

Ipswich - East Suffolk Hockey Club

http://www.ieshc.org
Associate Member Club of Ipswich School Sports Centre.



Annual Report for 2014 / 2015

Dedicated to the memory of Hannah Reynolds (1965 – 2015)

Summary of match statistics for games listed in the Fixtures List 2014/2015

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

		IESHC - Playing Record: season 2014 - 2015									
		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	% Success	League Points	Lge Position
Mens 1st	League	22	17	3	2	98	39	59	84.1	54	2(12) P
	Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	100.0		
	Total	23	18	3	2	101	39	62	84.8		
Ladies 1st	League	20	18	2	0	97	15	82	95.0	56	1(11) C, P
	Friendly	1	1	0	0	6	0	6	100.0		
	Total	21	19	2	0	103	15	88	95.2		
Mens 2nd	League	22	11	2	9	56	57	-1	54.5	35	6(12)
	Friendly	2	2	0	0	16	6	10	100.0		
	Total	24	13	2	9	72	63	9	58.3		
Ladies 2nd	League	20	5	2	13	26	45	-19	30.0	17	9(11)
	Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	100.0		
	Total	21	6	2	13	29	47	-18	33.3		
Mens 3rd	League	22	12	3	7	61	48	13	61.4	39	4(12)
	Friendly	1	0	0	1	0	5	-5	0.00		
	Total	23	12	3	8	61	53	8	58.7		
Ladies 3rd	League	15	2	1	12	10	70	-60	16.7	7	6(8)
	Friendly	4	1	1	2	4	11	-7	37.5		
	Total	19	3	2	14	14	81	-67	21.1		
Mens 4th	League	22	14	7	1	89	28	61	79.5	49	3(12) P
	Friendly	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	50.0		
	Total	23	14	8	1	92	31	61	78.3		
Mens 5th	League	16	13	1	2	65	14	51	84.4	40	1(9) C, P
	Friendly	1	1	0	0	2	0	2			
	Total	17	14	1	2	67	14	53	85.3		
Totals		171	99	23	49	539	343	196	64.4		

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

C = Divisional Champions P = Promoted.

The Mens 4ths were Promoted after coming 3rd and an additional promotion place becoming available.

Games in Suffolk Ladies Div v Christchurch 3rd and Ipswich 5th have been included as Friendlies (Christchurch 3 & Ipswich 5 were defaulted from the league due to exceeding the number of allowed cancellations).

Editorial (by Chris Hatch):

Most of the 2014 – 15 season's story is described in the Chairman's report and this editorial is therefore kept very brief. In a nutshell, it was an outstanding year with 4 of our teams promoted, none relegated. Huge improvement and expansion of the Junior side of the club was achieved. The full move of our operations to Rushmere was achieved almost seamlessly after considerable work 'behind the scenes' by a few of the club's leaders.

Satisfaction in our playing achievements was sadly put into perspective by the untimely death of playing member Hannah Reynolds at the age of 49 in January 2015. A truly wonderful person in every respect.

The Club would again like to thank Ipswich School Sports Centre*, its Manager Roger Osborne and other staff for all their work and support of us during the season. (Previously 'Rushmere Sports Centre').

EH Competitions: Summary of results

The Club did not enter any EH knock-out competitions in 2014-15.

Outdoor Tournament & Indoor competitions. Best results during 2014/15:-

Ladies	Champions, Suffolk Indoor Division 1
Men	Champions, Suffolk Indoor Premier League
	3 rd place, ERHA Mens Premier Indoor Tournament (retain status for 2015/16)

Representative Honours during 2014/15:-

Graham Ramsden: Suffolk Over 50s; Suffolk over 60s; England LX club; East Grand Masters (over 60)

Barrie Whelpton, Suffolk over 60s

Peter Blake: Suffolk Over 50s; East Over 50s

Donnie Archer: JPRC; trial for England U-16 squad

News from the Annual General Meeting on 11th June 2015

The following elections were made at the AGM (or by subsequent committee appointment). Note that elections to the various posts followed adoption of a new Constitution for the Club and which are reflected by the separation into an Executive Committee and Additional Roles in the lists below:

President, Graham Ramsden;

Executive Committee

<u>Co-Chairman</u> ,	Steven Farrow, Vic Clement;	<u>Deputy Chairman</u> , James Klug
<u>Treasurer</u> ,	Chris Hatch;	<u>Secretary</u> , Kat Howard
<u>Welfare Officer</u> ,	Pete Francis	<u>Development Coordinator</u> , Geoff Reed
<u>Communications Co-ord</u>	Gary Scarff	
<u>Mens Player Representative</u> ,	Tom Gallagher	<u>Ladies Player representative</u> , Lizzy Burch
<u>Junior Section Co-ordinator</u> :	Tony Burch (also Head Junior Coach)	

Additional roles (not part of the Executive Committee) – elected or appointed by Committee decision.

Umpire Liaison Officer:	Chris Hatch
Mens' Fixture Secretary:	Graham Ramsden
Ladies' Fixture Secretary:	Kay O'Reilly
Team Secretaries	Chris Hatch (Men), TBC (Ladies)
Social Secretary:	Chris McManus (Abi Elsom)
Club Kit Organiser:	Steven Farrow
Press Officer:	Gary Scarff

Team Captain / Vice Captain

Men's 1 st :	Chris McManus / Charlie Coulson
Men's 2 nd :	Ian Harris / James Klug
Men's 3 rd :	Geoff Reed / Steven Farrow
Men's 4 th :	James Willing /
Men's 5 th :	Ian Reed / Barrie Whelpton
Mens 6 th	John Oakley
Ladies' 1 st :	Vic Clement /
Ladies' 2 nd :	Lizzie Burch /
Ladies' 3 rd :	Kat Howard /

Other Matters reported on at the AGM:-

(i) Chairman's Report (Steven Farrow):

On the playing side it's been one of the best seasons I can remember for our teams. The Ladies 1sts had a very good year winning their league and now returning back to the East league. I think next season will be a good test for a strong side back in the East.

The men's first team also secured promotion into Prem B. The team gained some new players and really looked strong all season. I'm sure we all look forward to seeing some Premier league hockey next season.

The ladies 2nds had a solid season in the Suffolk premier league having been promoted last season well done to them for finishing with a cluster of teams in mid table solidarity. There was also much promise shown by the youngsters coming through the team.

The men's seconds had a tough start to the season but finished strongly to finish 5th. The men's 2s had a very young side this year, and with some key players being injured, the side managed to win more than they lost and the youngsters were a real success throughout the year. The team owed a debt of thanks to George Baldwin for coming in and keeping goal on a few occasions.

Our ladies 3rds had a tough season, but despite finishing towards the lower end of the league, they were a real credit to the club and competed well with lots of younger players. I am sure they will develop well in the coming seasons.

The men's 3rd team had a strong season, finishing toward the top of their league. The Men's 3s finished 4th, they were the second top scorers in the league and developed two very promising youngsters from Ipswich school in Jammy Lewis and Jake Davey.

The men's 4ths pushed all through the season and their 3rd place finish proved good enough for promotion. James as a young captain ensured there was a good atmosphere and vibe in the team.

Our 5ths had a great season and gained promotion, this was the aim set out by the team at the beginning of the season and they looked very strong finishing as champions ! They conceded the fewest goals in the league and scored the most with John Reid netting 24.

Indoor hockey we have run 4 men's teams and 2 ladies teams in the Suffolk indoor league and also a men's team in the East league. The men's A team won the Suffolk league and came 3rd in the East league.

Thanks you to all the captains and vice captains for their hard work and time this year in organizing the teams.

I must also thank all those who have umpired as without you we all know games wouldn't take place Chris Hatch tells us that enough.

On the junior side lead by Tony Burch with lots of help from Tracy Baldwin we have again built on the success of previous seasons and have a really buoyant junior section with over 150 junior attending the sessions. Thanks to Tony and all his coaches who give so much.

On the social side we have run our usual format of events and many of you have attended these to make them the success they have been. So many thanks for that and those who have helped put the events on. A special mention to Chris Mcmanus for his help with this

Off the pitch the focus has been on settling into the sports centre. Our thanks go to Ipswich School and the staff at the site for making the first season playing our hockey their so successful. It has been our long term ambition and we have finally had our first year based there. We have thrived and enjoyed being part of the fantastic facilities at Ipswich School. We especially thank Paul Wranek (School Bursar), whom has been a constant support to the club throughout the transition to playing at the Sports Centre.

Lastly I would like to thank all the committee for their hard work this season.

(ii) Treasurer's Report (Chris Hatch):

2014-15 was a momentous year in the 29 year history of IES Hockey Club, with the full relocation to the outstanding new facility of Ipswich School Sports Centre (formerly Rushmere Sports Centre). I am able to report that we have come out just above breaking even, with a notional surplus of £968.61 on the main club Current Account but before adjustments that reveal an underlying deficit of £724.39 (or about 2.5% of underlying turnover).

This was achieved on a nominal rise of £4 in the Annual Senior Subs and a rise of £2 on the Senior match fees. The improvement in the playing facilities obtained at ISSC compared with Copleston, for the additional fees, may be considered as outstanding value for money.

We enjoyed an excellent season with our Mens 1sts, 4ths and 5ths and the Ladies 1sts achieving promotion. Also, the Men won the Suffolk Indoor Premier League and the Ladies won the Suffolk Indoor Division 1. No relegations!

There was significant expenditure on equipment and playing kit, and some investment in training courses. Martlesham Heath Business Park sponsorship was augmented by a further £2000 (to cover to the end of the 15-16 season) and again was used to provide new members with playing kit (to the value of ~£50 each).

There was a net loss of £395.00 for all Indoor hockey competitions, and a net loss of £151.00 for the 2014 Summer league & pre-season training accounts, both of which are a concern. Put simply, we have to get closer to break-even on the Indoor and make a surplus of about £1600 on the Summer programme to avoid triggering fees rises.

The winter was better than average with just 1 Saturday when we had the programme postponed, bar one away game. The number of Friendlies played was very low and is also a topic that may need review..

Junior hockey on Sundays at ISSC was a great success. The junior accounts are run by Gary Scarff and have achieved a satisfactory outcome for the year.

I should like to thank the team secretaries and/or captains for their clear, concise and timely accounting of income and expenses – some better than others again this year. I should also like to thank Peter Elsom for £280.80 of fundraising income from his Ties & Cufflinks initiative. The 'traditional' contributions of those who waived some travelling expenses (especially our Junior Coaches) and those who absorbed costs such as phone calls and texts are gratefully acknowledged.

(iii) Secretary's Report (Editor's report)

Our Secretary Phil Buck stood down after some 4 years in the role during which he provided timely, reliable and impressive administrative support to the club. This included the organisation and Minutes-production of the Committee meetings and attendance at a high proportion of County and East Region AGMs. Phil decided to step down due to pressing commitments associated with a new job but ensured a smooth handover of duties and records to our new Secretary, Kat Howard. Many thanks for your contribution, Phil!

(iv) Social Events Report (Chris McManus);

IESHC offered five main socials this year, starting with Pub Golf in September. The annual Curry and Crackers event was held in December and very well supported with 50 people in attendance. After the Christmas break we held our Quiz Night, again well attended with around 50 people present. The mid-winter period also saw IES host a 'Race Night' at ISSC, with around 30 people in attendance. The season ended with our Annual Dinner, returning to the Town hall for the second time. We sold over 120 tickets for this sellout event.

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

During the 2014/15 season, the Mens 1st X1 and Mens 2nd X1 Home league games were umpired by SCHUA appointees. IES is grateful to the SCHUA for the pool appointees. That said, our members, Nick Meakin and Richard Pittaway gave priority to Suffolk and East Premier umpiring and the club met all possible Pool provision requirements (as mandated by the League Rules) on that basis. Accordingly, thanks are due to Nick and Richard for their commitment to umpiring at the higher levels. John Oakley, Danny Lever, Graham Ramsden and Jerry Hindle also contributed occasional pool appointments for SCHUA and/or umpired to Mens Div 3NE level.

It was a problem getting our current Level 1C ('unassessed') 'candidate' umpires through the full qualification process and that remains to be done for Gary Scarff and James Willing. 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. Of some concern, well over 70% of our umpiring appointments were provided by umpires in the 60's age group. Other younger potential umpires must become qualified to sustain the club

For the record, the following number of club Saturday games were umpired by the IES umpires listed below: Chris Hatch (38 games), Jerry Hindle (26), Graham Ramsden (12), John Oakley (12), Danny Lever (8), Steven Farrow (7), Barrie Whelpton (7), Peter Blake (4), Nick Meakin (4), Ian Reed (3), Gary Scarff (3), Richard Pittaway (3). Other contributing umpires with 1 or 2 games each were James Gray, Chris Spice, Geoff Reed, Annette Thorpe, John Adams. John Oakley, Chris Hatch and Graham Ramsden also umpired significant numbers of games for Ipswich HC and Lowestoft LHC. IES umpires also contributed significantly to the Suffolk Indoor League. Barrie Whelpton qualified as an L1 Indoor Umpire.

Review of the 2014/15 season – Squad reports:

The Mens 1st X1 (Editor's report)

Under the captaincy of Chris McManus, the Mens 1sts achieved second place in EML Div 1 and a much deserved and desired promotion to East Premier B. One man does not make a team but the arrival of Australian Jon Gibson and his 45 Div 1 goals gave IES a competitive edge that few opponents could handle. We did lose at Spalding and Old Southendian, which ultimately defined the 2nd-place finish but the team was unbeaten at Home. In short, simply the best season and results that the Mens 1sts have had since 1998-99 which preceded our 3 years in Premier A. There's a challenge for next year!

Ladies 1st X1 (Editor's report)

Under new captain Michele Scarff, the team set out to win the Suffolk Ladies Premier League and achieve promotion back to East Div 2 status. We welcomed back Vic Clement after many years and Abi Elsom at the mid-season break. Influential player Hannah Reed had to miss the 2nd half of the season for family reasons but in all, we were strong enough to win the league with an unbeaten record. The championship and promotion were crystalized in a tense final game away against 2nd-placed Christchurch 2nds when Abi Adams's goal in the dying minutes was decisive. Vic is due to take over as Captain supported by a new Coach for 2015-16. There is much to look forward to and much to do.

Mens 2nd X1 (Pete Francis)

For the men's second XI the final mid table league position was a visual representation of the balance between the highs and low experienced throughout the year.

Prior to the first pre-season game no less than 6 of the squad from the previous year were stripped of the chance to continue the rise through the leagues due to injury, work and the world beyond the pitch.

In their place rose the future of IES in the form of fresh faced under 18's that had been knocking on the door on league hockey for the past 3 years. Donnie Archer, Cameron Dwelley, Alex Smith, Matt Crane and Owen Stevens came into the side and through their energy and commitment created a core of players that grew into the roles thrust upon them.

The early days of the league started brightly with this youth linking up well with the game changing additions of Ian Harris, Greg Jones and James Klüg and the remaining core of experience from the evergreen Peter Blake and Mr reliable Steven Farrow and Owen Cook in his farewell tour before his tour of duty.

Initial Results proved that the season before was no one hit wonder as the gap was closed to the top teams and the hockey on the pitch tore through more experienced and battle tested defences.

Unfortunately more injuries came, consistency became a concern and most notably the goals dried up. The team, thread bare at times but supported by the generosity of the other captains and clubmen alike dragged itself to the Christmas break losing ground on the pace setters.

The new year saw the return of Carl Short to the defence and fresh legs and ideas from James Gray. As well the youth had more than stepped up to the challenge evidenced by Smith bossing games in the middle of the park and Crane finding the net on a weekly basis.

The ever changing squad led to a mixed bag of results but no game seemed beyond a possible positive result.

The continued development of Archer and subsequent England trials opened the door for another young keeper to make his mark as George Baldwin came in and showed that the future is bright and in safe pads for years to come.

As the season drew to a close the 2nd XI really were in a league of their own separated from the fear of relegation and realistically too far from a promotion charge. Despite this neutral end to the season the team continued to show growth, with Alex Smith making the long awaited move to the first team, the youth proving that they were here to stay, with some massive results against title contenders Pelicans and Bury.

In a season that has not been without its lows, the club has shown it's true character and come together to support the 2nd XI both on the pitch and from the sidelines. It is with this spirit and mentality that the following reigns true;

With the potential return of big name players, the continued development of the youth movement and a year of reflection the 2's go into the next season looking to make a real and sustained push for promotion into division 2.

Ladies 2nd X1 (Lizzy Burch):

Starting this season off we knew that if we pushed ourselves we had a chance of promotion. After last season we were going out win the game and enjoy it as a team. We had are tough games which we struggled at first but as the season went on we grow from strength to strength and ended up 2nd in the league which from last season we had come a long way. We had huge support this season and we had some outstanding players but the whole team

deserve credit for their hard work and for everyone to tat helped along the way. Hopefully all that hard work will pay off by being promoted next season.

Mens 3rd X1 (Russell Williams)

The Third XIs season was summed up by our half time team talks – patchy! El Capitan waxed lyrical every week and Burch chuntered the opposite. Then, if we'd been playing well in the first half we played badly in the second. If we played badly in the first half, we played well in in the. But 4th place secured and a 100% record against the three teams ahead of us we lost all six games. The Talisman was our top scorer for the 19th consecutive season – although we did introduce a few young potential stars to the mens hockey world. And of course, we experienced the delights of El Capitan's last ever 3rd XI game (until September 2015) – and he played all 70 minutes of it too without being sent off. O and finally, What-On earth happened at Watton.

Ladies 3rd X1 (Kat Howard)

The ladies 3s have worked extremely hard this season to develop their skills and improve their game. We had a tough season against some strong teams but we managed to improve with every game. With lots of hard work, determination and training we were soon able to start fighting back and we were regularly able to move the ball up the pitch and attack. We managed to hold our own against some of the stronger teams and whilst we didn't come away with many wins, we didn't make it easy for our opponents. Games were always enjoyable, despite the losses, simply because of how enthusiastic, positive and determined each member of the team has been this season.

Mens 4th X1 (James Willing)

A new season, a fresh start, old heads and young legs. An inspirational young captain was to take his place on the big stage with the support of the old boy – Stu Thornton. The start of the season saw the introduction of previous members trying to rekindle the early days of their careers. Tim Best rejoined to be a rock at the heart of the defence; Danny Mayhew decided he fancied another go at being the instrumental figure alongside the inexperienced captain. Tom Britton even wanted to test his skills at the toughest of levels rather than having a go at the 1st XI again.

In a pre season with two cancellations and a damaging 3-1 loss to Colchester, things were off to a bad start. Those summer beach bodies weren't as trim and fit as first expected! However, the first game of the season saw our credentials handed a real boost with a 7-0 thrashing of Dereham. Stu Thornton found his goal scoring form straight away. That had been a prominent feature of the prior season. Danny Mayhew proved his worth offering the kind of support that David Beckham would have been proud of.

This form continued as the Mens 4s racked up 3 more wins and only conceding two. League dominance was on the cards with Kian Semnani showing his Ipswich School Boy talents with some fun running and scoring. Tom Britton also provided some much needed experience. However, the season defining moment came against the other form team. Pelicans had been unbeaten in their first 4 games, however conceding more and scoring less to leave them behind the 4s on goal difference. With our first meeting against them on the hallowed turf of Rushmere, the scene was set for a match of dominance. 2-0 up in 15 minutes and cruising. Things took a turn for the worse and quickly the result was a disappointing 3-3 draw.

The tone was set for the rest of the season with a damaging 4-2 loss to Sudbury away from home. There was movement of players with the loss of Tim Best to the 2s and Colin Sneddon deciding his time was done for that season. From what was a promising season came a disappointing end as the Mens 4s finished in 8th. However, there were gains from the season that weren't promotion defined. The development in the confidence of the younger players such as Matt Crane and Ollie Mills could prove to be a real success story for the forthcoming season. Matt Crane went from strength to strength while Ollie Mills showed his worth at right back with some very promising performances. Matt Hearnden was a huge success taking the step up form mens 5s to hold down a spot in the heart of defence week in week out. Let's not forget the captain either who couldn't be praised more for his desire (albeit self-evaluated). The team most definitely agree that he was the biggest success. Our praise goes to Dan Fairburn who seems as if his time is up at IESHC as he moves onto pastures new, he was a true success. Coming to a club with endless goalkeepers, to step up and be more than capable, he showed his worth by gaining points through some truly magnificent saves. My praise goes to every member that played under me this season and I could not have asked for a better squad to begin my development as a captain under.

Mens 5th X1 (Editor's report)

The Mens 5ths, under the leadership of Ian Reed and Barrie Whelpton, achieved a good level of success on the field and continued to support the social side of the club off the field. A final Div 7NE placing of 6th (of 10 teams), winning 8 of the 18 games and achieving a positive goal difference, amounted to the best playing record since we were able to once again field a 5th team. As usual, a team at this level was very much about bringing youngsters in whilst continuing to offer competitive playing opportunities to our most senior (in age) members.

Mixed X1 (Editor's Report)

The Suffolk Mixed League did not continue in 2014/15 and so there was no IES Mixed Hockey activity in that regard.

We did continue to play some informal Mixed friendlies at Framlingham College on mid-week evenings, again providing additional playing opportunities for our members.

Junior Section (Di Stevens)

The Junior Section once more has gone from strength to strength and its membership has risen to 124 children aged between 5 and 16 years. We have been involved in various tournaments often fielding more than one team in an age group including The St. Josephs College Girls Hockey Tournament, Suffolk Hockey Association and East of England U16's.

We now have a large number of our members from age 13 upwards playing in the adult teams and their zeal and enthusiasm have really made an impact on the club. We have made a large singular investment in 4 brand new full goalkeeping kits from our funds which has left us rather low but was essential not only to ensure the children's safety but to encourage more children to have a try. We have also bought new mini sticks, balls and some spare shin guards as new people turn up to have a try but are not sure of what to buy. This season there were so many calls, texts, emails etc to do for the section that I also resorted to a designated section mobile phone – this meant that should we need to contact a parent in an emergency their numbers were at hand immediately – this has been a real boon.

Not too many injuries once again (touch wood) – the worst being a broken thumb, and the usual bruises and bumps. We need to say a few thanks now – and I want to thank first our regular coaches – Pete Francis, Tony Burch, Sam Simpson, Ian Taylor, Russell Williams, Anthony Whittaker, Owen Stevens and Lauren Whiting. We have also had other coaches who have helped out at various times when we have tournaments or coaches are on holidays – too many to name so a big thank you to you all. The parents have been highly supportive – one who should be mentioned being Ingrid Longbon who took on some of the tournament organization for the U10 team (we were running 3 teams in this age bracket and still ran out of space).

The section has now outgrown my capability to co-ordinate and I have decided to step down and take a break! This means that there will be re-organization of roles and responsibilities – spreading the work load over a wider number of people. I will remain involved in the section coaching but will not be involved in the co-ordination role any longer (I would also like to do some fund raising!).

Thank you to everyone in the club who have supported not only the section when we meet on Sundays but all our young players who are so carefully looked after by you all in the adult teams.

Onwards and upwards – we look forward to some great results in the next 2014/2015 season!

Indoor Hockey Squads (John Oakley)

The Club had a successful Indoor season in 2014/15 in that the Men's A team won the Premier League and the Mallards retained their League status. It was certainly helpful for the A team to have John Gibson playing for them. As there were only 7 Men's teams after Christmas there was only one Division. Both teams (B & C) had some good performances and wins and finished in respectable positions.

The Ladies A team won promotion to the Premier League by winning Division 1 and the Ladies B team finished a respectable second in Division 2.

The number of teams entered enabled a large number of Club members to participate in Indoor Hockey.

Editor's Note: John Oakley again contributed a great deal to the coordination of the SHA Indoor League/Cup activities in general, including admin effort, table duties and umpiring contributions.

End of Report