

THE RED RAG

"A Champion Club, A Club of Champions"

**GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB
JUNE / JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER**

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ADear Members and Supporters of the Glebe District Hockey Club,

One of our priorities for this season has been to improve our communication with members. To make sure our Committees are on track and doing their best to make hockey enjoyable for our members, we conducted a Players' Survey across the whole playing group to get feedback about a range of issues. It was a club first! I would like to thank all players who provided feedback in our survey. We will have an in-depth review of the results in the future but at first glance a clear majority of the playing membership are enjoying their hockey at Glebe District Hockey Club. They have also identified some challenges, especially regarding not having our own turf, and they have given us some areas where we need to improve so the feedback is a good stepping stone for next season.

In my first President's Message for the Red Rag I mentioned two things:

- **That after being away from the Club for several years, I was in a position to see the Club with fresh eyes and**
- **That I had big shoes to fill.**

Immediate Past President, Danny O'Brien, whose shoes I am in, used to say "Be a member, not just a player." Before starting this role, I'd been told that the levels of our volunteering at the Club were very low and that because life is so busy now, people don't have time to contribute. With my fresh eyes and well into the second half of the season, it is obvious to me that our Club does have plenty of 'members, not just players.' In fact, we have a huge number of CONTRIBUTORS to all that happens on and off the field, and they are all busy people!

We forget sometimes to see all the things that people do and we forget to be grateful for the contribution that people make. A personal thank you



is always appreciated and is a good cure for negativity. It's so easy to be critical, much harder to have your eyes open to those giving their time freely and without question to put our 23 teams on the field each weekend. People working behind the scenes doing jobs in a club as big as ours are contributing week in week out to our Glebe Family. Many of them are players themselves busy with jobs and families but they are NOT just picking up their hockey sticks, playing their games and leaving.

So, to all our unsung heroes - the coaches, managers, the social organisers, the fundraisers, the organisers of the extra training sessions, the people working behind the scenes on Turf submissions to Council and Government Departments, the groups who worked on the new Club Structure Proposal and Constitution, the Clubhouse volunteers, our umpires, our captains, our webmasters, social media posters, the drivers and transporters, the various administrators in our committees, the list goes on and on.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION – without it our Club would not exist.

On the topic of CONTRIBUTION, I would like to mention the retirement of Matthew Wark from the playing side of the game due to a chronic back injury. I cannot thank Matt enough for the contribution he has made to the Club in both playing and coaching. He has been a great ambassador for the Club in all aspects of his playing career.

I will leave you with an open letter Matt wrote to the Club which gets to the heart of what the Glebe Family is all about.

Les Wark
Glebe DHC President

To my beloved Glebe District Hockey Club,

I write this email to inform the Club that I am forced to retire as a playing member of the Glebe District Hockey Club effective immediately.

The reason for not being able to complete the 2017 season is simply due to my back which has given way again and for the final time. I've been battling severe back and shoulder troubles since Round One but it's no longer possible to manage the pain.

After playing on Saturdays it's hard to walk for the three days following the game and not being able to lift my kids in and out of bed has not been an enjoyable time.

I have some fractures and nerve problems that are a result of years of playing and I have been instructed by medical staff that the time has come to stop before it's beyond possible repair.

I'm truly sorry to put the Club in this position, but I don't feel that my performances to date have been good enough to represent my Club at a First Grade level.

It has been an enormous privilege to have been part of our First Grade team since 2004 and along the way to have been part of some amazing times in our Club's history.

I proudly enjoyed representing Glebe in the Australian Hockey League for the best part of ten years. I have never, nor will I ever, take for granted everything that the Glebe District Hockey Club provided for me.

It is extremely hard for me to type this email as all I ever wanted to be was a Glebe First Grader, from the moment I could ball boy as a little bloke to the day I ran on at Sutherland for my very first game.

I love Glebe and I am so grateful for all it has done for me. I hope I can have your support in my decision, as I have not made it lightly but do so putting family first. My children and my amazing wife are the greatest part of my life, and also something I can thank my amazing Club for, picking that good sort from Santa Sabina in Second Grade all those years ago

Again I ask for your support and thank you for allowing me the great privilege of being a First Grade hockey player at the Glebe District Hockey Club.

Sincerely

Matthew Wark

MEN'S REPORT



As the season draws nearer to its pointy end, we are developing our understanding of how our teams are faring. Whilst 1st Grade are not completely out of touch, they will require a few major upsets in the remaining rounds to be any chance of playing finals hockey. It seems that 2nd Grade are now playing for nothing but honour. 3rd Grade however, are proving to have a perfect mix of youth and experience and look set to lock in a finals berth. 4th Grade face a few easier opponents in the final rounds, and with any luck might come home with a full head of steam to sneak into the finals mix. Finally, our Fighting 5th's won't be playing any hockey in September, but have recently picked up a couple of well earned victories and always give 100% to the cause.

It's safe to say that for the majority of us, it has been a long, tough season. Despite this, I'd like to encourage all players to keep their heads up, keep attending training and to continue to support each other on and off the field.

Team positions as of 26/07/17

1st Grade: 8th of 11 teams

2nd Grade: 9th of 12 teams

3rd Grade: 3rd of 12 teams

4th Grade: 8th of 12 teams

Fighting 5th Grade: 7th of 8 teams

Representative Honours

Andy Leat: gained selection in the NSW Waratahs squad after an impressive performance for SEHA at the State Championships. Well done mate!

David Reid: was once more selected in the 'NSW Country' team, and will commence yet another tour with the squad in August 2017 – well done David and good luck with the tour.



Game Milestones

Mark Paterson: 200 1st Grade games

Ivan Gorridge: 100 Club games

Mitch Tudor: 100 Club Games

Dom Kavanagh: 200 Club Games

Aleks Manou: 150 1st Grade games

Retirement

Unfortunately long standing back injuries have finally got the better of Club legend Matthew Wark. It was with a heavy heart that I accepted Matty's retirement email earlier this month. In his career, Matt has played over 200 1st Grade games for Glebe, won three 1st Grade premierships, played many seasons of AHL with the Waratahs, and was unfortunate not to crack the Australian senior ranks. He is well known and respected amongst all clubs for his toughness, long reach, even longer overheads and perhaps most importantly, for being a good bloke off the field. Matt loves this club, and over the years has dedicated many hours to playing, coaching and volunteering when required. I know that his injury has been a bitter pill to swallow for Matt, and I hope that he can find other avenues to continue to be involved in the Glebe family in coming years. It's been a pleasure playing with him over many years.

Good luck to all over the final rounds of the competition.

Alister Cullen
Men's Club Captain

WOMENS REPORT



Last month the women's report focused on family - as one of the four values of our Club. Working our way through those values we focus this month on contribution. And there are some lovely examples. Firstly, thank you to everyone who filled out the survey. 50 respondents across six teams of 92 players is not a bad effort. In the spirit of openness a full break down of results will be sent to women players very soon and discussed at the Glebe Management Committee. One survey headline for now (because it is on the subject of contribution) is the finding that 82 per cent of our women players felt "welcome or very welcome" at the beginning of the season. How welcome our players feel reflects all of us - it's a great indicator that contributions of many, toward many, are making their mark.

Continuing contribution from our Fifth Grade women:

We know it has been a tough season for our fifth grade women and we know we need to make sure they are playing in the right division next season. Surely there is no better example of contribution than their efforts, week after week, in staying positive and holding their heads high.

Here are some examples from Glebe Red:

- Olivia Edwards gives to the team tirelessly by researching training drills and tips. She is always encouraging and regularly offers lifts to other players to get to and from the game.
- Jena Prince brings her home grown and organic oranges to each game to help give the team a much needed boost at half time.
- Emma Smith stepped out of her usual field position to put on the goalkeeping pads recently and did an amazing job.

Glebe White is also big on contribution. In the words of captain Sian Morgan :

"from our newcomer Kate who marks like she's velcroed to the opposition, to Renu who does laps up and down the wing and our Brit Vicky who makes sure we're all up for

pancakes or a wine post match! A tough competition and having no coach has made the Whites band together and look after each other like nothing else. All the girls play their part and make Sunday the best day of the week!”

Thanks also to girls from Seconds, Thirds and Fourths who have fitted in an extra game on their Sunday, and quite often a bit of travel, to go along and help Fifth Grade out when teams have been short. Most recent example was Layla Riley, who helped out to join her sister Eden in the Reds the day after playing her heart out in Second Grade’s stunning victory over Briars.



Above and beyond contribution for the Wark Trevenar Cup

It was a sunny Saturday on July 22 and Cintra was swamped by maroon supporters. Arguably the lasting memory was those small children at the front of the line, followed by bigger children and then Second Grade men cheering our Firsts as they ran onto the field. Not many clubs can boast such representation across age groups and gender. Other highlights:

- The strength of our two top women’s team on the day was a standout. Second Grade won 2-0 with strong team work across the board and a particularly brilliant goal from Tessa (she said she has been practising receiving high balls on Thursday night training so had no trouble slotting one in the net).
- Our First Grade women did us proud, scoring the first goal (well done Cecile) with an eventual one all draw with Briars. The improvement in passing and possession is notable, full credit to the players, formidable captain and defender Alisha Middleton and their dedicated coaches.
- Thank you Makenzi Harvey, our First Grade goalkeeper and her supportive mother Nadene. Makenzi missed her regular club match back in Newcastle

to travel to Sydney. And how glad we are that she did. Quick reflexes and unflappability and poise from someone so young. Not only did Makenzi win much respect that day she also was one of the winners in the women's raffle – taking home a voucher for a beauty therapist in Balmain. When the season is over we look forward to hearing about Nadene and Makenzi's day trip to Sydney for a bit of pampering.

- On the subject of the raffle – thank you to the contributions of those women who made it happen. This includes our Dutch Social Committee (Tess van Sluijs – Bruin and Cecile Crobach who are new to the Australian tradition of meat trays), Katrina Cochrane and Amy Shipp who sourced prizes and Third Grade girls who sold tickets. The raffles brought in over \$400 for the club – while every dollar helps the value was more in the sense of community that was generated. While rivalry with Briars on the field was unrelenting, it was a nice touch that the winner of the meat tray, a Briars supporter, refused the prize insisting it be given to a Glebe player. A redraw followed and the eventual winner was the father of First Grade men's star player Dom Tintner. He said he would be taking it over to Dom's for a cook up.

Contribution needed in coming weeks

There are only four rounds left to in the SWHL competition and three rounds in the SEHA competition before finals begin. And there are some important stretch goals ahead for our teams:

- First Grade is aiming to beat Mosman on Sunday 6 August to try and secure a spot in ML1 for next year.
- Second, Third and Fourth Grade are all looking like strong contenders for finals (currently all in top five positions on their respective ladders).
- Both fifth grade teams are looking to finish the series on a high and a win.
- On the morning of 13 August all four of our SWHL teams play at Bankstown one after another (Thirds at 9am; Fourths at 10.30am; Firsts at 12pm; Fourths at 1.30pm). Lock it in your diaries and keep an eye out on social media for more information – we are planning picnics and a bbq.

Having three Glebe women's teams make finals would be a significant achievement. And to do so we need to make the best of remaining weeks at training – both Tuesday and Thursday nights. Half a team does not make good finals preparation. We know that the time slots are not great but we all agree that our coaches are. #GlebeFamily; #GlebeContribution, get on board, get to training and let's see the maroon and white take over finals day.

Kate Alexander
Women's Convenor



One month unlimited training for \$49!*

Step into Life Glebe and Camperdown is offering friends and family of Glebe District Hockey Club Inc one month of unlimited Group Outdoor Personal Training for just \$49!*

For one month, you'll enjoy full access to our six motivating outdoor training programs - and we will donate \$49 to support the junior development of the Glebe District Hockey Club Inc for every supporter who takes up this offer!

Contact Avril at Step into Life Glebe or Camperdown to kick start your fitness and support Glebe District Hockey Club Inc.

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*Valid for new introductions to Step into Life Glebe or Step into Life Camperdown only who purchase this offer in August 2017. 1 month unlimited training for \$49 must commence prior to 30/9/17. Limit one redemption per person. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Offer must be mentioned prior to commencing training to redeem at Step into Life Glebe or Step into Life Camperdown.



JUNIOR REPORT

The autumn leaves have definitely gone, the mornings on the sidelines are becoming more crisp, and as we head into the concluding rounds of Season 2017, we wish all our teams well in training hard and continuing to improve their skills and results. We have a number of junior teams in good position to make finals and we are proud of their efforts.



Our goal is to make the Glebe Juniors hockey experience as positive and rewarding as we can for all our players and families. Thank you to those who completed the recent Club survey, the Management Committee is reviewing the responses now, and will give members feedback and use the information to guide decisions going forward. While the survey has closed, that doesn't mean that the opportunity to provide ideas and suggestions and encouragement has also closed, particularly as we reflect on the season and look to planning for 2018. The Juniors Committee is a diverse group comprising all current coaches and a few dedicated parents and each brings a different priority and perspective to the sport. Each is more than happy to hear your views. Already this season we've had the opportunity to talk to parents at various times about training, frustrating websites, player safety, grading, fees, umpiring and coaching, and to respond and reflect on concerns and get some generous praise and thanks.

We do not always have to agree, in fact it is often from difference that we can build strength and grow. The central juniors contact is via the email account glebejuniors@gmail.com, and that reaches our Junior Convenor Clare Prideaux, SEHA and Minkey Coordinator Sue Heath and Metro Coordinator Allison Cummins. Typically questions in the first instance go to your team coach or manager, but at any time please know you are most welcome to talk to any of us. Or go straight to the top, Club President Les Wark is also available at presidentglebehockey@gmail.com.

You will have noted no doubt on social media the important achievements over the holidays of many of our juniors who are representing our club with distinction at representative levels. Congratulations to our U11 and U13 age group representatives, and their supporters, who travelled to the New England region recently for the U11 York Cup and Kim Small Shield, U13 Girls and U13 Boys State Championships. Our Glebe kids (there are in fact so many we are afraid to name them all in case we forget someone) made significant contributions on the field and all remarked upon their good humour and sportsmanship. Many of you will have the opportunity to play Tudor Noller Cup on Sunday 30th July, to try and get the cup back from Northern Districts. Go Glebe!

Super congratulations go to Orlando Travis who was named in the 2017 U13 Boys NSW Squad, a wonderful achievement for this talented young player.

Back at Glebe, we are often asked how the Glebe junior teams got their names-had there been an infestation of spiders at the time, did someone on the committee have an interest in arachnoids, were the children that season small and bitey? In doing some research for this month's article, we were grateful to have the opportunity to speak with Jim Oman, who has contributed to Glebe Juniors in many ways over many years, including as a Junior Convenor. The truth is actually a positive tale of growth in hockey. Prior to 1990, junior team numbers were very low, and the club struggled to field a team in each age group. So it could manage with Glebe, or Glebe White and Glebe Maroon if things were stretched. But the growth of Minkey meant more kids joined Glebe (and from that bunch sprung a few Australian and NSW representatives), and so team names were needed. "Each year the club participated at the Lithgow Carnival, and so we overheard some names" (South Australian Redbacks, Lithgow Hornets....) and here we are. Traditionally now, our A teams are Redbacks, followed by Strikers, Hornets and in very special circumstances Vipers.

The older junior age teams at Glebe currently represent some of our most loyal and dedicated players.

Many of these players are part of our U15B Hornets, who have been loyal, dedicated and resilient club members for many years. Psychologists identify resilience as a key element of success in sport, education and life more generally. Resilient children have a strong sense of confidence about themselves as individuals and as players; a sense that they can do better and improve; a strong work ethic and understand that winning requires hard work; the ability to let go of a poor result and focus on improvement and people around them that support their efforts and enjoy them as people (not just hockey players). The Hornets have all these elements in spades. Resilience is evident when kids turn up week after week despite the other teams' 'mercy', when scoring a goal is celebrated like a gold-medal winning shot, when keeping the opposition scoreless for 30 minutes is seen as an enormous achievement. As our Hornets kids grow older they may not have a lot of trophies on the shelf but they will have something of much greater value – the capacity to bounce back, to do their best and laugh despite being 'beaten'. For the U15B Hornets the resilience built in the horror year of 2016 is being rewarded. They are competing, scoring, drawing and a win is inevitable before the end of the

season. The standout features so far have been the teamwork, the team spirit and the laughter. Elaborate goal-scoring celebrations are planned in advance. Every week they turn up smiling, chatting and trying their best. Can't ask for much more! And to their support team, Margot, Dee, Helen and all the parents and siblings on the sidelines, who have been steadfast and patient and maintained their smiles, outstanding work!

Already this year we have recognised many Milestone Games with the traditional cupcake festivity, and as the season gets closer to the end, we have a few more to celebrate. Asha Machin Hunt, Izzy Shannon, Jonah Riley, Layla Riley, Matt West, Oliver Brownbill, and Rodrigo Pedraza Luna all reach 100 junior games in the next few weeks, and juniors stalwart and one of our favourites Timothy Pritchard celebrates the achievement of 150 junior games for Glebe. Nothing like cutting things fine Oliver, who marks his 100th game in his last junior game the final round of the season.

Oliver was also one of the players who were especially generous with sharing their time and skills when the Metro teams had some visitors from the U11B Strikers at a recent training session and game. It was very #glebefamily to see the saucer like eyes of the 8 years olds watching the "missiles" (read overheads) being thrown and being shown how to tomahawk by senior coaches and we are fairly certain Talia and Alanna don't "miss" tackles as often in actual games.

Our final Juniors at Seniors training is on 1st August, where all juniors are welcome at Cintra from 6pm, there will be a BBQ and cake stall, to recognise the seasons efforts and to raise money for the recent purchase of defensive face masks for junior teams from U13 upwards. That's right kids-it is now compulsory to wear them!

And the really big event of the season, The Glebe Carnival will be held on Sunday 27th August. Save the date in your diaries for a truly wonderful day in the sunshine at Jubilee, being part of the Glebe family and hockey community in a relaxed and fun environment.

We look forward to hearing more about your stories-keep in touch on Facebook and Instagram and send your stories and photos to glebejuniors@gmail.com to be featured in the Red Rag. There are many ways in this modern world to

keep up with what's happening around the grounds. Our roving reporters need your help to make sure that all of our juniors have an opportunity to be recognised at a Club level. Tell us about your courageous saves, tireless efforts, cracking goals, preferred dugout snacks and sideline stories. They are important. Wishing you all good hockey for the remainder of this season!

Glebe DHC Junior Committee

SOCIAL'S REPORT

The month of July is set to finish with a big bang with the Wark-Trevenar Cup club day to be played out between Glebe and Burwood Briars hockey clubs on Saturday 22 July. We are expecting big support from the whole club on the day, where there will be a fundraising raffle with lots of great prizes (hockey bags and sticks, wine, etc) on offer. It would be nice to bring the Cup back to the clubhouse that night for a good old fashioned celebration.

The final Bunnings BBQ fundraiser for the season is booked for Sunday 30 July at the Ashfield store on the corner of Parramatta Rd and Frederick St. Thanks in advance to all those who have volunteered to participate on the day, some not for the first time this season!

There will be information disseminated on social media from next week regarding the final two social functions for the year, as well as the Junior Carnival, but here are the dates to put in your diary well in advance:

- **Saturday 26 August – End of season function at The Merton Hotel & Bistro**
- **Sunday 27 August – Glebe Junior Carnival at Jubilee Oval/Federal Park**
- **Saturday 23 September – Annual Senior Presentation night at The Grandstand Bar, University of Sydney**

Please continue to support our major sponsor The Merton Hotel & Bistro by attending there on occasions for dinner and/or drinks, and for any of the three major functions that are held there each season. If you have a private event you wish to hold, The Merton hires its heated and covered outdoor section to the public for free – you just have to book well in advance. Ask for Gill by phone on 8065 9577 or by email on info@themertonhotel.com.au

Thank you also to Aaron Oman who has decided to finish his association with our stick and equipment sponsors, Osaka Hockey Australia. Aaron has often provided sticks and other merchandise for club fundraising as well as offer discounted gear to all club members.

See you all at the next club function.

Adam Campano
Glebe DHC Social Convenor



SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT.



Saturday, Sep 23rd 2017



6.30PM For a 7PM Start



Sydney University Grandstand Bar

Admission to the Senior Presentation Night is by booking & payment only | First come, first served due to a limited capacity Cost is \$65 / person | The pre-arranged meal consists of a set-menu.

**Please advise if you request a vegetarian option*

GDHC

DETAILS

The cost of a ticket is \$65 per person (free for Life Members - please notify Adam well in advance if you are attending).

All bookings should be paid for before the night. There is a limited capacity so it is a first come first served event.

The pre-arranged meal consists of a set menu. Please advise if you request the vegetarian option.

Please pay by Direct Deposit

Bank Details:

Account Name: Glebe District Hockey Club

BSB: 082356

Account: 466231070

Please put your name in statement details

Or send your cheque made out to 'Glebe District Hockey Club' ASAP to —

Adam Campano

16/176-180 Salisbury Rd

CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

Any enquiries please contact Adam on 0414 783 440 or at a_campano@yahoo.com

Members are reminded also that under 18s must be supervised by a parent/guardian and must not drink alcohol, have alcoholic drinks bought for them, or play on the pokies. Any infringement of rules regulations and the law will mean being evicted.