

# Ipswich - East Suffolk Hockey Club

<http://www.ieshc.org>

Associate Member Club of Rushmere Sports Club Ltd.

## Annual Report for 2006 / 2007

### IES - Summary of match statistics for games listed in the Fixtures Card 2006/2007

Squad (X1)		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	% Success	League Position
<b>Mens 1</b>	League	22	13	2	7	46	29	63.6	5 (12)
	Friendly	5	1	0	4	8	18	20.0	
	Total	27	14	2	11	54	47	55.6	
<b>Ladies 1</b>	League	18	13	4	1	51	20	83.3	2 (10) P
	Friendly	4	2	0	2	12	16	50.0	
	Total	22	15	4	3	63	36	77.3	
<b>Mens 2</b>	League	22	8	2	12	57	61	40.9	7 (12)
	Friendly	4	1	0	3	8	10	25.0	
	Total	26	9	2	15	65	71	38.5	
<b>Ladies 2</b>	League	20	12	4	4	66	20	70.0	4 (11)
	Friendly	4	4	0	0	20	2	100.0	
	Total	24	16	4	4	86	22	75.0	
<b>Mens 3</b>	League	22	8	4	10	52	66	45.5	7 (12)
	Friendly	4	0	2	2	8	16	25.0	
	Total	26	8	6	12	60	82	42.3	
<b>Ladies 3</b>	League	19	6	3	10	26	32	39.5	7 (11)
	Friendly	3	1	0	2	3	7	33.3	
	Total	22	7	3	12	29	39	38.6	
<b>Mens 4</b>	League	20	11	2	7	48	42	60.0	4 (11)P
	Friendly	8	4	1	3	26	26	56.3	
	Total	28	15	3	10	74	68	58.9	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>175</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>54.9</b>	

(Note: the above data excludes the cup/trophy, tournaments and mid-week Mixed Friendlies P = Promoted.)

### Editorial (by Chris Hatch):

By general consent, 2006/07 was a good season for the club, with all our league teams enjoying a fair measure of success, including promotions for the Ladies 1sts and Mens 4ths. The recovery to running and sustaining four mens teams was an important step forward in terms of the club being able to offer the right amount and level of hockey for the full range of members. We had exactly 100 paid up members during 06/07, keeping matters in reasonably good balance for running our seven teams.

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, Sonia and John Wyatt for the regular hot teas service after matches. All these contributions, a positive approach from captains and teams and a fair measure of success on the field helped to make 06/07 a good year for the club – one that we need to build from during 07/08!

### **EHA Mens Cup & Ladies Vase. Summary of results**

Competition	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	Venues
Men, EH Vets Cup/Plate	2	0	0	2	3	11	2 Home
Ladies, EHA Trophy*	1	0	0	1	2	13	1 Home

\* The Mens Vets lost 6-1 to Harleston in the EH Cup and then lost 5-2 to Bishops Stortford in the Plate  
The Ladies lost 1-0 to Colchester.

## **Outdoor Tournament & Indoor competitions. Best results during 2006/07:-**

Ladies Champions, Suffolk Veterans Qualifying Tournament (outdoor)  
Men Runners-up, Borrett (Suffolk) Indoor Cup

## **News from the Annual General Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

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

President, John Taylor;

Chairman, John Adams;

Secretary, Laura Collinson;

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

Ladies Team Secretary, Claire Pearsons

Social Sec.; *Vacancy*

Youth Development Committee, Dave Charles, James Nayler, Sapphire Cutting

Press Officer, James Lane

Suffolk County Liaison Officer, Steven Farrow

Ladies League Liaison Officer, John Adams

Web Site Manager, Andrew Keedle

### **Position**

1st X1 Captain/V-Captain

2nd X1 Captain/ V-Captain

3rd X1 Captain/ V-Captain

4th X1 Captain/ V-Captain

Mixed X1 Captain / Secretary

Indoor League Captain

Fixtures Secretary

Head Coach

### **Men**

Steven Farrow / Danny Mayhew

Phil Vernon / Peter Day

Hugh Rowland / Barrie Whelpton

John Wright / *vacancy*

Simon Martin / *vacancy*

Jason Pettit

Graham Ramsden

*vacancy*

### **Ladies**

Linda Rose / Annette White

Sam Simpson /

Fiona Tozer / Kim Caley

*Not applicable*

Simon Martin / *vacancy*

Abi Adams (A); Cathy Cook (B)

Dawn Claxton

Charles Farrow

## **Other Matters reported on at the AGM:-**

### **(i) Chairman's Report (John Adams):**

The Chairman thanked the new Sponsors, Hills of Felixstowe and Hill Piling, arrangements for which were made through club members, Peter Day and Stuart Thornton. This, along with hours of work on the kit purchases and distribution by David and Janis Taylor, had allowed all members to play in complete new playing strips for the 06/07 season.

All the club's teams were congratulated on having done well. The Ladies 1sts were promoted and all other teams achieved solid mid-table finishes. Four mens teams were run (an increase from 3 for the previous 2 seasons) and John Wright was especially thanked for his efforts in running the mens 3rds (as the extra team). The indoor teams also had reasonable seasons with mid-table finishes in the Suffolk league.

The Committee was especially thanked for their efforts and especially Chris Hatch, Laura Collinson and the Captains who put in a great deal of time.

The whole club was again thanked for the commitment to the Richard Gray memorial tournament on May 20<sup>th</sup>, when a great turnout ensured that £500 was raised for the nominated charity, Breast Cancer Care.

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

At the end of our 9th season after moving to Rushmere Sports Club, it is a pleasure to report that we generally continued to pay our way, although a financial loss of £594.58 was recorded following a decision to continue to return some money to members in the form of subsidising new club clothing. We enjoyed a successful season and it was also good to welcome quite a lot of new members to the club.

The Club was delighted to welcome new Sponsors, Hill Felixstowe and Hill Piling, contributing substantially to the purchase of complete new playing strips for all our members.

The 'Copleston Contract' started from 1<sup>st</sup> September 1998 and we have now completed the 9<sup>th</sup> season of 10 under this agreement. The new pitch, available from September 2006, proved to be excellent and an agreed fixed price (as a contract variation), was mutually satisfactory. Once again it needs to be emphasised that the members who run the youth coaching programme 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 accounting of income and expenses. The 'traditional' contributions of those who waived most travelling expenses, goalkeepers who provided their own kit and also by those who absorbed costs such as phone calls are gratefully acknowledged. The Committee felt that we should offer another compelling membership package for 07/08 in terms of no changes to subscriptions and match fees. This assumes that we continue with broadly the same expenditure profile for travel and training costs.

### **(iii) Secretaries Report (Laura Collinson)**

9 committee meetings were held. This enabled the club to continue to organise great hockey for all abilities. Dates of the meetings were; 22.05.06, 17.07.06, 23.08.06, 26.09.06, 7.11.06, 12.12.06, 22.02.07, 29.03.07 and 24.04.07.

Each month the committee met and discussed various aspects of club management including; Finance, Youth , Playing Matters, Fixtures, Indoor League, Men's 4th Team ,Richard Gray Memorial Tournament , Social and Club Charter Mark. Attendance was very good throughout the season with on average 9 committee members being there at each meeting. Meeting minutes were produced and then circulated to committee to keep a record of the meeting.

#### **(iv) Social Events Report (Editor's Report);**

Social events held during the year included a club Christmas Party, Quiz Night and Annual Dinner Dance. Many thanks to the organisers for doing a great job on these events.

#### **(v) Youth Coaching Report (Ian Reed's report);**

This year has enjoyed similar numbers to last year with some of the ~15 year old boys going into the men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI. IES come through the season well – with full teams entered into Harpers league for both boy's U14 and girl's U13. Boy's did well in Harpers league, finishing second to Bury. There was a lot of promise in the young players who grasp what hockey is about and show the promise to make good players for the future. The key thing is that it is good for kids to enjoy these games, rather than be concerned about winning all the time.

About 10 of the club's qualified coaches were present at the Copleston and Chantry Youth days, which were a great success. Northgate, Chantry and Copleston schools brought a lot of their young players along. We need to create improved links from Schools to the club to create scope for development.

Thank you to Gary and Karen Cope for their administration of the youth section. This has been part of our Clubs 1<sup>st</sup> development and has been a regular commitment on Sunday mornings at Copleston and hugely appreciated by the club coaches (who otherwise would have had to do the admin as well).

Ian announced that he is stepping down – having twice held the Youth head coach role for several years. He hoped that new coaches would come forward as a regular commitment, to take this important aspect of club development forward.

#### **(vi) Umpires and Umpiring Report (Chris Hatch);**

For the record, the Mens 1<sup>st</sup> X1 Division 2N and the Mens 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 Div 3NE 'Suffolk Derbies' League matches were umpired by members of the SCHUA, to whom the club is most grateful. Almost all the other club games were umpired by IES Club appointees. For our official Saturday programme (including some neutral pool appointments for the SCHUA and 'favours' for other clubs), 3 or more games were umpired by Chris Hatch (38 games), Steve Clark (15), John Adams (11), John Oakley (11), Graham Ramsden (9), Charles Farrow (9), Andrew Keedle (9), Ian Reed (7), Peter Day (5), David Taylor (3), Anne edney (3), John Wright (3). Seven others (all Level 1 or 1T qualified) umpired 10 games between them. John Adams and Chris Hatch and Andrew Keedle also contributed significantly to the SHA Indoor League & Cups umpiring, with 33, 18 and 3 games respectively.

Megan Adams qualified to full L1 qualification and this should encourage other Lady members to qualify as umpires – an area that we really need to encourage. Chris Hatch will again act as the Club's umpire appointments coordinator for the coming season.

#### **(vii) Press Officer's Report (Laura Collinson)**

Every week a press release was sent to the local papers to raise awareness of the activities of IES for the readers of the local papers including the EADT, Evening Star, Advertiser and monthly "free" papers.

Extra press releases were also sent out for such events as Spirit Of Hockey and Club Night to give details regarding sponsors and raising monies for charities. Where and when possible photos were also submitted to enhance the /press releases/stories. Twenty articles/items were covered in the papers which ensured IES received good publicity especially as this season the club enjoyed new kit with the help of sponsors Hill Piling and Hills of Felixstowe. The Club night also enjoyed press coverage about the sponsorship and was featured in an extra article in the local papers on 3rd November.

#### **Review of the 2006/07 season – with Captain's reports or Editor's comments:**

##### **The Mens 1st X1 (Steven Farrow writes)**

Having been promoted as champion of Division 3NE in the 2005/2006 season, IES' 1st XI were looking good for a solid season back in Division 2N. We welcomed a few new additions to the squad, including the return from injury and Ipswich HC respectively of defenders Graham Bendall and Kevyn Brown. Pre-season Friendlies showed that the team's return to this division would require some solid performances, and the team duly replied with some excellent pre-Christmas results. These included victories against Harleston Magpies 2nds, Cambridge City 3rds and local rivals Sudbury 1sts. The first part of the season would have been much better if not for some erratic availability from the squad, which will hopefully be more consistent for the coming season. After Christmas, the 1st XI started slowly with Harleston raining revenge for the earlier season result. Soon the team were back on track with an 8-1 hammering of UEA's students and victories over Ely and March, which helped to secure a 5th position in the final table. This should provide a solid base to push for promotion to Division 1 come September 07. The 1st XI claimed the second best goals against record in the top 5 East divisions, with solid defending from man of the season Peter Blake as well as Bendall, Brown, Farrow and new keeper James Lane. Midfield grit and flair was added by Alex Borwick, Nick Aveling, Peter Francis, Billy Tuitoek, Scott Cole and Stu Gooderham. Forwards Jon Tingey and David Taylor added nearly 30 goals between them, but will hope to fire more next season.

### **Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> X1 (Linda Rose writes)**

The ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team has had a successful season gaining promotion from East 2C. A new captain and new coach brought motivation and an aim for the top of the league and promotion. The club also welcomed some new players to join the ladies section and the good availability throughout the season meant the side had a core squad for the season. Although confidence was high amongst the squad as the season began, a shaky start with a loss against rivals Ipswich in the final minutes of the game made them even more determined to prove that they one of the best, if not the best, team in the league. The team more than proved this by winning 7 of their 9 league games putting them top of the table before the Christmas break.

The second half of the season proved more of a challenge to the team than was expected and the flow of wins seen before Christmas seemed to be disrupted by weekends with no games. A string of draws against teams that they had comfortably beaten first time round and a slip into 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league made the team question what they really wanted to achieve. Although in a strong position in the league, the final promotion slot was to prove a battle between them and Cambridge City in East 2N division. With revived determination and belief that they can succeed resulted in a flurry of goals in the final games and 3 comfortable wins securing that final promotion position.

Many thanks goes out to everyone who contributed towards the team gaining promotion, especially Charlie Farrow for his coaching expertise and direction from the side-line and also to Maria Whelan for being vice-captain. The team now looks to continue to build on the successes of this season and look forward to doing well in Div 1N.

### **Mens 2nd X1 results (Jason Pettit writes)**

The men's second team this year were looking to capitalise on their eventual promotion after Harleston decided not to accept their chance to be promoted into 3NE.

The second team again had recruited some new faces mixed with some more experienced ones and the team had a good mix, which showed on the pitch.

The season had started well with a win away to Dereham, then a draw at home to Bury and things were looking good for the season as the aim was to compete in the league and finish mid table.

In the first half of the season we managed 4 wins, 2 draws and 6 losses, which was a great start which we needed to continue in the second half of the season.

After the Christmas break we started off well with a loss and a win but were missing a keeper and the captain Jason Pettit had to step up to the task, although 6 losses in 7 games was not what we had expected.

The captain then recruited John Adams to play in goal to sure things up and allow the captain to lead by example on the pitch. This was to prove to be a great piece of captaincy winning the last 3 games of the season securing a mid table position and a place in 3NE next year.

As a team we have had a fantastic season, spirits have been high and everyone has enjoyed their hockey. I would like to thank to everyone who played for the 2<sup>nds</sup> this season. We have played some good hockey and will be back next year looking to do well in Div 3NE but most of all to enjoy our hockey and build on a great 06/07 season.

### **Ladies 2nd X1 (Sam Simpson writes):**

The season of 2006/2007 saw the Ladies 2ndXI start with phenomenal success. We won all four of our friendly games scoring 20 goals and feeling great about the season to come. Maybe we started too strongly! But, we were plagued by injury and losing players for many weeks. Broken bones and badly torn muscles meant we (I) hassled the Ladies 3rds and 1sts for players each week, just to make up 11 players. Thank you to everyone who played for the Ladies 2nds. We worked hard to secure our final place of 4th in the League with Nicky Fuller being our star goal scorer and Di Alexander being so dedicated and consistent. Losing Lizzie our goal keeper at Christmas allowed Emma to step in and extend her sporting prowess - Emma you were brilliant - thanks so much. The Ladies 2nd XI would not have been the same with Peter's sideline encouragement!! Thanks go to Peter - stick with us, we'll do better next season!

My first year as captain was a really steep learning curve and had its challenges and i look forward to the 2007/2008 season, when hopefully our results will improve, our injuries lessen and i shall develop a louder voice both on and off the pitch!

.....and some further thoughts from coach Peter Elsom.....

The statistics from the league table are self evident and will tell you that the side finished fourth, scored 66 goals and only conceded 20 goals, however, what the league table does not tell you is that there is no doubt that on their day this side was the best team in the league which is why I think there is a little disappointment that we did not finish higher or even win the league.

Sam Simpson took over the mantle of leader and I am sure that she will admit that it did take a little bit of time in getting used to all the paperwork etc however, once this was delegated it meant that she could concentrate on leading the side which she did with great determination and enthusiasm and she will no doubt be equally determined next season, leading from the front as always.

Defensively, conceding only 20 goals says it all, however, what it does not tell you is that for the whole of the second half of the season we had Emma Johnson in goal, who had never played hockey before!

The midfield took time to gel as a unit, however, once they did they took sides apart with their intricate short passing and speed with which they played the ball around.

Up front when we attacked with speed the other teams could not live with us with goals being scored a plenty and watching from the sidelines it was reminiscent of the time when the IES Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> Team were conquering all before them and winning back-to-back titles!!

I cannot thank the players enough for their commitment, effort and endeavour, and for the enjoyment they have given to those that have watched them during the course of the season and of course for putting up with me! Finally, it would seem sensible to set out my aims and goals for the new season.

- To have more people training on a regular basis
- To ban all weddings, holidays, anniversary's and school trips during the course of the season
- To get Nicky Fuller to travel out of the County for an away game
- To actually score a goal from a short corner
- To get Karen Keedle to arrive on time at the designated place.

### **Mens 3rd X1 (John Wright writes)**

Starting the season as a completely new team was always going to provide a high degree of interest. Would enough players be found on a regular basis and how would the available players gel as a team?

The season started with a friendly which produced a draw against Sudbury 4. However, it took several weeks for the squad to consolidate and indeed with no regular goalkeeper a certain amount of juggling was required. We were fortunate that Tony Elsom was back in the frame and willingly filled the goal mouth on several occasions. It wasn't until mid-October that a win was obtained, in a rather ill-tempered game, against a "very" youthful Norwich City 6. In fact someone commented "are we a colts side"?

Things really started to look up when Jim Strongitharm decided to join the team as resident keeper. We now had the potential to develop and over the course of the next few weeks all the players started to find form. This manifested itself with a very pleasing win over eventual runners up Dereham 4. There were still glitches of course. An 8-0 defeat away to Lowestoft Railway 2 and a 10-1 defeat to Thetford at home severely hurt our pride but as the new year progressed we picked ourselves up and won 4 games on the trot, the most pleasing probably being against North Walsham 3<sup>rd</sup> (away).

A return trip to Dereham produced some real drama with Chris Hatch experiencing the 'delights' <Not my choice of words – Editor> of a trip to Norfolk and Norwich A&E after being struck in the eye by a raised ball, discretion dictating the game be abandoned. Simone Chapman was absolutely brilliant in her handling of the situation applying first aid until the paramedics arrived. As they say "you can't keep a good man down" because the very next day Chris was on the phone discussing Hockey strategy.

As the season came to an end we seemed to lose our way slightly, only managing a couple of draws tempered by two defeats. When all results had been analysed the team found itself placed seventh out of twelve, on balance a not un-respectable position all things considered. Looking back at our performances, if we had made more of our chances we might have finished higher. Looking forward to the new season, who knows !

### **Ladies 3rd X1 (Fiona Tozer writes)**

It was a tough and mixed season for the 3rds this year but the hard work and team spirit was able to pull through and create a chance for a good end result with; 6 wins, 3 draws and 10 defeats (3 of those being cancelled games) and the ladies 3rds managed to finish 7<sup>th</sup> in the league.

New and current players of all ages made up the team for season 06/07, struggling for a goalie and strikers put pressure on the team from the start and to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> game of the season cancelled because of not enough players left us at the bottom of the table. Megan Brewer showed great efforts in goal at the beginning of the season for the 3rds until she became injured and was out for the rest of the season.

Even though we struggled to find another goalie we still had a great defence which worked hard; Julie Yorke was back this season and picked up where she left off playing brilliant hockey, making up our defence along side Sophie Flack, Sophie White, Rebecca Mann and Sarah Harrison.

A high point was the 3rds first win, which was well deserved and winning 6-1 against Felixstowe, the team worked well together and created many chances. Goals were seen from Lindsey Trench, Cat Hartson and Shannon Connell. Lindsey Trench was a great help as she nominated herself to go in goal for most of the season as Megan was injured, she worked well week after week not letting many goals in. New comers Sheryl Nokes and Jemma Theobald helped bring a few wins for the team with hard work and goals from both players.

Fiona Tozer (Captain) scored her first goal of the season from a short corner, along side gaining her worst hockey related injury, which was a fractured wrist.

Low points for the 3rds were having 3 games cancelled, these were due to not having enough players.

The end of the season proved to be a high point as the Ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> team finally coming together and working the best they had all season.

An amazing 3-0 win against Sudbury (10 points a head of us) was a brilliant finish to a hard season for the team, everyone worked and battled all game through and well deserve an ending on a high.

Rebecca Mann was the 3rds player of the season as she continued to improve week after week never letting the team down. Thank you to all the 3rds for working so hard, lets keep it up for next season!

### **Mens 4<sup>th</sup> X1 (Hugh Rowland writes)**

The Men's 4th team (aka East Suffolk Vets) started their season as usual having little idea what the year would bring but hoping for a mid table position. As usual it was a season of ups and downs but the start of the second half of the season saw them reach for the stars to second place before the inevitable melting of the wings occurred and they tumbled down to mid table. The final fourth position achieved after an end of season rally represented a highly creditable outcome to a most enjoyable season. There were some pleasing wins before Christmas only countered by heavy defeats to Chelmsford, Saffron Walden, Harwich and Harlow. After the break, the team dug deep and clawed back lost ground with hard fought draws against Chelmsford and Harwich and a win against Harlow but were unable to withstand the young legs of the talented Saffron Walden side which chalked up the double. The team benefited hugely from Andy Keedle's experience and goal scoring ability and it was great to see Barrie Whelpton returning to goal scoring form at the end of the season after a long lay off with injury. Further identification of contributions to a notable season would require a team roll call but it would be wrong to let the occasion of the indomitable Ian Reed's retirement slip by without at least a passing mention. Next season will see this side compete in Div 7SE again as the sole representative of Suffolk hockey fighting battles throughout the length and breadth of Essex - bring it on! *(Ed – in fact, there was an unexpected extra promotion and we have finished up in Div 6S SE!).*

### **Mixed X1 (Editor's Report)**

Mixed hockey continued to be played on a mid-week friendly basis at Framlingham College. About 8 games were played against Framlingham or Saxmundham and most contests were closely contested, with IES winning some and losing some. Simon Martin can again take credit for organising it for IES, having been in this role for many years. He is always keen to hear from club men and lady players interested in being considered for selection. A convivial drink in the Station pub invariably followed the games and the season was concluded with the traditional tour of the Mixed to Hearne Bay for the May weekend festival.

### **Indoor Hockey Squads (Jason Pettit's report & Editor's Report)**

The Men's 'A' & 'B' team, captained by Jason Pettit this year and both teams had a good season in the SHA Indoor League, finishing in good positions. Although the number of club members that made these teams was low we still managed to put a team out for all of our games.

I would like to thank to everyone who played indoor during the season. We have played some good hockey and will be back next year but with one side only.

Ladies Indoor hockey had a steady season in the Suffolk Indoor League with both A and B teams finishing in mid-table and not able to challenge for league or cup honours. A combined squad with Lowestoft Ladies again took part in the East and National League competitions. Success was elusive in both although one of the National League games was won.

### **End of Report**