



Glebe District
Hockey Club Inc

JUNIOR TEAMS

ANNUAL REPORT

1999

Junior Convenor's Report 1999

On behalf of the Junior Committee, it is with pleasure that I welcome everyone to our 1999 Junior Presentation Day.

A vintage year for Glebe Juniors and the Central Area Competition

1999 has not only been a vintage year for Glebe, but a ground-breaking one for the Central Association to which we belong. For the first time in memory, it has been possible to run the competition from start to finish without a change in the draw. This has only been possible due to the work of Glebe Junior Committee member Ron Cheong. In his role of Central Area Secretary, Ron devised a system that rated players' ability based on their playing experience. This in turn made it possible to determine in which division each team should compete. The Grand Final results demonstrated that Ron was able to deliver a competition that was fair for all who competed, and without the necessity of re-jigging teams or the draw halfway through the season—a process that has in the past caused so much angst and confusion.

Ron's achievement is yet another example of how input from Glebe has changed the Central Area competition for the better over the past few years. Mick Tapsell's guidelines for over-age players and the selection of girls in representative teams have all been initiatives for which our club can be justly proud.

Terry Reece Trophy

Unfortunately, due to the re-carpeting of the Newcastle turf in March, the Wyong field became the only synthetic surface available between Sydney and Newcastle. As a consequence, the upsurge of bookings caught both The Entrance and ourselves off guard and made it impossible to obtain any turf time early in the season to play our annual challenge.

It was agreed by both clubs that, as The Entrance were attending the Glebe Carnival, then the Terry Reece trophy would be decided by the outcome of their games against Glebe teams at our Carnival. By winning the Under 13 and drawing the Under 11 game we were able to once again retain the trophy.

Glebe Carnival

This year's response to the Glebe Carnival was beyond the organising committee's wildest expectations. If more than three fields had been available, it would have been possible to increase the number of teams from 28 to 40. The growing popularity of the Carnival is due in no small way to its reputation as the best organised in Sydney. This has only been achieved by the dedication and hard work at all levels of the club.

Although our Carnival was an outstanding success, unfortunately the same could not be said of any of the other carnivals the club normally attends. Without our presence at Northern Districts, there would not have been a carnival. St George and Baulkham Hills were both called off due to lack of entrants and Lithgow, which for years had been the most popular club carnival in NSW, had fewer teams than attended our Carnival. This is a worrying trend if it continues, as it is an indication of the poor health of hockey at the grass roots level. The poor turnout of country teams at Lithgow should especially set alarm bells ringing at Hockey NSW, as country hockey has traditionally been junior hockey's strength in the state.

Minkey Hockey

This year Glebe reached the Under 11, 13, 15, 17A and 17C Grand Finals. This success was a direct reflection on the quality of coaching at our club, and a key element of this coaching has been our Minkey programme.

Once again, Vernon Howe did his usual outstanding job with our youngest club members. Their enthusiasm and obvious enjoyment displayed each Saturday morning and at the Glebe Carnival was a credit to Vernon and his great work with them

Umpire Development

Umpire development has over time been an area that has not received the attention it deserves. One of the main problems has been the difficulty in finding people with the time and expertise required to develop junior umpires. This year it was decided to make a start at setting up a programme for umpire development. Towards the end of August, Joel Rivers gave up his time to run an introductory rules night in the Clubhouse. The evening was an outstanding success with eight junior players and eight adults attending. Next year, it is hoped to set up a programme in conjunction with the Ladies' Club that will produce a number of juniors, parents and guardians who will be competent umpires.

Synthetic Turf

The ongoing saga of the club's quest for a synthetic turf inside Harold Park still continues. For the hard working members of the Turf Committee it has been the equivalent of an eight-year ride on a roller coaster. Although the ride is still not over, the end is at last coming into view and the car is still on the track.

As the fight for the turf is of such interest to all involved with the Junior Club, I have included in the body of this report an up-to-date progress report by the Chairman of the Turf committee, Harry Wark Junior.

Fund Raising and Sponsorship

Glebe's proudest tradition has been that it has never charged its Juniors a fee to play hockey. This has become more and more difficult each year as our costs continue to increase, along with the number of Juniors who come to our club. 1999 has been no exception, but the Junior Club has been able to continue the tradition with the support of our major sponsors Shaughn and Mark Murphy from the Toxteth Hotel, Richard Ware Real Estate in Glebe, and Alan Cardy and Company.

A special thank you to all those junior parents and guardians who donated to the auctions and raffles held during the year, and the great effort by Michael Carey and Maureen Paterson in once again organising the Rotary Raffle, another key fund raiser.

In Conclusion

After nine years on involvement with junior hockey, it is with some regret that I have decided to step down from any positions with Glebe and the Central Area Hockey Association. It has only been through the total support of my wife, Cheryl and my family that I have been able to devote the time and effort to the club that has been necessary over the past few years. As from next winter, I will be able to repay the debt.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported me over the years. It has been an honour and privilege to have worked with with such a fine group of people that make up this amazing club. A special thank you to Mick Tapsell, Harry and Anne Wark, Eddy Crook and Ron Cheong who have each, in their own way, had a major influence on the continued succes of the Junior Club.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and safe Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all on the sidelines cheering the Reds home in 2000.

Jim Oman
Junior Convenor

Turf Committee Report

Current state of play

In the last twelve months, the hard-working Synthetic Turf Committee have diligently attempted to progress the Hockey Club's quest for a synthetic hockey pitch in the local Glebe area. As then Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, once said, "Life was not meant to be easy"; and the year just gone has at times been frustrating and at times disheartening.

I would like to thank the Synthetic Committee members for their considerable efforts, and reassure the club members that the Turf Committee is an effective, efficient and well organised outfit which is making slow but relentless forward progress.

With no other potential sites on the immediate horizon, the main thrust of the Committee has been to acquire a lease for a synthetic pitch at the Harold Park infield. Negotiations with the Harness Racing Club regarding this site began in June 1992 and have continued until the present. On 7 July 1995, the Hockey Club and the Harness Club signed an agreement for lease for the construction of a synthetic hockey field within Harold park. Clause 6(a) of the Agreement for Lease provided that the lease was to commence once the Harness Club had been notified of the Hockey Club's consent to funding.

On 16 July and 12 August 1998, the Hockey Club advised the Harness Club that consent had been obtained for funding and provided details of costs, design etc. and requested that they sign the lease.

On 15 January 1999, the Hockey Club submitted to the Harness Club a lease signed by Hockey Club representatives in accordance with Annexure B to the Agreement for Lease, and a cheque for \$1 for the first year's rent.

On 21 January, the Harness Club requested some further information on the Hockey Club's costings and fundings.

On 8 April, the Hockey Club provided the Harness Club with further documentation, with extensive up-to-date costings of the works (total \$650,000) and confirmation of the funding from the following:

National Bank Loan, \$350,000; Leichhardt Council Section 94, \$200,000; Hockey Club Funds, \$75,500; and Department of Sport & Recreation, \$22,500.

On 10 May 1999, the Harness Club wrote to the National Australia Bank which is providing funding, indicating that the Harness Club's future operations "may curtail the use of our client's land by the Glebe District Hockey Club".

On 24 May 1999, the Hockey Club's solicitor wrote to the Harness Club indicating that the Hockey Club would be taking legal action if the Harness Club continued to refuse the Hockey Club a lease over the agreed site at the Harold Park infield.

The Hockey Club is of the view that we have fulfilled our obligation in terms of the Agreement for Lease between us and the Harness Club; and that the Harness Club has an obligation to sign the lease.

In June 1999, the Hockey Club prepared comprehensive statements supporting its claim against the Harness Club, and was ready to commence court proceedings.

Any dispute between the Hockey Club and the Harness Club would be heard by the Commercial Division of the NSW Supreme Court; and taking a large organisation with virtually unlimited resources to the Supreme Court could be a very, very expensive exercise for us. The Synthetic Turf Committee were concerned that if the Hockey Club ran out of money during the court case, the club could be bankrupt, responsible for the Harness Club's costs, and still have no lease.

In the last twelve months, the Hockey Club has spent \$30,000 on legal costs—this is even before the matter reaches the Court door.

Since the end of June 1999, the Turf Committee has been trying to come to an arrangement with a legal firm so that the chance of the Hockey Club's 'falling over' mid-case could be minimised. Initial discussion with several law firms came to nothing, but in September and October our luck seems to have changed.

It is now highly likely that a large, prestigious city law firm will assist the Hockey Club in our dispute with the Harness Club.

It is envisaged that the law firm will be commencing on our case before the end of October 1999; and that steps to commence proceedings against the Harness Club will be taken before the new millennium begins. With an experienced law firm behind the Hockey Club, the chance of our going bankrupt during any court action is reduced, but is still present.

It is unfortunate that it appears as if the Harness Club has no intention of giving the Hockey Club a lease over the Harold Park infield site.

In conclusion, if any club member, past or present, supporter or parent, wishes to offer any comment or register any objection to the Hockey Club's proposed course of action, please feel free to talk with the Synthetic Turf Committee (or any member of the Club Management Committee). Any input from club members, parents, guardians, and supporters in the community will be welcome.

*Harry Wark
Convenor*

Synthetic Turf Committee Members

Rodney Hammett, Jim Oman, Eddy Crook, Marilynne Smith,
Bob Taylor, David Trodden, Harry A. Wark, Harry J. Wark

TEAM REPORTS

Under 17 A

As co-coaches of the Number One side, we can both proudly assert that the best team won the 1999 Under 17 A Division competition, and that team was Glebe. The willingness of both coaches and players to try new things, to work on them, and then to practise them on the playing field was essential to the success of the team, especially when it counted most — in the final series.

Despite several disruptions to the season, Glebe looked to finish the preliminary round of the competition undefeated and undisputed minor premiers. However, Glebe received a rude wake-up call when they were thrashed 6–2 by a far more disciplined Moorebank side. This game proved to be the turning point of the season for our Glebe boys. We entered the final series on a loss and without the minor premiership, yet this served to be the catalyst for all our players to step up their performance to a higher level.

For six weeks we trained as a team and analysed our own strengths and weaknesses, as well as those of the teams we were to play. As a result, we began to gel together more as a team, eliminating certain aspects of individualism which may have been apparent at times earlier in the season. In particular, the younger players made huge improvements towards the end of the season, especially learning the requirements of their particular positions on the field and, therefore, their role in the team as a whole.

In an extremely tight and hard-fought finals series, Glebe drew their three games against Sutherland, Northern Districts and Liverpool and accounted easily for Burwood Briars. We entered the grand final on the basis of a fortunate result in a postponed match between Moorebank and Northern Districts. Glebe began the grand final confidently, taking the early initiative and clearly dominating for the opening fifteen minutes. Unfortunately, as has been prone to happen during the season, we relaxed momentarily and had a goal scored against us against the run of play. The ascendancy looked to swing towards Northern Districts until Tris Hardiman scored a well-deserved equaliser for Glebe

just before the half-time break. The second half was extremely tight; but with only minutes to go, Glebe received a penalty corner. The goalkeeper saved the first shot from Peter Wark, who followed up to flick the ball, which looked to be missing the goal until it was cleverly deflected in by Alex Adrian, following in from his push out.

Glebe were the well deserved Under 17 champions, demonstrated in an extremely well matched and hard-fought decider. Some spectators commented that it was not a particularly pretty game to watch. However, finals at this level, with players of this caliber, rarely are visual spectacles. As coaches, we were both proud of the way team members stuck to the game plan that was set for them, and most importantly, how each player concentrated on their own game and not on those of the players around them. Needless to say, the boys celebrated their win appropriately — the coaches shouted them a round of soft drinks.

A big thank-you must go to Danny O'Brien for his insightful comments and advice, and especially for his wake-up call to some players to learn to take advice constructively and not to take it as criticism. Thank you to Bob Taylor for his continued support of the Under 17s, and for always helping out with umpiring duties; and to our regular band of supporters, the parents and friends who relished attending 8.00 a.m. games throughout the season; and to Jan and Col Booth for their caffeine replenishments. Thank you to all the Under 17 B and Under 15 players who filled in during the season, impressing the coaches with the depth of talent which we have in our Glebe Juniors.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Arthur Moir. Arthur has indicated that he will take a break from coaching next year, leaving a remarkable legacy behind him. In six years as coach of the Under 17 A side, Artie has led Glebe to four grand finals and four premierships in 1994, 1996, 1997 and 1999 (the current co-coach was a member of his first team in '94). He also coached eleven players who started in games for Glebe's 1st Grade this season — a remarkable achievement. His integrated and exuberant style of coaching has left a legacy of skill and ability carried by many young men in the Glebe District Hockey Club.

Congratulations to a great mate and a great coach.

Looking forward to next year.

Adam Campano

The Under 17 Glebe champions were:

Patrick Booth ^{WARK} (Captain)	Ben Everist
Darryn Booth (Players' Player)	Tristram Hardman
Rowan Kelly (Leading goal scorer – 21)	Tim Harvey
Alex Adrian	Thomas Holyoake
Brendan Booth	Trent Knights
Leigh Brown	Peter Wark
Andrew Crawford	

Coaches Arthur Moir & Adam Campano

Under 17 B

Manager Rose Tarrant

Coaches Bevan Ineson & Amrat Parbhu

Players

Ross Tapsell
Eden Lacey
Jason McDonald
Craig Holman
Tauren Tarrant

Casey Sullivan-Myers
Aaron Archer
Arthur Brown
Fyn Ghent
Stephen Kaylinger

Tim Fredinands
Nichlous Dixon
Lachlan Williams
Aaron Lacey
David Urquhart
(David only played a few games
due to injuries in a car accident.)

The Under 17's second side had a few experienced players, five who had never played before and the rest were players who came back to the game after some time off.

Initially, the side was comprehensively beaten 10 to 15 nil due to the lack of experience. However, by the end of the first round the players had developed enough skills and teamwork so that they were able to reduce these margins dramatically.

The lead-up to and including the grand final saw the side lose only one out of the last five games — the last being the grand final. This was a hard-fought battle which we eventually lost 1 nil to Baulkham Hills (who beat us 14–1 in the earlier rounds).

We, as coaches, enjoyed the season and we are proud of the way the young men conducted themselves throughout the year. They showed a lot of character, backing up week after week as underdogs; and we wish them all the best for the future.

Congratulations to Craig Holman, a well deserved winner of the Players' Player award.

We would like to thank John McDonald for umpiring, the supporters who showed up each week and Eva Lacey for providing transport for the players.

A special thanks to Rose Tarrant, the team Manager. She did a tremendous job, ensuring everyone was made aware of the venues, and checking their availability.

We wish all a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone in the year 2000.

Bevan Ineson and Amrat Parbhu

Under 15 Hornets

It was a great experience for me to coach the 1999 Glebe Under 15 Hornets. The team had a mixture of personalities and a wide range of talent. Improvement could be seen in all players, which is one of the most pleasing aspects. I commend the team's commitment to both training and playing. We had the majority to training most of the time, and nearly always had all 15 players at the game. The team got on extremely well — too well at times. At training, the gossip sessions with the other under fifteen teams were incredible. It was mainly the gilrs, but many of the guys were up to date with what was going on, let me tell you!

We would have liked to perform a little better during the year. We were very competitive throughout the season and I think, with a bit of luck, we could have won more games. Some of the players got a little disheartened at times, but you grow and learn just as much from losing, as you do from winning — if not more so. I remember when I was playing Under 15, we were happy to keep Bankstown under 7 goals! The good thing was that whenever one of the Hornets took the field, they gave 110% — the best they could for themselves, their teammates and for the club. They always played with great sporting manners in the Glebe spirit. This was mentioned to me several times by opposing coaches.

I would like to thank some people for helping out the team during the year. Firstly to Gail. Thank you for the great job you did this year at managing. It is a lot of work and I really appreciate the time and effort you put into the team. To Damon Jones who helped out and umpired on many occasions. It is hard when you have to umpire and coach at the same time. Damon, I really appreciate your help during the year. I know how hard it was for you to get up some of the mornings! Also thanks to my Dad, Marty Howe, who umpired a couple of times. To the Under 15 Redbacks, who we shared a bit of rivalry with, it was great to see that at the end of the game everybody was friends and seemed to care for each other. And a big thank you to the parents of the Hornets. You showed great support and encouragement to your children and to myself. Finally to the Hornets. Thank you for being such nice, friendly, well mannered kids, and I hope you all keep playing hockey and enjoying yourselves.

Karl Pilora — Karl is a great goalkeeper. Although I picked different captains every week, Karl was our leader and gave us the direction we needed. Karl needs to show more patience at times. At the same time, players in the team need to recognise that when a goalie yells out instructions, it is usually for a very good reason. You do not always have to do what they tell you, but you should acknowledge that you have heard the call.

Kate Moran — Kate is a very strong, safe, dependable player. She does the simple thing well all of the time. She rarely misses a tackle and was the backbone of our defence. Kate understands and reads the game very well, and I hope she progresses with her hockey. She sometimes has to remind herself to stay positive. Positives can be taken out of every situation, it just depends on what way you look at it.

James Hankeroot — James was a new pleyer this year. He picked up the game very well. He put in a very big effort whenever he took the field. He got himself into some awkward positions at times. I think he should make an attempt to keep the ball off his reverse side so that he can control it better. James has a great, powerful hit which helped get us up the field and into attack many times.

Nicole Henderson — Nicole is a good player with potential, BUT she has to take that word 'can't' out of her vocabulary. You CAN hit the ball, you CAN tackle, you CAN dribble and pass well. I believe in you and I believe you could become a strong player, but you have to go out there and show them and yourself every week that you can do it.

Rania Jones — Rania will play nearly every position on the field. she is a very supportive and encouraging of her teammates. She needs to look for more work and get herself more involved in the game. Her best position is half, as she is a very good marker and always keeps her mind on that very important job.

Tom Pacey — Tom was another new player to the game. Tom was extremely enthusiastic. He is very fit due to a lot of swimming training. Sometimes he needs to slow himself down and not overrun the ball. I hope he keeps playing because he appears to enjoy the game enornnously.