

Ipswich - East Suffolk

Hockey Club

<http://www.ieshc.org>

Associate Member Club of Rushmere Sports Club Ltd.



Annual Report for 2011 / 2012

Dedicated to the memory of IESHC's great friend and supporter, Mrs Ros Reed (1956-2012)

Summary of match statistics for games listed in the Fixtures Card 2011/2012

(Note that the above data excludes the cup/trophy, tournaments and 'extra' mid-week Mixed Friendlies)

IES	Results	2011	-	2012					
Squad (X1)		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	% Success	League Position
Mens 1	League	22	20	1	1	114	17	93.2	1 (12)C,P
	Friendly	3	2	1	0	20	0	83.3	
	Total	25	22	2	1	134	17	92.0	
Ladies 1	League	22	9	6	7	38	25	54.5	6 (12)
	Friendly	2	0	1	1	0	1	25.0	
	Total	24	9	7	8	38	26	52.1	
Mens 2	League	20	12	2	6	80	39	65.0	3 (11)
	Friendly	6	3	0	3	22	13	50.0	
	Total	26	15	2	6	102	52	61.5	
Ladies 2	League	20	3	2	15	17	54	20.0	9 (11)
	Friendly	1	0	1	0	2	2	50.0	
	Total	21	3	3	15	19	56	21.4	
Mens 3	League	22	17	3	2	97	29	84.1	1 (12)C,P
	Friendly	3	1	1	1	5	7	50.0	
	Total	25	18	4	3	102	36	80.0	
Mens 4	League	20	12	0	8	46	37	60.0	4 (12)P
	Friendly	4	2	0	2	7	10	50.0	
	Total	24	14	0	10	53	47	58.3	
Mens 5	League	20	4	0	16	28	66	20.0	10 (12)
	Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total	20	4	0	16	28	66	20.0	
Totals		165	85	18	62	476	300	57.0	

(Note that the above data excludes the cup/trophy, tournaments and 'extra' mid-week Mixed Friendlies)

C = Divisional Champions P = Promoted.

Editorial (by Chris Hatch):

This edition of the Annual Report is dedicated to the memory of Mrs Ros Reed, wife and mother of our members Ian, Geoffrey and Sammie, along with their sister Melissa.

Season 2011-12 saw IES run 5 Mens and 2 Ladies teams and achieve 3 promotions with no relegations. Most of the season's story is described in the Chairman's report and this editorial is therefore kept very brief.

The Club would again like to thank Rushmere Sports Club Ltd, its Manager Roger Osborne and other staff for all their work and support of us during the season. Also, Anna Whatling for the regular hot teas service after matches.

EH Competitions: Summary of results

Competition	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	Venues
Men, EH Vase	3	2	0	1	8	7	3A
Men, EH Vets Cup/Plate**	1	0	0	1	0	10	1A
Boys U-18 Cup	2	0	1*	1	4	13	2H

*Drawn U-18 game v Pelicans (4-4) was won 7-6 on strokes

**The Mens Vets (O-40s) were eliminated from the Cup but had to default from the Plate game due to shortage of available players.

Outdoor Tournament & Indoor competitions. Best results during 2011/12:-

Ladies 3rd place, ERHA Ladies League Div 1 Indoor Tournament
 Men Runners-up, Suffolk Indoor Premier League
 Runners-up, Suffolk County Cup
 Runners-up, ERHA Mens Div 1 Indoor Tournament (Promoted to Premier)
 Mens 'C' Indoor – Winners Suffolk League Div 1

Representative Honours during 2011/12:-

Suffolk Mens Senior County Championships squad: Geoff Reed, Luke Curtis; Tony Burch (Manager)
 East Region Mens O-55 squad: Graham Ramsden
 East Ladies O-40 squad: Maria Whelan
 JPRC: George Sutton

News from the Annual General Meeting on 12th June 2012

The following elections were made at the AGM (or by subsequent committee appointment):

President, Peter Blake;

Chairman, Graham Ramsden;

Secretary, Phil Buck

Business Manager, Men's Team Secretary, Astro Pitch Liaison & Club Liaison Officer; Chris Hatch;

Ladies Team Manager, Annette White

Umpire Liaison Office, Chris Hatch

Social Sec., Steven Farrow

Youth Development Committee, Di Stevens, Anthony Whitaker

Communications Officer/Web Site Manager, Gary Scarff

Suffolk County Liaison Officer, Steven Farrow

Ladies League Liaison Officer, Kim Caley

Position

1st X1 Captain/V-Captain

2nd X1 Captain/ V-Captain

3rd X1 Captain/ V-Captain

4th X1 Captain/ V-Captain

5th X1 Captain/ V-Captain

Mixed X1 Captain / Secretary

Indoor League Captains

(A/B/C)

Fixtures Secretary

Head Coach

Club Clothing Officer

Club Welfare Officer

Men

Charles Coulson /

Peter Blake /

Guy Whiting /

Richie Head /

John Oakley /

Andy Murray

John Oakley & Dave Charles (B)

Graham Ramsden

Geoff Reed

Dave Taylor

Di Stevens

Ladies

Samantha Simpson

Saph Cutting

Julie Yorke

Tony Burch

Dave Taylor

Di Stevens

Other Matters reported on at the AGM:-

(i) Chairman's Report (Graham Ramsden);

The 11-12 season is a difficult one to sum up – on balance I think it was a good season although not everything went as smoothly as we would have liked. A year ago we had just had two teams relegated. This year we can celebrate having two teams as league Champions – well done to the men's 1st and 3rd XIs. In addition the 4th team will also be promoted from Div 6NE to 5NE – in no small part down to Chris writing to the league. That realises an ambition I had for the club which was to get 3 teams promoted this season. For the Ladies it was undoubtedly a tough season. The strength of the squads looked promising at the start of the season but a combination of pregnancies (for which

congratulations to all concerned) and injuries soon took its toll. Quite a number of occasional players helped out on a number of occasions. Whilst this was probably for the overall good of the club, selection issues were undoubtedly a cause of friction - something that must be addressed and can be discussed later in the meeting.

There are some other awards and noteworthy items:

- we only conceded one game due to non-availability,
- I hope all our new members feel welcomed and that they joined club that wants to go places as well as a social club. Equally I hope that our existing members will challenge hard for places in higher teams as the club is getting stronger
- Young players have been a key part of all our teams and we will miss those going off to university or other pursuits next season.
- Geoff Reed and Luke Curtis represented the County, along with Tony Burch as Manager.
- George Sutton JRPC, others including Wheelie have represented the East region.

Indoors we ran 3 men's squads for the first time and the A team were runners up just 1 point behind the league winners. The men's and ladies teams gave good account at the East level with the men gaining promotion to the East Premier.

Training sessions have been quite well attended over the year. Tony has coached the ladies and John and others have given up their time to manage and coach on Saturdays. Geoffrey's coaching has been a real boost bringing a rigour and discipline that needs to spread through the club if we are to gain more promotions next season. Jaffa and Richard Pittaway have offered to coach the lower teams next season.

Di, Blobby and a host of others have been fantastic in continuing to build the junior side of the club. Sunday mornings have been very popular and the academy sessions on a Wednesday have been another step in developing the potential stars of the future. Next season we should be offering more matches for some age groups where we have entered junior Suffolk and East leagues.

As always it has been quite a challenge to organise umpires for every match. Thanks to Chris for taking on the role in addition to the many other things he does for the club and thanks to all the umpires. We've had John Seabrook and others step in at short notice so to all have umpired occasionally, or a dozen or more times, thank you.

On the social scene thanks to Jaffa for organising the 3 events – we had a good turn out for all 3 with more people attending than last year. The food at the curry night was excellent - I'm not sure if it's true that David Stevens single-handedly ensured there were no leftovers. There were a dozen or so teams at the hotly contested quiz night and it was great to see the Archer family and many other new faces there – I leave the bragging rights to Chris on the outcome. The annual awards were made at the dinner dance at Fynn Valley last month – for those who weren't there the winners are all listed on the website.

Overall are we a healthy club? Yes we have some issues that we may get into before the end of the meeting but we have had more of a buzz in the club this year, more people supporting all our home matches from the sidelines and there's no doubt there is a good deal of spirit and potential. The web site is active, fantasy hockey, the 100 club and I was encouraged to revive Duck Tails – these are all good signs for the future..

Chris brought back another trophy from the League AGM on Sunday – the Hugh Jarvis trophy awarded for good conduct (just 6 yellow cards in 6 teams over the whole season. The League were also pleased that we had entered a fifth team which had played all its games and we had sportingly allowed a couple of league postponements, rather than claiming the points.

Congratulations to our newly-weds, Kevyn and Anne (Brown); new parents and best wishes to those with babies due in the next few weeks or months.

The Richard Gray event is scheduled for 1st July at Tuddenham Road so please keep that date free. Wheelie and Saph are running some EH instigated "Back to hockey" sessions for Ladies in June and July.

Thanks to Greg Jones and Peter Elsom we have sponsorship deal with Martlesham Heath Business Park. Thanks to Taz we have a design for new kit, a new kit supplier and we are on course to have new shirts, shorts /skirts and socks with the sponsor's logo for the start of the new season. There will also be a range of matching track suits, tops and hoodies available – these will be excellent value.

(ii) Business Manager's Report (Chris Hatch):

At the end of our 14th season after moving to Rushmere Sports Club, we have continued to pay our way, with a surplus of £966.00 recorded on the current account over the year. We enjoyed a good season with our Mens 1st1st, 3rd and 4th X1s promoted and all other sides doing adequately well in their various divisions.

The addition of a Mens 5th X1 and relatively modest expenditure on goalkeeping equipment helped to create this surplus (amounting to 4.3% of turnover). All this was despite a net loss of £937.50 for all Indoor hockey activities (competitions plus training).

The winter was pretty awful for weather for the 3rd year running, causing some dislocation with a number of the league games postponed and requiring slip games. These were mainly made up by end-season but income was lost due to Friendlies having to be cancelled.

Until such a time as a pitch at Rushmere becomes available, we are slightly vulnerable to pitch availability, having no long term contract with Copleston. That said, terms have been negotiated for the use of Copleston for the full 12/13 season, on the same Saturday, and Wednesday usage profiles as during 11/12 but with an additional half hour for Juniors and a call-on arrangement for Sundays for Junior events or EH cup games.

Once again it needs to be emphasised that the members who run the youth coaching are providing the whole club with a de-facto subsidy on their hockey costs, as this is worth some 20% off the net pitch hire costs at Copleston.

The team secretaries and/or captains are thanked for their clear and concise accounting of income and expenses. Also, the members who have set up the '100's club' which yielded £380 in new fundraising income. The 'traditional' contributions of those who waived some travelling expenses (especially our Junior Coaches) and those who absorbed costs such as phone calls are gratefully acknowledged.

(iii) Secretaries Report (Editor's report)

Club management continued to be conducted by its elected committee during 2011/12. Phil Buck, as the newly appointed Club Secretary, convened committee meetings every 6 weeks as agreed and wrote & distributed detailed minutes of each.

(iv) Social Events Report (by Steven 'Jaffa' Farrow);

This season the club ran three formal social events, Curry and Crackers, a quiz night and the end of season dinner. The Curry and Crackers event took place prior to Christmas and was very well attended with over 40 members and guests present. The quiz night was held in March again a very well attended event with over 10 teams entering. The season was rounded off with the formal end of season dinner at Fynn Valley golf club. This year 90 members and guests attended.

Throughout the season all of the social events were well supported and that reflects well on all club members who contributed to making these a success. Along with the club socials the general social atmosphere has been very good this year, with most teams also having social events of their own.

Looking ahead to the next year we are planning to continue with the current format for socials but would be keen to include more into the calendar.

(v) Youth Coaching Report (by Di Stevens);

IES Juniors experienced a period of real growth and change during the last season with 83 children aged between 5 years and 15 years accessing our sessions. Alongside this growth the section has started to put into place more formal training schedules to ensure that all juniors cover the learning of all skills. We have also grown by starting a second training session called 'The Academy' on a Wednesday evening as a bridging session between the adult teams and the junior section to allow for better feed through. The junior section during the summer session have also successfully trialled the splitting and extending of the groups so that we don't have the youngest children on the pitch area at the same time as the older group and thereby both lessening the chance of injury and enabling the older group to use a whole pitch and practice play as a fully sized side. All of this has actually meant that instead of offering an hour and a half each week of training we are now providing 4 hours which is a massive growth.

We entered various competitions this year and it has been a real learning curve which we will be taking into this coming season. We also held our own inter club tournament against Colchester that meant that we had 5 teams playing across the age groups with a combination of wins, draws and losses this was a really great event and we will be looking to repeat it this season.

This year we are entered into the East League (1 team) and Suffolk Youth League (5 teams) and will enter at least 2 other tournaments so there will be plenty of opportunity for matches.

In line with all this growth and change we have been fortunate to get offers from both qualified coaches and those who want to take up formal coaching. It is exciting to see that we have 3 older teenagers who have trained through the junior section in recent years, moved on to adult teams and are back again helping out with the juniors - the circle is complete!

We are on the cusp of securing sponsorship for the junior section which will mean that we will be able to replace and extend some of our equipment and also run a full size Suffolk Tournament of our own - preparations for which are in the early stages but are underway.

A number of our junior section will be trying out for County places and we will all wish them well and will offer our full support.

This has been a great season and over the next year we will be looking for further growth alongside some consolidation!

(vi) Umpires and Umpiring Report (Chris Hatch, as ULO):

During the 2011/12 season, the Mens 1st X1 league games were umpired by SCHUA appointees when at home or Away in Suffolk and a mixture of Norfolk Pool and club umpires when away in Norfolk. IES is grateful for the pool appointees, especially as there was little or no call on the club to provide to the Suffolk Pool. That said, our members, Dave Charles and Richard Pittaway gave priority to East Premier B umpiring (or occasionally Prem A) and the club met all possible Pool provision requirements (as mandated by the League Rules) on that basis. Accordingly, thanks are due to Dave and Richard for their commitment to umpiring at the higher levels.

It was a problem getting our current Level 1 'candidate' umpires through the full qualification process but efforts are continuing. It's an essential aspect of the club's long term sustainability as quite simply we are unable to play and therefore dysfunctional without qualified umpires.

For the record, the following number of club Saturday games were umpired by each of our qualified umpires listed below:

Chris Hatch (47 games), Barrie Whelpton (17), Ian Reed (13), John Oakley (11), Graham Ramsden (9), Jerry Hindle (9), Steve Thorpe (4), Peter Blake (4), John Adams (4), John Seabrook (4), Sam Oakley (3), Rob Sebborn (3), Richie Head (3), Richard Pittaway (2), Chris Pittaway (2), Steve Clark (2), Anne Edney (2), Dave Charles (1). All our currently listed L1 umpires on the East and Suffolk records retained their 'Active' status going into the 2012/13 season.

Review of the 2011/12 season – Squad reports:

The Mens 1st X1 (Editor's report)

This was a truly outstanding season for the Mens 1sts with a divisional championship performance and promotion back to East Div 2 level. Strong players joined or re-joined the club and the coaching programme, lead by Geoff Reed, took the squad to new levels. The league goal difference of 97 was beaten by only one other team in the whole of the East League as IES showed a sustained attacking intent and resolute defence through the whole season. There was also a good run through four rounds of the EH Vase, despite always getting Away games. With this springboard back to Div 2 level the target really has to be another promotion from the 2012-13 campaign.

Ladies 1st X1 (Editor's report)

After a relegation from 2010/11 and the loss of several talented players for a diversity of reason this was never going to be an easy season. However, several new players were welcomed whilst others got an opportunity to move up from 2nd team level. Positive results were steadily accumulated and several draws were ground out as the side built and sustained a solid mid-table position by the end of the season. One outstanding highlight was a 1-0 win over Christchurch from a penalty stroke, which followed several successive short corners prior to and after the final whistle. This game, on a Wednesday evening at Copleston with a large number of spectators, showed the team's sheer determination. Despite all this, there were some inter-personal difficulties resulting in the resignation of the captain before the end of the season. So, with new leadership in place for 2012-13, there is much to be done and a determined effort will be needed to sustain divisional status.

Mens 2nd X1 (Peter Blake)

The men's 2X1 finished 3rd, missing promotion by one place.

3 defeats in the first 3 games of the season proved to be our undoing. A narrow and unfortunate loss to unbeaten champions Crane followed by emphatic victories against the other 2 teams we had lost to at the start of the season served to illustrate what might have been. The 5-1 victory away at Holt (opposition that was eventually promoted) was an outstanding team performance and undoubtedly the highlight of the season.

2012 saw the team carry on its impressive form remaining unbeaten until the final day of the season. A hard fought victory at UEA which saw the team come from behind and a last minute winner from Sam Oakley was a measure of the increased resilience shown by the team as the season progressed. There is no reason why this solid foundation cannot be built on and a promotion challenge mounted next season.

Leading scorer, Jon Tingey was outstanding throughout. Vice Captain Pete Francis proved a positive influence on the team and was at times outstanding combining with Nick Aveling on the left. The contributions of other regular senior players, Jim Strongitharm, Steven Farrow, Rob Sebborn, Graham Bendall and Guy Marshlain and Colin Sneddon (when available) were invaluable. The development or emergence of several younger players was one of the many positives to come out of the season. Chris Pittaway has proved to be both versatile in the team cause and a potential match winner. David Stevens, despite a long term injury, performed with increasing strength and authority in central defence. Alex Davies was a revelation following his switch to right defender and Matt Merriam emerged as a quality utility player.

There is still useful work to be done in developing the team's style of play but the season has seen an all round improvement and there are grounds for optimism in 2012/13 provided we learn the lessons from the start of last season.

Ladies 2nd X1 (Editor's Report):

The Ladies 2nds showed great tenacity and fortitude during a difficult season when resources were stretched to the limit and beyond. Only 3 league games were won, finishing second from last, but this just proved sufficient to retain Suffolk Premier status when Newmarket 2nds were deemed to have transgressed the rules and had points deducted. Newmarket then resigned from the Suffolk League and therefore automatically took one of the relegation places along with Christchurch 2nds. IES 2nds were caught between the stresses of trying to retain league status on the pitch whilst juggling available players with the 1sts. Difficulties were inevitable and the captain stepped down late in the season. However, the team gave 100% on the pitch throughout, even if most results were adverse. All this is history and there is no doubt that a fresh start is needed for 2012/13.

Mens 3rd X1 (Peter Elsom)

In a dramatic finale to a very successful season the title was won on the last day of the season at Bury St Edmunds in a thrilling last game with the side overturning a 3-1 deficit at half time to eventually win 4-3 thus claiming the title.

Whilst this particular game will be remembered for a very long time there were 21 games that preceded the last game and the last game was the climax to a season that started at the end of September with a "scratchy" victory at Dereham, a side that were eventually relegated.

The success of any side is the commitment of the players. If players commit to playing every week then relationships can be forged and the side will be successful. This year 9 players of the squad played in 16 games or more throughout the season and whilst they should be commended for their commitment they will have to be equally committed next year to remain successful.

Whilst "the hard core" deserve a mention so does everyone else that played as everyone who played throughout the season had their part to play. Some players played more than others but everyone deserves praise for playing their part no matter how big or small because this season has been all about "the collective".

The leadership has created a squad that is committed and determined on the pitch but arguably more importantly has created a squad who play sport how it should be played respecting the opposition and officials during the game and hospitable to the opposition officials and supporters after the game.

The statistics speak for themselves in that we scored 97 goals throughout the season with the front three all getting into "double figures" and only failed to score in one game however the bedrock of the side was the back five. The meanest defence in the league that included 5 clean sheets were so dominant at times that the opposition strikers became spectators.

The first half of the season was nothing spectacular in that the side "did what they had to" picking up points without necessarily playing well but the wake up call that was needed happened with two defeats from our closest rivals in the last two games before the Christmas break. In hindsight this was perhaps a good thing as the side had not really been tested.

Due to a conceded game the Christmas break was extended but during this time and perhaps with two successive defeats weighing heavy on his mind the skipper went into the transfer market and made what turned out to be an inspired acquisition.

"Tubby" Lever arrived delighted to be given a second chance in a career that had stagnated and after the initial shock to the system settled into a central midfield role. We wish him well for the arrival of his first child but will not accept "fatherhood" as an excuse not to play next season.

With the exception of perhaps the first game back after Christmas the second half of the season was simply brilliant. A hard fought victory over UEA at Copleston was the springboard for 8 weeks of what I can only describe as the most enjoyable hockey of my career. Comprehensive victories over Felixstowe Norwich City and Sudbury were enjoyable but it was the complete demolition of Harleston 7's (on their own pitch) who were title contenders at the time that was the most satisfying.

The season finished with a hard fought victory over Dereham 4's a "subdued" victory over a very young Harleston 6 team and then of course THE NAIL BITER AT NOWTON on the last day of the season.

Marcus Kwan came into the squad and pulled off some breathtaking saves at times and it was good to see Terry Murray back between the sticks again after such a long injury. The "awesome foursome" of Murray Whittaker Clark and Holland were solid and determined at the back.

The midfield was where the creativity and flare came from, Lever the experience with Ward and Tennant the speed and skill. It has been a real privilege to observe the development of Andy Ward and Ross Tennant as players but they must also be credited with the ease in which they "gelled" with the rest of the squad which is something you do not always get with younger players.

Messrs Rowland and Day were equally at home in midfield or in the back four and chipped in with vital goals throughout the season. Stu Thornton played his part and was consistently on the scoresheet and Guy Whiting led the side from the front.

There is not enough space to mention everybody but congratulations to all those that were part of something that has been a bit special.

Mens 4th X1 (Richie Head)

Well I can honestly say that I that although I have enjoyed my hockey over the years, this year has surpassed all of them. I have met a lot of great people and had the honour of leading them throughout the season. It was certainly a season of two halves; with 8 wins out of ten before Christmas, with only 4 thereafter. The only thing that changed was that before Christmas we had a relatively stable team each week especially in the midfield, after Christmas it fell apart a bit with injuries, players promoted and the teams becoming more fluid throughout the club; as a result by the end of the season I could have picked 4 whole teams as exactly 44 club members played for the 4th XI. There were at least two games that we should have at least drawn, but lost in the last few minutes. The cruellest of these was holding Norwich Dragons to 2-2 until the very last minute. Although the year finished a little disappointingly after being 2nd for so long and being so close to promotion (4th with 36 points and 1 point behind 3rd place) I can say that I could not have asked any more of those who played for this team; everyone gave their all, going out to win and enjoy their hockey. I would like to thank each and every one of you, however in particular, Barrie Whelpton who supported brilliantly as vice-captain, umpire and treasurer. I would also like to congratulate Mike Thomas who was a worthy winner of players of the year as he was always there at training, matches and in the way of the advancing opposition. With everything we have done this year we deserved promotion; it didn't happen so we will use what we have learnt as a team and what I have learnt in captaining a team, to ensure that we not only exceed expectations, but also win promotion next year. *<Editor's note: The 4th X1 did indeed secure promotion to 5NE for 2012-13 because an extra promotion place became available after another side resigned from the league. This presents the 4ths with both an opportunity and a challenge for the new season!>*

Mens 5th X1 (John Oakley)

When the League Season started and the first week the Club actually got five sides out and the fifth team only had three adults for the match at Cromer against North Walsham 3rd's, it looked as though it was going to be quite a struggle to keep the side going. It is therefore an achievement that the fifth eleven played all the League games in which the opposition got a side out. We even rearranged the match against Norfolk Nomads 2nd's when we could have claimed it as the whole object of the League is to play hockey. I understand that this sporting gesture towards Norfolk Nomads was partly responsible for the Club being awarded the Hugh Jarvis Trophy.

After the game against North Walsham we began to pick up players so it showed that it was the correct decision to run five sides because we would have had great difficulty in keeping everyone happy if we had only had four sides as in the previous season. The fourths were also able to have a more settled side as a result of the Club having five sides. The contribution of Jon Smith and his colleagues before Christmas certainly made the side more competitive and even though most of the games in that period were lost they were always fairly close. The final game before Christmas was the highlight of the season when we beat the previously unbeaten league leaders Norwich Dragons 3rd's by 3 goals to 1 reversing an 8-0 defeat on the opening day of the season. After Christmas when Jon Smith played for sides higher up in the Club we were still able to put out reasonably competitive sides.

In the second half of the season it also began to feel like a team rather than just a group of players. In spite of the results I believe everyone enjoyed playing for the fifths and it was probably not that far away from being a reasonable side towards the end of the season. The main problem was the lack of goals scored because this puts pressure on the team as a whole when after a period of good possession and play without success the opposition then scores.

The two League games between the fourths and fifths were very good matches and the fifths probably played the better hockey without scoring the goals. In particular in the second match if we had scored a second goal when the momentum of the game was with the fifths we could even have gone on and won it.

Although there were more adult players after the match at Cromer, nearly 50% of the players used in the matches were youngsters with some being as young as 13. The fifths therefore justifiably fulfilled the role of a development side. The youngsters did develop and the Club will be stronger in 2012/13 as a result.

Finally I would like to thank Phil Buck for his assistance as team secretary. I feel also special mention should go to Olly Mills and Matt Oakley who only missed one match between them and therefore significantly helped keep the team going.

Mixed X1 (Editor's Report)

Social Mixed Hockey continued to be a part of the IES programme during 2011/12 but at a rather reduced level. The games, played mid-week at Framlingham College, were reduced to just 4 due to some poor winter weather and some cases of clubs being unable to raise a team. However, Andy Murray and Hannah Reynolds kept the Mixed programme going and the standard of the few games played was very high. Certainly, Mixed Hockey at Rushmere will be firm objective if a pitch becomes available and local opponents can be found.

Indoor Hockey Squads (Editor's Report)

IES were able to expand to 3 Mens teams, along with 2 Ladies teams, in the Suffolk Hockey Association indoor league during 2011/12. The various teams, divisions and final league places were as follows:

Mens A, Premier Division; 2nd (of 5)

Mens B, Division 1; 5th (of 7)

Mens C, Division 1; 1st (of 7). Champions!

Ladies A; Premier Division; 6th (of 6)

Ladies B; Division 1; 9th (of 9)

So, a fair measure of success for the Men but a difficult season for the Ladies. The Men also came 2nd in the East Division 1 Indoor tournament, resulting in promotion to the East Premier for 2012/13.

Dave Charles, Richard Pittaway and John Adams umpired regularly in the Suffolk Indoor League and are thanked for their contributions. The club would also like to thank Marc Lloyd for his considerable efforts in managing the League.

End of Report