



PRESIDENTS REPORT & SECRETARY REPORT

Welcome to the July edition of our monthly newsletter the Red Rag. The 2016 season has just over a month to go and from what I have witnessed as both a player and management committee member there is a strong sense of optimism and positive purpose around the hockey club. Having been the central figure in collating and publishing the Red Rag over the past four years it has highlighted to me the increasing importance of the Red Rag newsletter, and its core function of bringing all of us as Glebe District Hockey Club members closer together.

At the fear of sounding too reflective the purpose as to why the Glebe District Hockey Club itself exists today is as relevant as it has ever been. In a time where community organisations and sporting clubs such as ours are becoming increasingly important as it allows people of differing abilities, talents, skills and specialities to work together to achieve a common goal or objective. In saying that I believe there are a few areas where the management committee and various other factions of the hockey club need to meet to discuss various strategies and frameworks with a future focused mindset. I will endeavour to outline these in the August issue once I have given it some thought.

With the Rio 2016 Summer Olympics just around the corner it will enable hockey players from all generations to sit down and watch what is truly the best advertisement for the game of hockey. The Australian Men's teams go in as heavy favourites ranked number 1 in the world. But this was a similar predicament to the London 2012 Summer Olympics when they were beaten by eventual winners Germany in the semi-final and relegated to the third/fourth play off. The Women currently ranked 4th in the world ranking will be up against some tough opposition in Holland, Argentina and New Zealand who comprise the top four places. The Glebe District Hockey Club wishes both teams the very best and hope to see them both on the dais at the conclusion of the tournament.

As always if any Red Rag readers would like to submit a reply/comment or thought to any of the articles they have read in the July 16 Red Rag please do not hesitate to do so by any of the contact details listed below.

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MEN'S REPORT

With just over a month of hockey remaining all five Glebe District Hockey Club Men's teams are sitting outside of finals contention. Although to date it has been a tough season the club has played well and injuries have been kept to a minimum. The manner in which all Glebe teams have competed has been unquestionable. It has been encouraging to see half a dozen Glebe juniors playing their first season of senior men's hockey with a few more slated for next year. It will be imperative that coaches and team captains take a purely developmental perspective for these young players in fostering their talent as they learn the nuances transitioning from junior to senior hockey.

PLAYER MILESTONES



Dominic Tintner

Well done to **Dominic Tintner** (aka Alfred E. Neumann) who played his 200th senior game for Glebe Men in 1st grade Saturday 30th July 2016 against Sydney Uni.

The team ran out 5 – 2 winners in tough encounter. Well done Dom on a fantastic achievement. He's even taught his teammate Matthew Wark a few things along the way – just ask him!!!



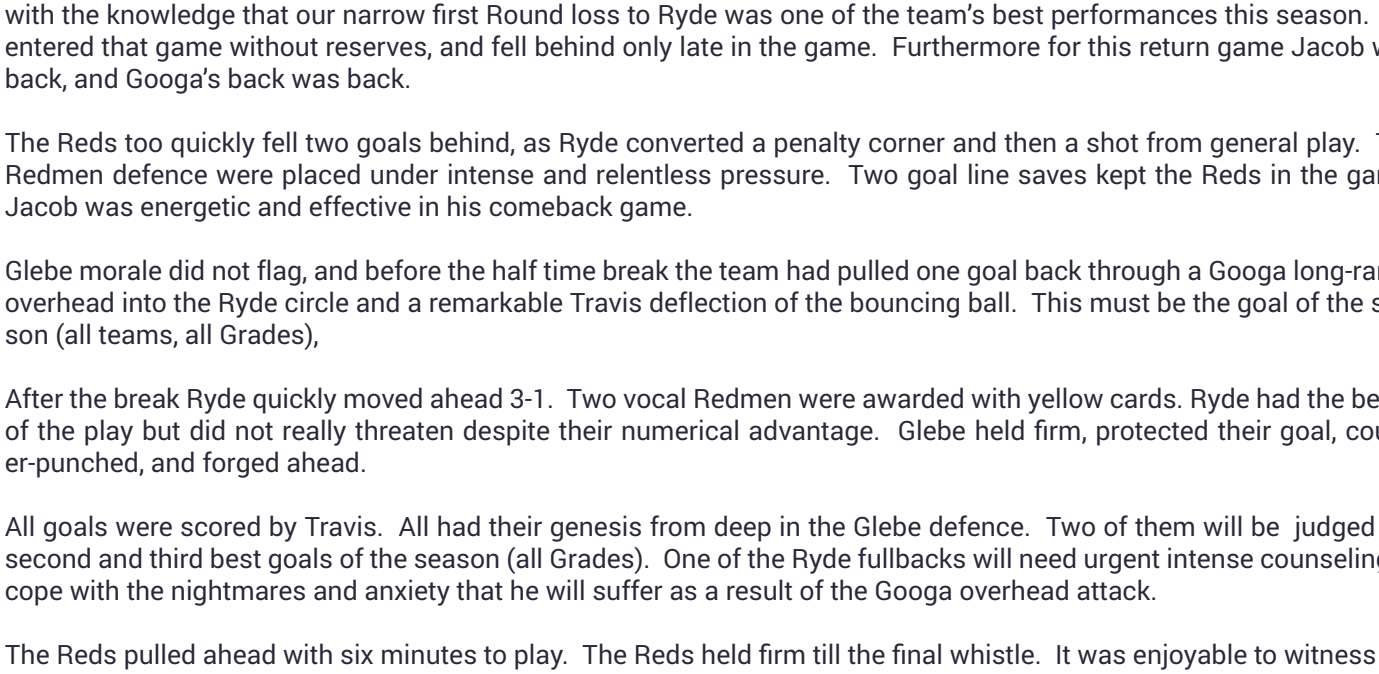
Paul Jowett

Congratulations also to **Paul Jowett** who plays his 200th game for the club in 3rd grade against Ryde. Coming to Glebe from the mean streets of Belfast, Ireland via UTS, Paulie arrived looking for a bit of club culture, which he got in spades, seamlessly fitting in to the Men's 2nd & 3rd grade set-up. Famous for missing a 3rd grade grand-final victory in 2011 in order to propose to his wife-to-be (it's sticking to this version of the story), Paulie made up for this by winning a 4th grade premiership a couple of seasons later.

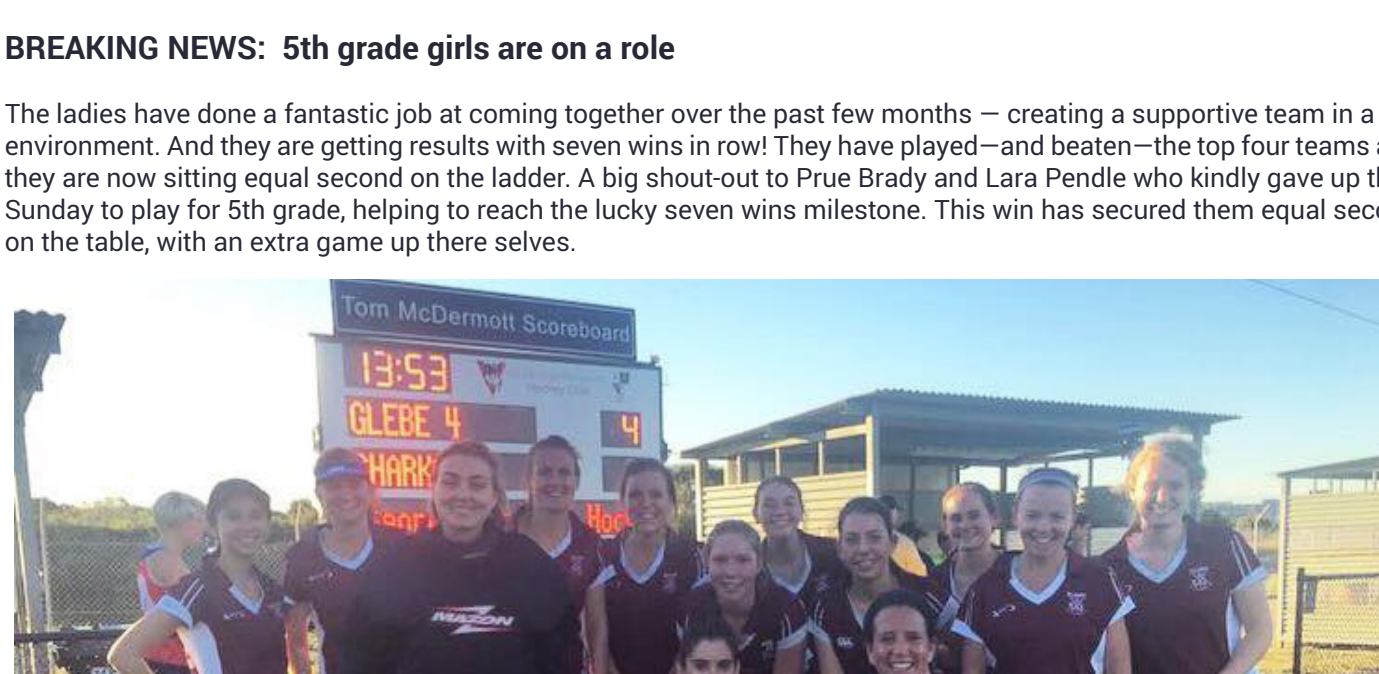
Well done Paulie on a fantastic achievement. Have a great craic!!!

NSW REPRESENTATION

Well done to Glebe District Hockey Club U/17 and 1st grade player **Sam Alexander – Prideaux** on finishing in 2nd place at the recent U/18 Nationals held in Launceston Tasmania. NSW were beaten by Western Australia in the final – after the game ended in 3 – 3 draw at full time. The game then went in to 1 v 1 shoot out with Western Australia able to hold their nerve and secure the national title.



Also well done to 2nd Grade Goal – Keeper **David Reid** who recently won the Men's Country Team National Champions for the fourth year running defeating the Australian Defence Force in the final 4 – 1. David was also selected in Australian Country Men's Teams. Congratulations Dave on a fantastic tournament.



MATCH REPORT

Round 13 Saturday 23rd July 2016

GLEBE 5th Grade (SL2)

Glebe vs Ryde @ Pitch 2 Homebush, 5pm.

Result: **Glebe 4 – Ryde 3.**

Penalty Corners – many more to them than us.

Cards - Yellow x 2 to Glebe, for dissent.

Glebe 5ths are mid table (but with games in hand). The Ryde team is much younger and fitter, trains regularly, and holds second place on the ladder with a large positive goal differential. The Redmen entered this game as underdogs, but with the knowledge that our narrow first Round loss to Ryde was one of the team's best performances this season. We entered that game without reserves, and fell behind only late in the game. Furthermore for this return game Jacob was back, and Goooga's back was back.

The Reds too quickly fell two goals behind, as Ryde converted a penalty corner and then a shot from general play. The Redmen defence were placed under intense and relentless pressure. Two goal line saves kept the Reds in the game. Jacob was energetic and effective in his comeback game.

Glebe morale did not flag, and before the half time break the team had pulled one goal back through a Goooga long-range overhead into the Ryde circle and a remarkable Travis deflection of the bouncing ball. This must be the goal of the season (all teams, all Grades).

After the break Ryde quickly moved ahead 3-1. Two vocal Redmen were awarded with yellow cards. Ryde had the better of the half but did really threaten despite their numerical advantage. Glebe held firm, protected their goal, counter-punched, and forced ahead.

All goals were scored by Travis. All had their genesis from deep in the Glebe defence. Two of them will be judged the second and third best goals of the season (all Grades). One of the Ryde fullbacks will need urgent intense counseling to cope with the nightmares and anxiety that he will suffer as a result of the Goooga overhead attack.

The Reds pulled ahead with six minutes to play. The Reds held firm till the final whistle. It was enjoyable to witness the unraveling to the Ryde team as the game moved towards its conclusion.

This win was result of a solid all-round performance. It has been the highlight of our season to this stage. It is unclear whether the Fifths can progress beyond the round games, but the team is in with a chance and will be striving to play finals hockey.

John Cullen (JC)

WOMEN'S NEWS

BREAKING NEWS: 5th grade girls are on a role

The ladies have done a fantastic job at coming together over the past few months – creating a supportive team in a fun environment. And they are getting results with seven wins in row! They have played – and beaten – the top four teams and they are now sitting equal second on the ladder. A big shout-out to Prue Brady and Lara Pendle who kindly gave up their Sunday to play for 5th grade, helping to reach the lucky seven wins milestone. This win has secured them equal second on the table, with an extra game up there selves.



4th Grade girls are also on a winning streak with 4 win in a row, which included beating Ryde 1-0 who were unbeaten on top of the table. 4th grade are now sitting 4th by 3 points with games against UNSW (2nd) and Mosman Harbourside (5th) coming up will surely test them out.

3rd Grade is just out of the top 4 with some hard games coming, hopefully they can squeeze into the semis. 3rd grade are now being coached by Josh, who has kindly offered to help out after Jules as left.

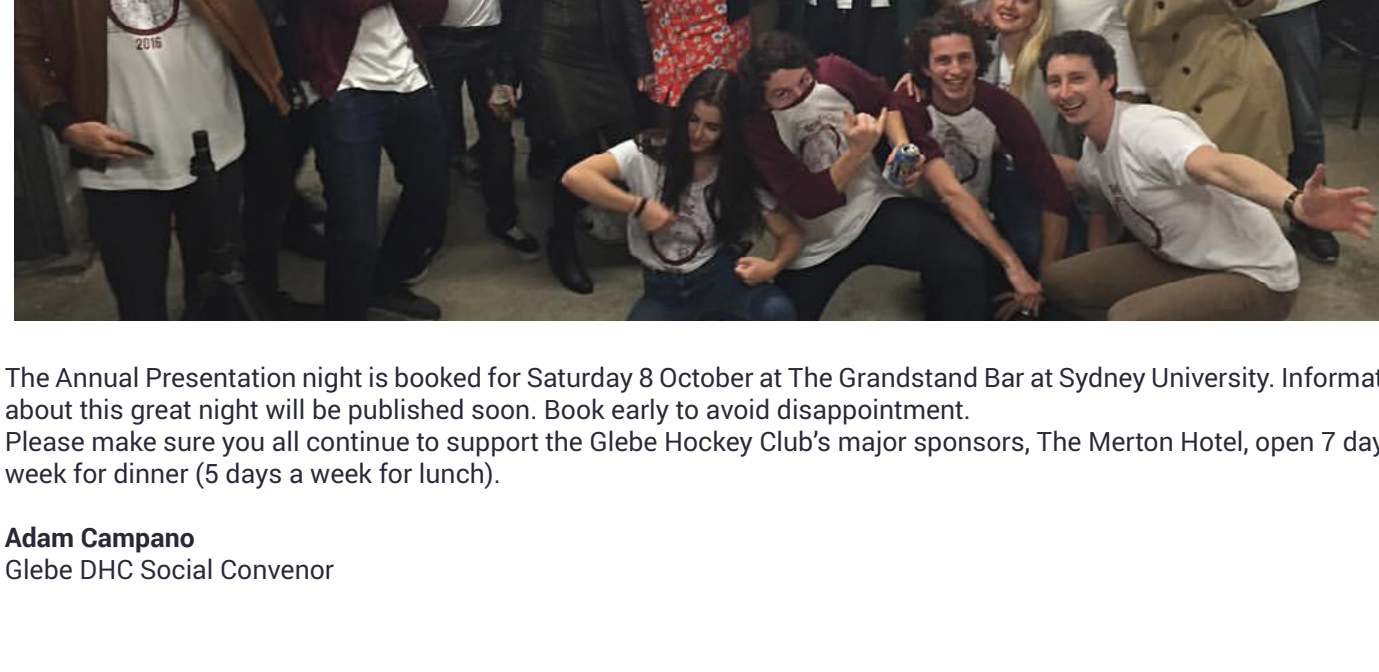
With a strong competition in 2nd grade every win is important; the girls are currently running 4th with some hard games coming up. The 2nd grade girls have been training hard and putting in each week.

1st Grade is fighting hard each week, they have managed to stay strong and continue to enjoy their hockey. Big congratulations to first grader Litiana Field, who has just transitioned to the Australian All Schools Team which played in South Africa. Also, Layla Riley who was selected in the under 13's NSW team, Layla is currently playing in 2nd grade. Womens games for this week 7th August 2016.

1st Grade – UTS @ F2 3pm
2nd grade – Hills Strikers @ F2 4:30pm
3rd grade – Mosman Harbourside @ OP 9am
4th Grade – Mosman Harbourside @ OP 7:30pm
5th Grade – Sat: Sharks @ Moorebank 7pm & Sun: Dolphin @Kyeemah 10:30am

JUNIORS NEWS

There's always a lot going on at Glebe Juniors, with over 150 kids actively participating in hockey each week. Things get particularly busy at the end of the season, so please keep in touch with your team managers for all the important end of season information. We want to thank those juniors who as well as their playing commitments, have become involved in the club in a range of other important areas. We have juniors from Under 17's down to Under 13's regularly involved in coaching and umpiring, at club and SEHA levels and it's been heartening to receive much positive feedback from other clubs and the broader hockey community about the generosity and talents of our juniors.



With the Olympics just around the corner, and a proud tradition and history of Olympians here at Glebe, we can tell you about some of the achievements of our juniors at representative level. Glebe is well represented across all age groups at NSW level, including at Under 18, Under 15 and U13's, with the most recent announcement of Layla Riley's selection in the NSW Under 13s State team for the upcoming National Championships in Perth. We congratulate Layla for all her hard work in making this team. In Under 15s, 2017 NSW squads include Glebe juniors Riley Nilan, Jasmine Howe and Olivia Cain. And we recognise the outstanding efforts of Litiana Field in representing Australian Schoolgirls in South Africa, as well as Sam Alexander Prideaux representing NSW at the Australian U18 Boys National Championships in Launceston who have featured elsewhere in the newsletter.

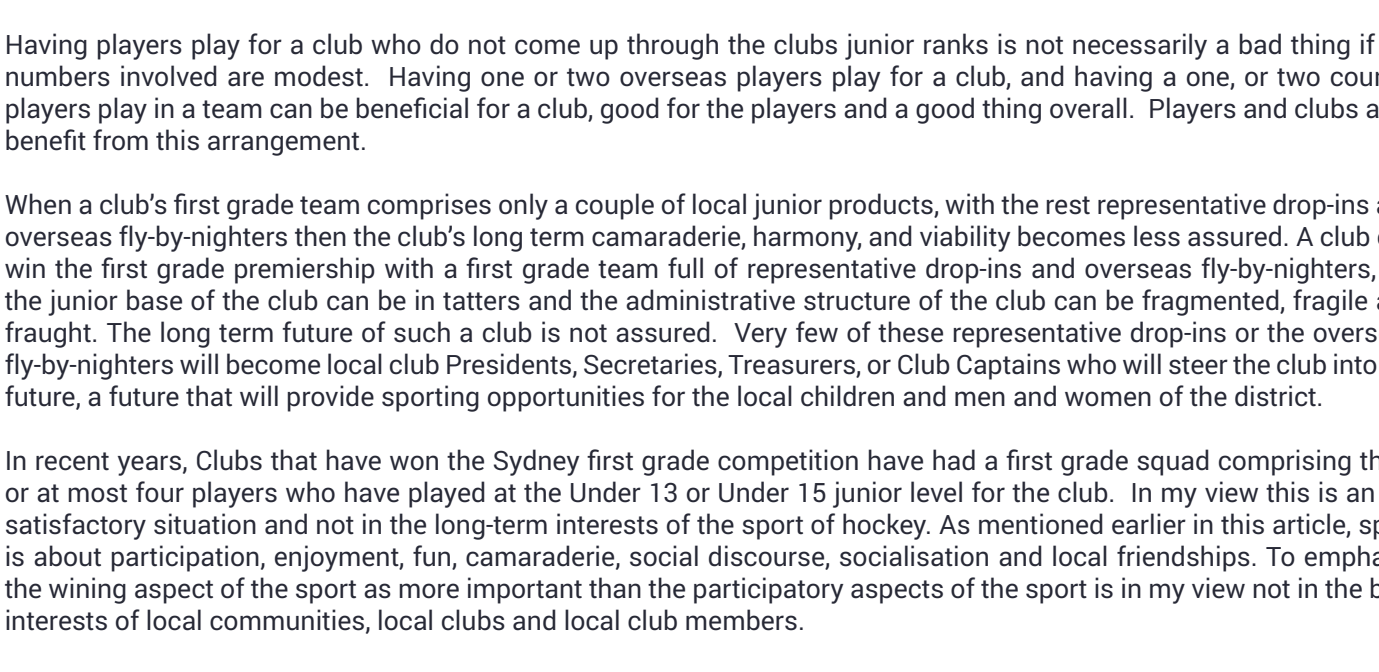
State Championships were held for Under 13's boys and girls since our last newsletter, and Glebe was again well represented in coaching, managing and with many players in SEHA teams, including coaching by Mim Pritchard who has been graciously doing a mountain of tireless work behind the scenes this season. The ever-growing Under 11's York Cup and Kim Small Shield tournament in Tamworth included over 45 teams from across NSW, with SEHA boys finishing runners up on the weekend. The photograph captures all of the kids involved, including two of our junior umpires who took the opportunity to develop their skills in the New England sunshine.

We are particularly excited about reintroducing the traditional Glebe Carnival for our gorgeous Minkeys, Under 9 and Under 11 and Under 13 teams on 7th August. There will be a chance for all Club Members to participate on the day, and we hope to have an Olympic medal available to give something real for our aspiring champions to see up close. There will be a wonderful BBQ, fabulous home baked cakes, coaching and umpiring clinics and even live music to wind down at the end of the day. Please help out our organisers Lester Currie and Sue Heath in making this day a great success. There will be information distributed soon about the upcoming indoor season-your team managers will have all the information about how to register and become involved in this fun summer hockey option. If you'd like to take an active role in the administration of this competition, please let us know.

And lastly, please Save the Date for Juniors Presentation Night at Jubilee Oval Glebe - Glebe District Hockey Club – Clubhouse on 21st September 2016.

Glebe DHC Junior Management Committee

GLEBE JUNIOR COACHES SEHA U/13 BOYS.



Mim Pritchard had a fantastic year in 2015. After representing NSW on the U18 Blues team in her first year in U18's she was selected to receive a NSW Institute of Sport hockey scholarship and named on the Australian Futures Squad. Unfortunately, in a late season Glebe U17 Metro game she experienced a terrible injury, which forced her to take a year out of hockey. SEHA saw the opportunity and asked her to use her extensive hockey experience and coach the U13 SEHA boys for their 2016 rep season.

Mim rose to the challenge. She was given a team of 11 boys that quickly rose to 15. The boys all enjoyed her coaching, her commitment and her enthusiasm for the game. They were particularly pleased when she finally stopped mixing up their names, but remained restless that she was 24 years old and still at high school.

At the end of the season SEHA posted the following on their facebook page.

"A special shoutout to the U13B coach Mim Pritchard who has taken charge of her first rep team this season! After being forced into a year off due to injury, she has discovered coaching and done an amazing job. She is a testament to her family and club and we are privileged to have such an confident, knowledgeable and young coach at SEHA!"

Mim was assisted at the U13 State Championships by Josh Wiggins and enjoyed his feedback and coaching the coach lessons! Thanks Mim. Glebe is proud of you and looks forward to your return to the pitch.

SENIOR CLUB PROVIDES UMPIRES

This season, the senior club has had a roster system providing umpires to most junior club games throughout the season.

The junior club, players, parents and supporters are so very grateful to the members of the senior club who have given their time and skill as umpires. Having quality impartial umpires has really improved the quality and enjoyment of all our games this year. The senior club provides a wonderful opportunity for players and supporters to give back to the junior club. The junior players get to recognise senior players and appreciate the time and effort they have put in for the club. It has developed a good sense of being part of a real club; a club that values and supports its junior players. It makes it much more likely that the junior players will aspire to and transition into playing for the senior club in the coming years.

Again, thank you to all the senior players who have made themselves available. It really is greatly appreciated.

SOCIAL REPORT

The Men's club recently held an extremely successful fundraising BBQ at Alexandria Bunnings BBQ on 17 July run. Thank you to everyone who took part in the day and volunteered the time, and particularly to Mark Paterson for all his assistance. Hopefully, the club will be able to obtain more opportunities in the future to hold these excellent fundraising events!

On the social side of things, an Olympics theme Pub Crawl has been organised for Saturday 30 July, which will commence at the Merton Hotel at 6pm. Laure Salou has designed some terrific shirts for the night and over 80 have been sold to date. Rachel Borm has also assisted with the planned route on the night and some other special surprises. I hope everyone has a great time and that some new friendships are made on the night!

The Annual Presentation night is booked for Saturday 8 October at the Grandstand Bar at Sydney University. Information about this great night will be published soon. Book early to avoid disappointment. Please make sure you all continue to support the Glebe Hockey Club's major sponsors, The Merton Hotel, open 7 days a week for dinner (5 days a week for lunch).

Adam Campano
Glebe DHC Social Convenor

Is the Sydney Senior Men's Hockey Competition Organised Fairly?

The traditional purpose of sport is to provide camaraderie, exercise, social stimulation and enjoyment for the people of a community. It gives people the opportunity to socialise, communicate and make a contribution to the community good. Sport, as well as providing people with exercise, excitement, enjoyment and esprit de corps, can provide social glue that helps people through rough patches in their lives, and supports them through good times and bad.

The psychological advantages of playing sport are considerable and help to keep people balanced, adjusted, reasonable and contented. The company provided by a sporting team and a sporting community to individuals has a powerful capacity for good. Meeting likeminded people, discussing the ups and downs of life and bouncing a few ideas off other people is, under most circumstances, a rewarding, relaxing and enjoyable experience.

It is good to play in competitive teams, as the game, learn valuable life lessons, meet friends, get fit and enjoy themselves. As they develop, they progress from juniors to seniors and some will help with the administration of a club. The senior players have children, some will bring their children back to the club to play Minkey Hockey and they then progress into the club's junior teams. This is the life-cycle of a local district hockey club.

To keep a club's players content and satisfied that they are being treated fairly and reasonably, large numbers of representative players from outside the local club, or players from overseas should not be encouraged to come to a club and displace a club's players who have progressed up through the junior ranks. This policy breeds discontent and resentment. The club's local junior players become disgruntled and usually cease to play the game, or less frequently move to another club.

All but two of the clubs in the top seven of the Sydney Hockey Association First Grade Competition have only a small number of local junior players in their teams. These first grade squads are comprised in the main by representative players from outside Sydney who play in the Sydney Competition on the Saturday, and their local hockey competition on Sunday. These representative players, or players striving to break into the representative scene, are encouraged to join a Sydney-based club by any combination of cash inducements, waiving of playing fees, petrol money, a perceived better chance of making a representative team, playing with a coach who is a State coach, or who is influential in State Hockey circles.

Some clubs have three or four overseas players in their first grade team, lured to the club by the offer of a fee waiver, subsidised accommodation, or the offer of a job. These players are often very skilled and the advantage for the host Sydney-based club is obvious – they will win more games, perhaps the completion and certainly more kudos.

Having players play for a club who do not come up through the club's junior ranks is not necessarily a bad thing if the numbers involved are modest. Having one or two overseas players play for a club, and having a one, or two country players play in a team can be beneficial for a club, good for the players and a good thing overall. Players and clubs alike benefit from this arrangement.

When a club's first grade team comprises only a couple of local junior products, with the rest representative drop-ins and overseas fly-by-nighters then the club's long term camaraderie, harmony, and viability becomes less assured. A club can win the first-grade premiership with a first grade team full of representative drop-ins and overseas fly-by-nighters, yet the junior base of the club can be in tatters and the administrative structure of the club can be fragmented, fragile and fraught. The long term future of such a club is not assured. Very few of these representative drop-ins or the overseas fly-by-nighters will become local club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, or Club Captains who will steer the club into the future, a future that will provide sporting opportunities for the local children and men and women of the district.

In recent years, Clubs that have won the Sydney first grade competition have had a first grade squad comprising three or at most four players who have played at the Under 13 or Under 15 junior level for the club. In my view this is an unsatisfactory situation and not in the long-term interests of the sport of hockey. As mentioned earlier in this article, sport is about participation, enjoyment, fun, camaraderie, social discourse, socialisation and local friendships. To emphasise the winning aspect of the sport is more important than the participatory aspects of the sport is in my view not in the best interests of local communities, local clubs and local club members.

An amateur hockey club is not run for the exclusive benefit of its first grade team, and all players in the club, whether senior or junior, should be treated equally irrespective of their playing ability. To pursue a strategy that will weaken a club's ability to survive into the future and its ability to provide for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations of children from its catchment area is in my view illogical. This, in turn, will threaten the viability of the sport in the long term.

Is there a solution to the domination of the Sydney Hockey Association Competition by teams with a very large proportion of non-local players? The viability of local Sydney clubs would be enhanced.

My suggestion is to make it compulsory for a club's first grade squad to contain at least seven or eight players who have played at least two full seasons of Under 13 or at the very least Under 15 junior hockey for the club. At least half of the first grade squad should be comprised of local players. This alteration to the rules of the Sydney Hockey Association First Grade Competition By-Laws would make it more attractive for clubs to foster their own junior talent and not seek to bolster their first grade team by soliciting outstanding players from country NSW and from Overseas.

Decisions on exceptional cases, or unusual cases could be made by the Management Committee of the Sydney Hockey Association on a case by case basis.

The fostering of a club's junior talent into the club's first grade team should be encouraged and rewarded. Poaching representative players from country NSW and elsewhere to a club with inducements of various sorts to play a perceived gap in the club's talent base should be made more difficult.

If this suggestion was to be adopted, then the Sydney Hockey Association First Grade Competition would become much more competitive and open, and there would be less top-sided games of the 20-0 variety that we have seen in the 2016 Competition. Opportunities for a club's junior players would be improved and the number of disgruntled, unhappy, displaced local club members would be decreased. Sydney Hockey Club's would be incentivised to promote and encourage junior hockey in their local area. The viability of local Sydney clubs would be enhanced.

If country, or overseas players wanted to play in Sydney, they could still come, but they would not be concentrated in the few clubs, who have the resources and financial wherewithal to offer imported players financial inducements, or a leg-up in their representative aspirations.

Readers are invited to share with the Red Rag readership, any thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and comments you might have on this topic. Letters to the Editor are most welcome.

Harry Wark
Glebe DHC Historian & Life-Member

Reply from Anthony Wark

In the first article, The problem spans sports & continents. European Football (restricted somewhat by the freedom of movement laws) imposes a home-grown player and home-trained player quota on teams in top leagues. Of the 25 named in any given squad (from what I can work out) at least 8-12 must be home-grown (defined as having played for that club for 3 years prior to turning 21), with further proposals for home-trained quotas (players who've played for the club for 3 years prior to turning 18).

The thresholds are slightly different to those you propose for Sydney Hockey, but the problem, and the fundamentals of the proposal are entirely the same really. Local talent gets short-shrift to imported assets, which over time leads to extreme situations like the English one; strongest competition in the world, but their national team has not even come close to winning an international competition in decades - there's some commentary on that in the first two articles.

Have Sydney Seniors has much luck at recent NSW championships? I can't recall NSW's last win at the Australian Championships, but I don't follow it closely.

Depending on the clubs political appetite, Glebe could stir the pot at Sydney Hockey by tabling such a proposal at the AGM.

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