



CAMBRIDGE SOUTH HOCKEY CLUB

COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on: Tuesday 16th March 2021, 8pm
at: Video call

MINUTES

Resolutions are shown underlined.

I. Quorum

I.1. Attendance:

John Greaves	/	Neil Sneade	/	Mike Gillingham	/	Jan Brynjolffssen	/
Andi Caddy	/	Jackie Hodgkinson	/	Kendra Seed	/	Rob Barton	/
Ellie Raffan	/	Laura Edge	/	Harry Chalk		James Menzies	/
Connor Grant	/	James Hayes		Andy Thomas	/	Kim Cooil	/
Dani Arnold	/	Lucy Bedford	/	Emily Stevenson	/	Nicole Mills	/
Louise Walker	/	Daniel Loy		Harry Lewis	/	Nichola Fennell	/

I.2. The presence of a quorum was confirmed.

2. Resumption of hockey

2.1. Local Mini-League April to June 2021

Jan Brynjolffssen has been in touch with local clubs Cambridge Nomads, Cambridge City and Cambridge University, Royston and ascertained there is appetite to play hockey once we are allowed to do so.

Jan sent a Doodle poll survey. Counting +1 for definite “yes” to play, and +0.5 for a “maybe”, Jan had 62.5 males, 56.5 females respond.

Local hockey will start on 17th April, playing every week:

- Saturdays men's and ladies – there are 12 men's teams and 9 ladies teams interested, split into small divisions to balance the matches as much as possible. Each team will get roughly ten matches.

- Wednesdays Cambridge-based mixed league (all but Royston were interested).

We will have dedicated teams (e.g. 1s, 3s and 5s) and dedicated captains / VCs to arrange their matchday squads. The emphasis should be that we try and keep teams "honourable" in terms of their nominal playing standards.

Jackie Hodgkinson asked about umpires. We support the consensus among the clubs that each club will provide two home umpires.

Other clubs (e.g. Saffron Walden) outside of the "min-league" are also interested in some hockey, so there may be extra fixtures, either on Saturdays or Sundays, which appear on an ad hoc basis, to fill gaps in league slots.

We have the pitch booked and likely fixtures will start from 10.30am as before. The Juniors have the pitch booked from 9-10am each week.

If playing numbers at South are particularly high, we may be able to add another ladies team.

2.2. Midweek Mixed

Current mixed captains will be asked to coordinate the mixed squads for the Wednesday programme. Harry Lewis said he thought this would be OK.

2.3. Training

There was a brief discussion on, but not much appetite for, structured training. Perhaps coached sessions (before Easter) and then maybe some coaching on early P&P sessions after Easter make sense. No formal training sessions until pre-season 2021/22.

2.4. Pay & Play

Sessions will be run on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with two sessions each evening. Pre-signing up will be required. Starting w/c 29th March.

Neil Sneade indicated he will not be available every week to collect payment and lock up. Connor Grant said he will be happy to cover Tuesdays and Louise Walker Thursdays. Nic said she can cover the Ladies masters sessions if any. Others also expressed interest in helping when cover was needed.

P&P sessions will be 7-8pm and 8-9pm, following a vote expressing preference for these timings.

ACTION: Jan and Andi will liaise and come up with a plan for the pitch schedule.

ACTION: John G to confirm Long Road COVID protocols for cleaning, spectators, social distancing etc following resumption of hockey.

3. Financial update

3.1. Subscriptions

Subs: Michael Gillingham reported that the lost matches and training this season is equivalent to £54 in subscription value per full-paying member. This would total £9,000.

It was agreed that we DO NOT give a refund this season as a policy but instead we reduce subs for next season. However, individual members will be able to claim a refund now should they wish, by request to the Treasurer.

When asked about keeping the books separate, Mike G said it will be easier and cheaper (fewer bank fees) for us to offer a subs reduction next season rather than combine the seasons in finance terms.

On the basis that the club's financial position is strong, it was agreed that the initial P&P sessions in w/c 29th March will be FREE, as a "welcome back to hockey" session.

3.2. Facilities

We anticipate booking pitch slots at the new St Mary's / Homerton astro on Long Road from September onwards. They are building a large pavilion. It is not yet clear whether pitch hire includes the pavilion, if there will be a discount for NOT using the pavilion, or what amenities (a bar?) will be installed.

ACTION: John G to investigate St Mary's hiring arrangements and options.

4. CSHC Committee 2021/22

Restructuring: JohnG reminded us of the majority agreement from the previous committee meeting (to be ratified at the AGM) to have Men's and Ladies Club Captains on the committee rather than the full suite of team captains.

Potential vacancies:

- Club Secretary – Neil will likely reduce his contributions to running the club next season. Neil is happy to continue with "home-based" membership management and committee secretarial tasks. Other roles could be separated and filled by others:
 - Kit Coordinator – purchase and distribution (Louise Walker expressed potential interest here)
 - P&P Coordinator (TBC)
- Training coordinator – Andi Caddy will be stepping down. Many thanks, Mr C!
- Ladies' Social Secretary – Nic Fennel will probably not be here next season.

5. Communications

Our email provider, GroupSpaces will be sunsetted in April and we need an alternative solution.

Teamo is expensive (£600/year) and not very sophisticated. It cannot support the organisation or communication demands of the club.

After some research and a tip from Andi Caddy, the club has embraced “Spond” - <https://spond.com> - as the platform for communication.

Spond supports messaging as well as posts. Neil has emailed the club with more details. We can keep personal detail in the Spond system as the master system. This can also replace Google Sheets...and also possibly Teamo for track & trace (TBC). We can also export data periodically as a form of backup.

Neil has already migrated the club membership into Spond and set up appropriate group structures. Thank you, Neil!

It was agreed to maintain Google Sheets for now for team availability entry.

6. AOB

6.1. Awards

Harry Lewis reminded us the Annual Dinner has been postponed to April 2022. It was agreed that there would not be end-of-season awards for the truncated season 2020-21. Special exception may be made for Joe Whittaker. Perhaps.

6.2. Committee roles

Louise Walker asked if current committee roles should just roll over into the new season? After brief discussion it was agreed that it is right to follow the normal process of nominations and elections – although we anticipate relatively few changes for next season.