commitment throughout the season brings good dividends, and the passion showed by the Ladies' 1st's also set a good standard for all club members to follow.

James, Wayne, Tony Elston, and Helen Wall (plus her army of helpers) on Sunday mornings, put in a huge amount of effort during the season and my thanks go out to them.

The work of Helen and her team on Sunday morning continues to provide us with the bedrock of new talent that we need to keep Colchester HC going strong. I know I always labour the point that after university and higher education, not too many of our most promising young players return to the club, because of job opportunities in London and elsewhere. Without that Sunday morning work, then we would struggle much more as a club, and would find it difficult to plug the gap. Thanks in large measure to Lucy Struth and Wayne Masters for the untiring efforts and leadership of the Ladies 1st's and Men's 1st's, and who are passing on the respective captaincies.

Sub - Committees

Tony has also become leader of the Playing & Coaching Sub-Committee, a new innovation aimed at separating this side of management from the financial and business decision making of the main management committee.

I hope that next season will see us set-up also a Social sub- committee, to extend the number of social events that are held in the season.

Committee & Responsibilities

I looked back at Nettie's report of last year in which she thanked some new committee members for doing their "bit for the club" and coming forward, but also referred to the need for more members to step up and actually do something for the club, rather than just playing on a Saturday and then going home. As Nettie went on to say – "any sports related club is only as good as the members that support it and run it. Far too many members are happy just to play, but unwilling to give time to support the development and day to day running of the club."

Hockey is an amateur sport, and most members do have skills that they could use to help the club at least for a period – say a year or two – to help spread the workload.

The attitude and responsiveness may be just beginning to change, and encouragingly some new volunteers are stepping up to provide some new blood to the committee. This will become evident from the new volunteers for office.

After 16 years as Fixture Secretary Gordon How is retiring from the post, and no member of the club has contributed more than Gordon to helping this club run smoothly over the years. With his league liaison work, and at times his role as umpire coordinator, Gordon has always gone quietly but effectively about doing a first rate job. With quiet diplomacy and constant networking with people who matter in hockey, Gordon's quiet counsel and advice have often been invaluable. The thanks of the Club, and my personal thanks should be noted.

Luckily I think we have found a good club member to take over this role, and also another to take over the role of the Club's Secretary where Rosemary Prince is stepping down. Rosemary has given some sterling service, always conducted with efficiency, and with a strong dose of common sense and good advice, and steps down with a huge vote of thanks.

Paul Hollingsworth is also stepping down from doing the 200 Club, and a huge vote of thanks goes to Paul for the great service that he has given on this front. Always diligent and efficient, Paul's management of the 200 Club has provided us with a constant flow of much needed funds into the Club's coffers – apart from providing the lucky winners of the draws with some useful cash. Thanks Paul for everything you have done.

Centenary Events.

My thanks also go out to Shivaun Tijou for her involvement with the increased press coverage this year, her stupendous efforts in compiling the history of the club, her involvement along with Terry Howlett in the early season representative games against "old" England international teams, and her valuable contribution to the success of the Centenary Dinner held at The Stoke By Nayland Hotel. Thank you Shivaun.

This brings me on to Paul Hollingsworth who coordinated the Centenary Dinner event and was largely responsible for its success, with no small help from that legendary duo of John Helliwell and Peter Crafford. The key was to make sure that we had the right people attending – which the Centenary Committee did, and to ensure that in David Collier, Chief Executive of the ECB, and in the entertainer Sid Dennis we had the speakers of quality to set the seal on the night. Thanks to all those who made this such a memorable and successful event.

Old Boys Match

On a good 2008 winter's day the old boys 1st's of 10 years ago met the Men's 1st's of 2007 – 08, to start what is expected to be an annual event henceforth. The hockey was of an excellent standard, and although the result didn't matter in a sense, and it could have gone either way, for the record - the current team won.

Off Field Investments

Marley's cooking (and not to mention cleaning) exploits now make our clubhouse and teas worth coming back to – several compliments were paid by visiting sides this season, which should ensure better attendance at our club house next season. Better attendance usually means more money over the bar, which in turn keeps our contributions to the Sports Club down.

Well done to Marley for difference that she has made in the Club this season.

Finances

With pitch fees increasing substantially next season we need to look at the Annual Membership Subscriptions (£85 senior/£35 junior) and the Weekly subs (£7 over 19/£3 under 19).

Compared with other clubs in East Anglia ours have been held down for several seasons now, and some adjustment will have to be made.

Essential club house repairs to the electrics in the building have to be made, and we are in negotiation with the cricket club as to how much our contribution should be.

Club House

In 2 to 3 years time there is a good chance that a club house with a bar could be erected at the Garrison, and whilst monitoring the progress of the council led plans closely, for the time being we have to assume that our home remains Castle Park.

The management of the Castle Park Club House will move to the Cricket Club, and away from the Sports Club 50/50 structure and arrangement that we have with them. A Deed of Covenant has been drawn-up in this connection, and Tim Logan will tell us more at the meeting.

A personal thanks to Richard Dove here for the unstinting Bar Stocking, and alarm call out services that he has provided over many seasons, Richard is continuing until the Cricket Club take over the role. A one time treasurer of the club (10 years I believe) Richard has always given more than the role actually entailed – and we are eternally grateful.

Leisure World

The pitch at Leisure World is being re-laid this summer, although with the discounts that we receive at the Garrison with multi-bookings, plus the quality of the surface, it would seem unlikely that we would make a move back to even partial use of the LW set-up --- even though the dressing rooms and showers are superior there.

The Men's Vets team.

Richard Dove has not been able to find a successor to running the Vets team, and this coincides with several of the long serving players bringing their careers to an end within a year or two of each other. Whilst in theory we could raid some other sides for Vets qualified players, this would only weaken the experience that we need to give the youngsters room and time to grow in their respective teams.

In addition a problem was encountered on many away matches because of the vast travelling distances that are required in the Vets division. In any other division our Vets would not have been able to complete the season, because of the number of forfeited games.

We need to lobby the league on this subject of travelling distances, and at the moment the decision is ONLY that we do not put in a Vets side in the league for this season. A review of this decision will be conducted during next season.

Friendlies can be arranged, and the Sunday cup competition can be entered into.....but someone needs to step forward to organise that.

Hills Residential – our Sponsors.

On behalf of the committee and club members I extend heartfelt thanks to Alan and Joe Hills for their continued support, without which we would struggle more financially. We greatly value their support and are proud to wear and display their advertising wherever we can.

The Committee, the Members Non – Playing & Playing Members

Finally to my committee, the members, many of whom have contributed so much to the club, thank you for the friendship, and for making this such an enjoyable club to be a part of.