

Ipswich - East Suffolk Hockey Club

http://www.ieshc.org
Associate Member Club of Rushmere Sports Club Ltd.

Annual Report for 2010 / 2011

Summary of match statistics for games listed in the Fixtures Card 2010/2011
(Note that the above data excludes the cup/trophy, tournaments and 'extra' mid-week Mixed Friendlies)

IES	Results	2010	-	2011					
Squad (X1)		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	% Success	League Position
Mens 1	League	22	6	5	11	48	64	38.6	10 (12)R
	Friendly	3	1	0	2	9	13	33.3	
	Total	25	7	5	13	57	77	38.0	
Ladies 1	League	22	4	2	16	26	55	22.7	11 (12)R
	Friendly	2	0	0	2	3	13	0.0	
	Total	24	4	2	18	29	68	20.8	
Mens 2	League	20	10	0	10	55	55	50.0	8 (11)
	Friendly	3	0	0	3	3	9	0.0	
	Total	23	10	0	13	58	64	43.5	
Ladies 2	League	20	6	4	10	24	27	40.0	9 (11)
	Friendly	3	0	2	1	5	8	33.3	
	Total	23	6	6	11	29	35	39.1	
Mens 3	League	22	10	2	10	59	52	50.0	7 (12)
	Friendly	3	2	0	1	6	8	66.7	
	Total	25	12	2	11	65	60	52.0	
Mens 4	League	20	3	1	16	18	77	17.5	12 (13)
	Friendly	3	0	1	2	4	11	0.0	
	Total	22	3	2	18	22	88	15.9	
Totals		143	42	17	84	260	392	35.3	

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

Editorial (by Chris Hatch):

A fair reflection on the 2010/11 season could view it as a marginally disappointing one from the point of view of the results, with both our Mens and Ladies 1sts X1's being relegated although all our other teams retained their respective divisional statuses and were generally competitive. Our Indoor results, by contrast, were very good with two 1st places in competitions.

We continued to run and sustain 4 mens and two ladies teams. On some Saturdays, we had a surplus of players wanting a game and some large squads were listed on teamsheets, although there were also some difficult days when availability was less good. Overall senior and junior membership numbers, both men and ladies, remained broadly the same as the previous year. Our junior coaching programme continued and began to prosper again as some new coaches help provide new impetus. Some good competitive results were obtained by the junior teams and there is a basis to build on for the future. The expansion to 5 mens teams for 2011/12 will depend heavily on the flow of juniors coming through.

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. At the very end of the season, the much awaited planning permission was granted for the re-development of Rushmere Sports Club, the centre piece of which is to be the construction of an Astroturf pitch. All these contributions, a positive approach from captains and teams and an enjoyable if difficult season on the field helped to make 10/11 a varied and interesting year for the club. As always, there remains much that we can that we can build on to improve next season!

EH Competitions: Summary of results

Competition	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	Venues
Men, EH Vets Cup/Plate	2	1	0	1	5	6	1H + 1A
Boys U-18 Cup	1	0	0	1	0	8	

Outdoor Tournament & Indoor competitions. Best results during 2010/11:-

Ladies Champions, Suffolk Indoor League
Men Winners, Suffolk Indoor League Cup

Representative Honours during 2010/11:-

Suffolk Mens Senior County Championships squad: Kevyn Brown, Sam Oakley, Luke Curtis, George Sutton
East Region Mens O-55 squad: Graham Ramsden

News from the Annual General Meeting on June 2011

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

President, Peter Blake;

Chairman, Graham Ramsden;

Secretary, *Vacancy*;

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

Umpire Liaison Office, Chris Hatch (acting)

Social Sec, Steven Farrow

Youth Development Committee, Di Stevens, David Stevens, Anthony Whitaker

Communications Officer (Press), James Lane

Web site Manager; Jason Pettit

Suffolk County Liaison Officer, Steven Farrow

Ladies League Liaison Officer, Chris Hatch (acting)

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)
Fixtures Secretary
Head Coach
Club Coaches
Club Clothing Officer
Club Welfare Officer

Men

Charles Coulson / Steven Farrow
Peter Blake / Mike Thomas
Guy Whiting / Hugh Rowland
Richie Head / Barrie Whelpton
John Oakley / Phil Buck
Andy Murray
Geoff Reed (A) Dave Charles (B)
Graham Ramsden
Geoff Reed
t.b.c.
Dave Taylor
Di Stevens

Ladies

Megan Adams / Maria Whelan
Julie Yorke / Cathy Cook

Hannah Reynolds
Megan Adams (A); *vacancy* (B)
Abigail Adams
vacancy
t.b.c.
Dave Taylor
Di Stevens

Other Matters reported on at the AGM:-

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

Last season was not our best – having two teams relegated is not good – especially when it's our top two teams. On the plus side

- we only conceded one game due to non-availability,
- we re-arranged and played all the fixtures affected by weather without too much hassle
- we saw some of our young players continue to improve and become key players in their squads.
- Luke, Sam and George represented the County

Captains and vice captains – thank you for managing your teams – sometimes without 11 players, sometimes with 16 – in either case I know its not easy to keep everyone happy and enjoy your own game.

Credit and thanks to our coaches – Jason Pettit and Mark Lloyd put in many hours mid-week and on Saturdays with support from James Nayler and others on Wednesday evenings. Thanks too to John Adams for managing the ladies 1st team on many Saturdays. Congratulations to Annette and Jason on gaining Level 1 and Level 2 coaching respectively.

There were busy Sunday mornings with dozens of youngsters coming along to Copleston – Blobby, Di, Annette, John, Chris and others – thank you all for the Junior coaching. I did some umpiring at one of the mini hockey tournaments and it was great to see our youngsters really competing with the likes of Ipswich, Bury, Colchester, Sudbury.

On the subject of umpiring – it been good to see Sam Oakley and Chris Pittaway take up the whistle. I think 3 more people took and passed the level 1 course, so well done and I encourage those people to follow that through – get your games done and get assessed as soon as possible.

On the social scene Jaffa and Greg, who are duly thanked for their efforts, organised 3 events which returned a profit to the club social account.

Last year Peter Elsom came to the AGM and spoke to us about the future of the Rushmere club: In the end we got there after 2 lengthy SCDC planning meetings and much debate. The SCDC web-site still says “No Decision” but subject to conditions being met, the committee have given the chairman and vice chairman authority to approve the application without going back to the full committee. Peter and Greene King are able to accept the conditions so arrangements are moving forward:

- The contents of the section 106 agreement with the council have been agreed and are now being put into the necessary legal form
- Construction details for the additional changing rooms are being submitted for Building Regulations
- Consultants to generate the specification for the astro pitch have been contacted – the same consultants are likely to oversee the construction and check the quality etc.
- The 3 acres to be sold for housing will be put on the market any day now.
- The council planning committee wanted a recognised charity to become the trustees for the sports club. Peter has negotiated with the YMCA a deal which the YMCA board has approved in principle. Solicitors are working on the legal agreement.

So a lot has happened and Peter is working fast towards the point where a developer is on board and the money is available for the pitch and improvements to the clubhouse.

To all retiring club officers especially Anne Edney who has done a great job as club secretary, thanks for your support for all the years you have served and I hope we will see you prepared to take on another post in the not too distant future. Thanks to all those continuing

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

At the end of our 13th season after moving to Rushmere Sports Club, I am able to report that we have generally continued to pay our way, with a small financial surplus (amounting to 3.8% of turnover) made over the year.. A net loss of £38 for Indoor hockey was a significant improvement over the previous year.

The winter, especially November and December, was pretty awful for weather, causing some dislocation with a number of the league games postponed and requiring slip games. These were mainly made up by mid-January 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 and the ongoing uncertainties. That said, terms have been negotiated for the use of Copleston for the full 11/12 season, on the same general Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday usage profile as during 10/11. A price increase of about 4% (£200) has been notified, which keeps it affordable.

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.

I should like to thank the team secretaries and/or captains for their clear and concise accounting of income and expenses. I had relatively little ‘chasing’ to do although some Subscription payment collections took a disproportionate effort. 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 (by the Editor)

Club management continued to be conducted by its elected committee during 2010/11. Anne Edney, as Club

Secretary, convened committee meetings every 6 weeks as agreed and wrote & distributed detailed minutes of each. Anne has stepped down from the role after 3 years in the post and is duly thanked for having done an excellent job for the club throughout the duration.

(iv) Social Events Report (by the Editor);

Please refer to the comments on the season's social events in the Chairman's Report above.

(v) Youth Coaching Report (by the Editor);

The key points are covered in the Chairman's Report above but especial acknowledgement should be placed on record to John and Liz Oakley who have essentially kept the Junior coaching programme alive for at least the last 3 seasons. They are looking to step back a bit now as their two sons are of an age to be selected for the senior programme but the work must go on and we look for other dedicated coaches and leaders to help take this forward. The new Junior coaching committee has to be able to rely on the full support of the club membership at large.

(vi) Umpires and Umpiring Report (Dave Charles);

This season the club fulfilled all its umpire commitments with relative ease. The statistics below show that club umpires officiated at the following number of matches; excluding Mixed and Summer League appointments. Chris Hatch (35); Ian Reed (12); Graham Ramsden (10); Barrie Whelpton (8); Steve Clark (6); Jerry Hindle (6); Steve Thorpe (6); Sam Oakley (5); John Oakley (4); Anne Edney (3); Dave Charles (3); James Nayler (3); Peter Blake (2); Neil Slade, L1T (1); John Adams (1); Chris Judge (1): Many thanks to all these contributors

The club was appointed to the SCHUA pool on 3 occasions; 2 fulfilled by CH and 1 by JN.

It became clear that it was in our interest to provide a travelling umpire to certain Norfolk and Suffolk venues whenever possible and thanks to the generosity in terms of time and travel from CH this happened as well.

As ever, a large fraction of the home and away umpiring has been undertaken by Chris. So, my thanks to him for his commitment, to this essential aspect of the club's activities.

Individual successes;

Congratulations to; Sam Oakley, Chris Judge and Chris Pittaway for achieving L1 status this season. Chris Judge was appointed to the National Boys U12 Final at Cannock HC last month. Chris Pittaway impressed the H&BHUA at U14 in the winter to achieve L1. Our Young Umpires have also performed very well at JRPC tournaments last September and at other JAC festivals this spring and have umpired the Man Schools Cup matches, which offer some intense hockey on and off the pitch.

Finally...

I have been ULO for 2 years and feel the time is right for A N Other to have a go and so I am not standing for re election. With 14 active L1s, and 3 L1Cs, I believe the umpiring side of the club is fairly healthy; It would be good to see more umpiring done by the Ladies side of the club. Our L1's will have much to do during next season

Review of the 2010/11 season – Captain's reports:

The Mens 1st X1 (Charles Coulson)

This season the men's 1st team continued with their approach from last season, the conditioned involvement of our coach and manager, Jason Pettit, provided the team with valuable leadership from the side-lines and tactical assistance. On the pitch the team was very similar to the previous, with a core of players selected to keep stability and continue with the tactics from last year, which at times allowed us to play some attractive and good quality hockey. The team was boosted by the continued presence of a number of younger players who further cemented their positions within the squad.

On pitch the season did not go as planned; there were times when we played good quality hockey, moving the ball well and moving off the ball into space. Unfortunately the results didn't always reflect the play with the team suffering from a lack of available strikers and therefore struggling in front of goal.

The second half of the season continued much the same as the first with the team facing a relegation battle. There were however some encouraging wins and some hard fought draws, particular the 6-6 games against Harleston. With the team working hard and commitment throughout games was never an issue. Sadly however our final position of 10th within the league has meant relegation but the team is entering a new era for next season, with a new coach and a mix of new players that will offer both youth and experience.

I would like to thank the entire squad for their commitment and contribution during the season, unfortunately it didn't quite go as planned but it is something we can rectify in the new season. A huge thank you has to go to Jason Pettit, who is stepping do this season, for his expertise in coaching and assistance from the sidelines and also to Keyvyn Brown for being captain during the first half of the season.

The new season promises to be exciting one where we look to move back up the season.

Ladies 1st X1 (Annette White)

The 2010/11 season proved to be a tough one for the Ladies 1st XI, the loss and change of key personnel, declining numbers and injuries resulted in the team making the drop to East Division NE2 for the 2011/12 season. With a number of adjustments to make the team struggled in the first part of the season for consistency and never really escaped from the clutches of the 4 team relegation standard of East Division N1. On a positive note however, the team once again put in some heavily committed performances and the team spirit was, as always, second to none. Encouragingly several players made the jump to play East hockey, with Katie Baskett being the most improved player of the season. Megan Adams returned in goal and Claire Pearsons received a well deserved player of the season award. With commitment and dedication there will be a great many opportunities for the team to rebuild and progress in 2011/12 which will hopefully spring the team back into the higher division on the first time of asking.

Mens 2nd X1 (Peter Blake)

10 wins and 10 defeats in the league saw the team finish comfortably safe in Div 4 NE. The finish could have been much higher but for frustrating defeats against mid table opposition who could have been beaten. That said the team was not strong enough to have challenged for promotion.

A strong start to the season was overtaken by a run of defeats in games including some difficult away fixtures. Availability was so often the key factor. The team proved that when at or close to full strength it was a match for the best in the league as victories against Harleston Magpies and Holt testify. Despite playing some excellent hockey at times results often flattered the opposition as chances were not converted. The two defeats to promoted Norwich City were examples of such games. There was also a brittleness about the team when under strength which showed in a few heavy defeats away from home.

Overall the team developed an attractive style of play which proved devastating on occasions. The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the contingent of young players who distinguished themselves at various times and will hopefully go on to better things. Alex Davies had a very solid and consistent season at left defender and as the season progressed his distribution and attacking play began to blossom. David Stevens emerged as an intelligent cool headed central defender. Chris Pittaway discovered consistency and purpose in his play and proved at times to be both unorthodox and deadly in the D as well as versatile in the team cause. James Willing and Kieron Page shared the left midfield berth, both showing moments of skill and inspiration.

Thanks should go to all those who supported the team especially the umpires, including Chris Hatch, Barry Whelpton and Sam Oakley.

Ladies 2nd X1 (Editor's Report):

This turned out to be a tough season with just enough success on the pitch to be competitive against all opposition in the Suffolk Premier Division but finishing in a final league position that was just above the relegation zone. Saph Cutting and her squad had a mixture of good and less good days and a top-half finish seemed possible at Christmas with 4 wins and a draw recorded. A win against Lowestoft 3rds immediately after the mid-season break promised even better but a drift down the table then ensued as 3 draws and 4 losses, during which we only scored 3 goals, were recorded. A final day 4-0 win over Sudbury 3rds restored pride and a place in the Suffolk Premier for 2011/12. In all, the defensive record was quite good but we will need to find a way to score more goals if we are to move back into the upper half of the table in the new season.

Mens 3rd X1 (Guy Whiting)

A mediocre mid table finish (won 10/drew 2/lost 10) but some performances showed real promise. The away win at UEA and defeat by the narrowest of margins against league winners Sudbury, were excellent examples of what can be achieved when everyone pulls together. Against the backdrop of long term injuries to Messrs Bendall and Payne (another one to join the metalwork brigade!), the youngsters stepped up to the mark and should be proud of themselves. The hard work of the likes of Adam Ware, Oakley Elsom, Andy Ward, Charlie 'please can I have a rest, I've just run 50 yards' Goymour and James Willing enabled the old hands of Elsom Snr, Fletcher, Adams, Goymour Snr and Tony (Bobby) to dawdle around at the ends of the pitch.

Talking of more mature players, particular thanks are due to Steve Thorp and Dave Gooch who regularly received the Friday, 'I was just wondering if you could help us out', calls. Both played in what was probably the most satisfying win when we travelled with only 10 but came away from Dereham with 3 points! As for the future, the Manager must find success or will be looking for pastures new.

The ability and spirit is there, it just needs to be there on a more regular basis. As such, only a 1st place finish will suffice for 2011/12. In summary, many years ago, when captaining the 2s, I wrote that it would be difficult to find a nicer bunch of guys with whom to spend a Saturday afternoon. There are many different faces now but that statement still rings true.

Mens 4th X1 (John Oakley)

In terms of results the 2010/11 season like the previous one was again very disappointing; however getting good results is not the only criteria to judge a 4th XI season. The role of the team is a development side with the aim to introduce promising juniors to Club Hockey and turn them into competent Club Players who can then progress. This season the youngsters we had were basically the minimum playing age so it was basically the first stage of development and probably all the youngsters will benefit from another season at this level. The goalkeeper Sam Driver justifiably won player of the season and in general the number of goals conceded was not his fault.

The performances did improve during the season but it was not helped by the fact that for a large number of the games we had several Substitutes, with all the difficulties of managing the rotations. The numbers who wanted to play has, however, been a significant factor in deciding to expand to 5 teams for 2011/12.

The fourth team also suffered from the problem of lack of strikers until Steve Thorpe was released by the thirds towards the end of the season. Steve also helped recruit his son Paul for the last games of the season. The highlight of the season was doing the double over Norfolk Nomads 2nd to ensure we did not 'win' the wooden spoon. A brilliant save from Sam Driver kept us in the home match where we recovered from a goal down to win.

In addition to Sam Driver other players deserving a mention would be Phil Buck and Vincent Morand who both started from scratch and developed into useful players for the team. Of the youngsters all of them shone at times, notably Matt Oakley, Owen Stevens and Henry Lincoln.

At the end of the season for the first time as Captain I had to concede a League game to Holt Harlequins when the team ran out of players and transport for one particular week. Apart from that match all the games were played with full sides. I appreciate that the structure of the lower end of the Club is changing next season and hopefully the fact that some players are joining the Club higher up will release some stronger players for the lower sides. It is always going to be hard work for the lower teams when more players move up the Club than move in the other direction.

Mixed X1 (Hannah Reynolds)

The Mixed XI continued to play in the informal mid-week competition that has been organised with the 'Saxmundham' and 'Framlingham' teams, at Framlingham College, for many years. Samundham's Pitch time was change to Wednesdays at the beginning of the season which meant it clashed with IES training night so we had to drop fixtures against them. Fortunately because I (Hannah) also helped with other mixed teams was able to call on IES members to help out when other teams were short on Tuesday s and Debbie Thomas IES I's (Mixed player of the season) and Marion Parks IES II's helped out on several occasions. The results of these friendlies are not recorded but suffice to say that IES achieved around parity with the oppositions. The Station pub was a clear winner with the business provided by the IES squad after the games!

Simon Martin who ran the team for many years and stood down at the end of the previous season was able to make it back for couple off games. Hopefully with the new astro at Rushmere and the possibility of a new pitch at Framlingham College we should be able to secure some more fixtures on a Thursdays to increase the number of run outs our mixed team gets in the up and coming season

Indoor Hockey Squads (Editor's Report)

The 2010/11 Suffolk Indoor League season turned out to be very successful with IES Ladies 'A' winning the league and therefore becoming Suffolk Champions and the IES Mens 'A' won the Suffolk League Cup. We also ran Mens B and Ladies B teams in the Suffolk Indoor Leagues. Final positions achieved were Mens A 3rd (9), Mens B 9th (9), Ladies A 1st (9), Ladies B 7th (9). The Club would also like to thank Marc Lloyd for organising the Indoor competitions, in his role as Indoor Competitions Manager for the Suffolk Hockey Association.

End of Report