



CAMBRIDGE SOUTH HOCKEY CLUB

COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on: Monday 13th May 2019, 8pm
at: The Panton Arms, Panton Street, Cambridge

MINUTES

Resolutions are shown underlined.

1. Quorum

1.1. Attendance:

John Greaves	/	Neil Sneade	/	Amalia Thomas	/	Jan Brynjolffssen	/
Hannah Kenyon		John Gourd	/	Jack Chalk	/	Rob Barton	/
Ellie Raffan	/	Harry Lewis	/	Alice Hug	/	Stuart Rimmer	
Simon Cooper		Matt Kern		Howard Steed	/	Robyn McLean	/
Izzy MacDonald-P	/	Laurie McKenzie	/	Laura Edge			

1.2. The presence of a quorum was confirmed.

2. Hockey balls

The Kookaburra balls the club uses have increased in price from £2.50 to £3. An alternative is to purchase unbranded balls in bulk from a large Dutch supplier. These are made in the same factory as many branded balls and are the same quality. A club logo can also be permanently inlaid into the ball. Cost is £1,035 for a 500 ball minimum order. All balls have to be the same colour (as they've manufactured as a single batch) but our preferred fluoro-yellow is available. If we wanted any additional white balls these would have to be purchased separately (could still buy £3 Kookaburras).

It was agreed that a bulk purchase to obtain a lower per-ball price would be sensible. As we haven't purchased from this supplier before though, Neil will buy a few plain balls of

the same type (cost will be £4 each) to check we're happy with them before placing a bulk order. The Dutch supplier produces over 90,000 balls a year though so they should be fine!

3. Permanent end of season Team of the Year award

Currently there are awards for Clubman and Club Lady of the Year but not one for Team of the Year. There is the Southernners' League trophy but this is a stats-based award calculated solely from match scores and doesn't account for factors such as relative strength of opposition or a significant achievement, e.g. reaching a team's highest league position etc.

It was agreed that we should introduce a Team of the Year award, alongside the Southernners' League trophy for the best statistical performance, to recognise overall achievement by a South team. A suitable permanent trophy will need to be purchased.

4. Training times & Long Road bookings for 2019/20

The expansion of ladies' training to 3 hours this season, divided into two 90-minute slots, has required that some teams train 8.30-10pm. The late finish has not been popular, and has been especially difficult for U16 players in the lower teams.

After discussion with the captains and coaches, Hannah has proposed we should aim to split training over 3 nights next season: 2 nights with 90 minutes and 1 night with 2 hours, to ensure no-one has to train beyond 9.30pm. This would be neutral in cost terms, as being the same amount of overall pitch and coaching time. The preferred slots were suggested as 7.30-9pm Mondays & Thursdays and 7.30-9.30pm Tuesdays.

Agreed that we will look to split training over 3 evenings a week next season. Hannah will contact Long Road and try and book our preferred slots, or else as close as is available.

5. Teams for 2019/20

5.1. LADIES' 5TH XI. The Ladies' section have successfully fielded a 5th XI side in friendly matches over this season, and their league teams have regularly had full capacity squads. Based on this, it was agreed that the club will enter a Ladies 5th XI in the East League for next season.

5.2. MEN'S 6TH XI. The Men's 5th XI have frequently had full squads this season, and on occasion have had to ask for volunteers to miss games due to excess availability. The higher men's teams have also, more sporadically, experienced surplus availability. It is not yet secure that we would have enough players to field another men's side every week but, with that as a goal, it was agreed that we would approve in principal the fielding of a second 'Men's 6th XI' friendly side by the Men's 5th XI next season on the same one-squad-two-teams basis used before. The creation of the side will depend on having sufficient players, organisers and umpires to support it, and on finding available opposition (which will largely depend on whether league arrangements for next season mean there are teams left with blank dates). Jan will investigate finding suitable opposition in due course, and Howard will look within the Men's 5th XI squad for people who may be able to assist with running a 2nd side.

6. Equipment storage - additional shed for junior equipment

The current shed which was purchased two and a half years ago has been a victim of its own success and is currently over-filled, with keeping kits piled on the floor obstructing access to equipment. We therefore need to either reduce the amount of kit kept in the shed or expand our storage space.

With the plan to provide permanent loan kits for our regular keepers, it is intended that the number of shared kits will be reduced from 1 per team to around 3 each (complete and in good condition) for the men's and ladies' section. The current shed can hold around 9 keeping kits, but we also have a number of junior kits too (currently 3, but expected to be more as the junior section grows). The shed could in theory accommodate all the currently required equipment but there would be little spare space for growth.

It was agreed we should purchase more shed storage, as we anticipate it will be needed before much longer in any event. The current shed is modular and can be extended, or we could purchase a second shed. It was pointed out that the advantages of a second shed would be that junior and senior equipment could be stored separately, avoiding some of the problems we have had with junior kit being used by senior sides or going missing. Neil reported that the cost of another shed the same as the current one would be ~£2,200 for the shed including delivery and installation plus ~£1,400 to fully rack out the interior (including some improvements to the racking arrangements in the current shed). It was agreed the purchase of a second shed to provide storage for junior equipment would be a suitable use of the remaining funds from our Sport England junior grant award, and we should go ahead on that basis.

7. 2019/20 fees and recommendations for the AGM

We don't yet have full figures for the current season but initial view is that the club will have generated a surplus of £3-5k. However, the junior section produced a surplus of ~£3,500 and Pay & Play of £5,800 over 12 months, so the senior section is running at a significant loss. Part of the cause is a significant increase in the number of students paying unwaged rates, particularly in the ladies' section, along with increase in training and coaching time and rises in match tea prices. Amalia will look at the full season figures in more detail and produce a fees recommendation for the AGM.

8. 2019/20 committee - unfilled positions

Most committee members and captains are either continuing or else successors have been identified. Roles we anticipate needing filling for which we do not yet have candidates are a captain for the additional ladies' league team, mixed co-captains (if Hannah and Oli are not continuing) and the Umpires' Liaison Officer (John Gourd may be stepping across to Men's 4th XI captain if Jan becomes a regular pool umpire).

9. Date of AGM

The AGM was set for the evening of Monday 17th June. John will contact Cantabs to confirm that the clubhouse is available to hold it. Neil will circulate the notice of meeting and agenda in due course.

I0.AOB

I0.1. FIRST AID BOX. The large box of first aid equipment in the shed has been depleted and needs replenishing. Neil will ask Stu Creed, who provided the equipment originally, if he can check it and replace what is needed.

I0.2. TEAM HOLDALLS. Bags will be required for the new Ladies' 5th XI and Men's 6th XI, as well as for the new sets of away shirts being purchased. Several of the current holdalls are also in poor condition and need renewing. Neil will identify how many are needed and purchase them.