



Glebe District
Hockey Club Inc

JUNIOR TEAMS

**A N N U A L
R E P O R T**

2000

70TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Junior Convenor's Report 2000

On behalf of the Junior Committee, it is with great pleasure that I welcome everyone present to the Glebe District Hockey Club's Junior Presentation Day.

Season 2000 – Seventy Golden Years!!

2000 marks The Glebe District Hockey Club's Seventy Years of continuous service to the Local Community, providing a wonderful atmosphere for all sections of our Club – Juniors, Women and Men equally. Due to the Sydney 2000 Olympics, our Hockey Season began much earlier than usual. The Junior Registration Day, Pre-Season Training, and the start of the Central Area Competition were all bought forward by one month. The early start to the season did not dampen the enthusiasm of our Junior Teams, and although some changes were required from the 'A Division' to the 'B Division' in the first half of the Competition, our overall results were again most pleasing. Of the ten Junior Teams fielded in Season 2000 - 2 x U/17's, 3 x U/15's, 2 x U/13's and 3 x U/11's, five Teams made the Semi-Finals, with the U/15 Tigers and U/13 Tigers ultimately enjoying GRAND FINAL success. Glebe finished second to Sutherland (Yes, yet again!!) in the overall Club Championship - 378 to 312 points, with Bankstown a distant third (158 points).

In my first year as Junior Convenor I would particularly like to thank my Co Junior Committee Member, Ron Cheong. Ron is a 'Tower of Strength'. Apart from his roles as Junior Equipment Officer and Junior Committee Member, Ron also holds the position as Central Area Junior Hockey Association Secretary, a job he fulfils with immense passion and commitment. Without Ron's support and encouragement and the ease with which Jim Oman handed over the Junior Convenor's role, I would never have lasted the season. My sincere thanks and praise to all those dedicated Coaches and Managers who individually and collectively ensured that once again all involved in the Junior Club enjoyed a happy and successful Season 2000 – Seventy Years on and still going STRONG!!!

Terry Reece Trophy

This year unfortunately, the Annual Challenge for this important Trophy did not eventuate. The matches were scheduled for the last Saturday in February when, on the Thursday before, I received a call from The Entrance Club advising me of the cancellation of the Challenge due to a clash with the Central Coast Junior Life Saving Titles. Not really amused at this last minute development, I suggested that the Challenge take place during the Glebe Junior Carnival as the Entrance always attends. This was agreed to and you can imagine my surprise when no Teams representing that club were entered in our Junior Carnival. I understand that due to their own domestic competition there was not enough interest in attending our Carnival. Rest assured I will be actively talking to The Entrance Junior Convenor very early in the New Year in an effort to ensure that this proud Trophy is once again challenged in Season 2001.

Glebe Junior Carnival

Simply, an outstanding Day. The overnight deluge certainly caused some very worrying moments (I awoke at 2am and thought that was that). The morning, however, dawned relatively clear and by 8am a record 33 Teams were assembled ready to do battle. The Hockey played by all Teams was both fun and very enjoyable to watch. For those of you who may have caught a few moments of the Minkey Competition run by Vernon Howe, I swear, you would come away convinced that the kid's parents had more fun than the children themselves. Our Junior Carnival is now without a doubt the Premier Junior Hockey Carnival in the Greater Sydney Region and would put a number of Country and Association Carnivals to shame. The dedication and hard work by so many people to continually produce this magnificent day is an inspiration to the whole club and every player, coach, manager, parent and supporter should be justifiably proud. My personal thanks to Leichhardt Council and their Head Groundsman, Guy and his Team for the beautifully prepared fields and the addition of a fourth field out on Bicentennial Park (A First!). Special thanks to Eddy Crook, Ron Cheong, Jim Oman, Anne Wark and Harry Wark Snr, Bob Taylor, Artie Moir, Adam Campano, Bevan Ineson, Pat Nilan, Marty Howe and Vernon Howe. You all know the special effort put in by each and everyone of you.

As mentioned in last year's report, as much as our Carnival was a huge success, again, many of the other Carnivals the Club normally attends did not even eventuate. Apart from the Baulkham Hills Carnival (Glebe U/13 Winners and U/11 Runners Up); the Northern Districts, St George and Lithgow Carnivals did not even get off the ground. In the case of St George, the Glebe Club was the only Club to respond to their invitation. Without a doubt, a continuing very worrying trend and I only hope that the Sydney 2000 Olympics can be held mostly responsible for this dramatic decline in Carnival participation.

Minkey Hockey

Season 2000 continued as in previous years with Vernon Howe capably at the helm. Vernon's rapport with the youngest members of our Club continues to amaze all that come to know him. You only have to be down at Jubilee on any given Saturday morning around 10am during the Hockey Season to witness our Minkeys eagerly awaiting the arrival of their Coach. Vernon has a young family himself and I know I speak for all Minkey parents (myself included) that we greatly appreciate his unselfishness and time in introducing this great sport to so many local children. As usual, Vernon conducted a wonderful Minkey Competition at our Junior Carnival in May. The looks on the faces of all the participating children as Pat Nilan, one of our Olympic and Australian Representatives presented their Carnival Ribbons was absolutely precious. I am sure that many parents and children will cherish that moment.

Umpire Development

Following on from last year's successful Umpire Introductory evening held at The Clubhouse and run by Joel Rivers, Glenn Dunn, our Club's Treasurer and U/11 Tigers Coach organized Tiffany Brown, a Senior Women's Badged Umpire from our Women's Club to conduct two seminars down at Jubilee Oval. These were a great success with many Junior and Senior Players, Coaches, Managers and Parents attending. Congratulations to Glenn and Tiffany for their efforts. We will definitely be continuing these Seminars in Season 2001.

Synthetic Turf

THE FIGHT GOES ON!!!! Since the Glebe District Hockey Club first began its quest for a Synthetic Turf in our local area in 1987, The Club and the Turf Committee, chaired by Harry Wark Junior, have been relentless in their efforts to obtain 'Our Turf'. Developments are currently reaching a critical stage in the Equity Division of the NSW Supreme Court and as our fight for the turf encompasses the whole Club - Juniors, Women's and Men's, I have devoted a separate section within this report from Harry Wark Junior as to the current situation.

Fund Raising & Sponsorship

Season 2000 was The Club's most successful year with regards to Sponsorship & Fund-raising. The Club's longest standing and proudest tradition of not charging our Juniors a fee to play Hockey has continued since the Club's inception. Each ongoing year the cost of running our Junior Club increases. The Junior Club's long standing major sponsor, THE TOXTETH HOTEL, once again were most generous. Apart from their already substantial base sponsorship, Shaughn and Mark Murphy decided that an additional amount of \$2000.00 was to be provided specifically for Junior Development and/or Equipment. The Junior Committee decided that as our Goalie Sets were really bordering on the ancient that we would use this money to correct this situation. Ron Cheong, using his many contacts produced complete, brand new goalie sets for a number of our Junior Teams.

2000 saw the BALMAIN LEAGUES CLUB come on board as the Club's major co-sponsor with The Toxteth Hotel. The Leagues Club have signed on for the next three years, which will certainly help the Club's finances. The Club welcomes the Balmain Leagues Club and we look forward to a long, happy and mutually beneficial association between our two organizations.

The Club's sincere thanks to all those Junior parents and guardians for their generous donations at our raffles throughout the season. Special mention of Maureen Paterson and Michael Carey for their continuing efforts with the Rotary Raffle, Lee Farlow who works tirelessly organizing our Social Functions such as the Club's Season opener at The Toxteth Hotel, the 70 years Anniversary Night at Balmain Leagues Club and the Junior's Karaoke Night at the Club House, and of course Anne Wark who has looked after the Club House Canteen for many years.

The Final Word!!

With less than 2 weeks to go before the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, I reflect back on my initial season as Junior Convenor and a number of highlights immediately come to mind - Premierships in U/15A AND U/13 A Divisions, our record breaking Junior Carnival, our Juniors' wonderful representation in Central Area, Sydney and NSW Teams and watching the increasing excitement and obvious joy of the Minkeys (and parents too!!) receiving their Glebe Carnival ribbon and packet of chips from Pat Nilan on that special day in May.

My personal thanks to Ron Cheong, Eddy Crook and Bob Taylor along with the entire Executive Management Committee for making me feel most welcome in my first year. I would also like special mention of my wife, Vonnette, who before the season had even started spent countless hours creating a player data base for both NSW, Sydney and our own Club which will make my job so much easier in the coming years.

I am sure everyone is looking forward to The Olympics. Have a great summer, Christmas and New Year. I look forward to seeing everybody 'UNDER THE ARCHES' in 2001.

*Andrew Dart
Junior Convenor*

Synthetic Turf Report

Synthetic Turf Committee Members: Jim Oman, Eddy Crook, Marilynne Smith, Rod Hammett, Bob Taylor, Harry A Wark, Harry J Wark, Les Wark.

Since the synthetic turf at the State Sports Centre Homebush became available in 1984, the Glebe District Hockey Club has been trying to secure a site within the Glebe area, which would be suitable for the installation of a synthetic turf, to replicate this facility for our Members. In 2000, it is an unfortunate fact of life that without a synthetic turf, men's and woman's competition hockey will not be played in the Glebe Area.

The Club submitted a Development Application to Leichhardt Council in November 1987, for a synthetic turf at Federal Park, Annandale. Negotiations with Council on the Federal Park site continued for several years, but Council, under pressure from a vocal local resident group, were extremely reluctant to approve the site for the development of a synthetic turf. Leichhardt Oval number two field, Lambert Park Leichhardt, Jubilee Oval Glebe, Leichhardt High School, Glebe High School, the Rozelle Bay Railway Shunting Yards, a site next to the Leichhardt Bus Depot, Callan Park (off Glover Street) and the Wentworth Park infield were all considered as alternative sites to the Federal Park site, but in the end discussions regarding these sites came to nothing.

During the first half of 1992 the NSW Harness Racing Club approached Council with a view to extending the Harold Park Paceway on to Public Parkland and building a new access road to the facility across Public open space. Council recognised that the Harold Park infield would be a better site for a synthetic hockey field than the Federal Park site and actively encouraged the Hockey Club to begin negotiations with The Harness Club. It was Council's intention that the Harness club would acquire the necessary open space to enable the track extension, on the proviso that the Hockey Club got a lease over a site for a synthetic turf at the Harold Park infield..

An Agreement For Lease was signed between the Harness Club and the Hockey Club in July 1995 over a site for a synthetic hockey pitch at the Harold Park infield. The Harness Club was to give the Hockey Club a lease over the site, when the Hockey Club had acquired the funds with which to construct the field.

After the Agreement For Lease was signed, the Hockey Club attempted to acquire the necessary Funding and Council approvals to enable the Hockey Club to fulfil the conditions of the Agreement For Lease and thus acquire a Lease from the Harness Club, over the proposed site at the Harold Park infield, on which to build a synthetic turf.

The Hockey Club had its Building Application for the synthetic turf approved in 1997 and informed the Harness Club in July and August 1998 that it had the funding in place with which to build the synthetic turf. The Costings and Funding Document provided to the Harness club in July 1998, contained detailed quotes for all building work and full documentation of the Hockey Club's funding arrangements. It was the expectation of the Hockey Club, that it was the Harness Club's legal obligation to provide the Hockey Club with a twenty-two year Lease, with a twenty-two year Option, over the proposed site at the Harold Park infield. The Harness Club disputed the Hockey Club's funding arrangements and refused to provide the Hockey Club with a Lease.

The Synthetic Turf Committee were faced with two alternates, either abandon the Harold Park infield option, or commence legal proceedings against the Harness Club in an attempt to secure a lease over the infield site. After canvassing the views of Club Members, and extensively discussing the situation at the 1999 Annual General Meeting, the Synthetic Turf Committee decided to institute legal Proceedings against the Harness Club, with a view to acquiring a lease over the Harold Park infield site. The legal firm Clayton Utz have been acting for the Hockey Club, and the Club is extremely grateful for their help. Legal Proceedings were commenced in November 1999.

The Hockey Club has been preparing its case and has exchanged letters with the Harness Club. On 4 August 2000 the Hockey Club registered a timetable with the Equity Division of the Supreme Court and the discovery process of the court proceedings has now begun. The Hockey Club provides the Harness Club with its evidence, to support its claim that it should be given a lease and the Harness Club provides its evidence, supporting its claim that the Hockey Club should be denied a lease.

After viewing the Harness Club's evidence, the Hockey Club will file an Affidavit with the Court and similarly, the Harness Club will file an Affidavit after it views the Hockey Club's evidence. It is envisaged that the Hockey Club and the Harness Club will receive directions from the Court on 27 October 2000. It is likely that at the Hearing on 27 October, the Court will arrange a mediation meeting between the Harness Club and the Hockey Club. If no settlement can be reached between the two Clubs, then a Judge lists the case for a Court Hearing. If the case does come to Trial it will probably not be heard until mid 2001 at the earliest.

The Hockey Club's Statement Of Claim includes an amount for Damages, Lost Opportunity and Legal Expenses.

It is the view of the Synthetic Turf Committee, that for the Glebe District Hockey Club to survive in the long term, the Club needs to have a synthetic turf in the Glebe area, to train and play its home games. The Club celebrated its seventieth year in 2000, but without a synthetic turf the Glebe District Hockey Club's future is bleak. Of the five top teams on the first grade competition table this year, Glebe, who finished third, was the only team that does not have a home turf. The teams that finished sixth and seventh in the first grade competition were the two University teams, Sydney University and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). The University teams pay very low fees, have professional administrators to assist with secretarial and treasurer tasks, handout sports scholarships and do not field junior teams, giving them a distinct advantage over District Clubs. In the 2000 season, non-turf teams in the first grade competition, apart from Glebe, were outclassed. It seems that one or two non-turf District Clubs face extinction at the end of the 2000 season, to be replaced in Premier Division by the University of New South Wales. How long will it take before Macquarie University replaces yet another District Club, who does not have a home synthetic turf?

The Synthetic Turf Committee, a Sub Committee of the Management Committee of the Club is striving to the best of its ability, to secure a site for a synthetic turf in the Glebe area. The Committee is acutely aware that The Glebe District Hockey Club is the only outdoor sporting Club left, which represents the District at the highest level of a sport, Premier Division, and at the grass roots, the Minkey Squad. The Glebe Rugby League Club, the Glebe Rugby Union Club, the Glebe Cricket Club, the Glebe Harriers, the Glebe Lacrosse Club and the Glebe Bicycle Club have all become defunct. A synthetic turf is essential if the Glebe District Hockey Club is to avoid extinction.

The Synthetic Turf Committee is comprised of an able, harmonious group of people, who labour without complaint, for the benefit of the current Club Membership and for the benefit of those children as yet unborn, who will be given the opportunity to play hockey with their mates.

Let's hope that in the next twelve months, with a bit of good luck and good planning, the Hockey Club secures a lease over a site suitable to build a synthetic turf.

*Harry Wark
Convenor
Synthetic Turf Committee*

Under 17 A

What was an exceptional year for a young and experienced Glebe side would have been capped off with a fairy tale result in the grand-final. Unfortunately, a very determined Sutherland side brutally extinguished our premiership dream. This came just one week after the game of the season when Glebe led Northern Districts 1-0 in the first semi-final for all but the final fifteen seconds of play. A demoralising late equaliser and Glebe were forced to withstand three periods of extra time to earn a grand-final berth on the basis of their higher standing on the competition ladder.

Regardless of the immense disappointment associated with the grand-final result, the Coach was extremely proud of how his charges had progressed and developed during the season, with the buzz phrase being that of "personal improvement". The team also showed to be a close unit on a scale of social interaction with 13 of the 14 players in the grand-final team coming together 'under the arches' at the clubhouse and then later at Rowan's house to commiserate the past, but also to celebrate what may be in store in the future. This was one of many highlights of the season, another being the excellent depth of juniors in the Glebe club shown by the young men who came up from the Under 15-1s to be part of the Under 17 squad at some part of the year. Thank you Mark, Matthew, Michael, Greg and Nicholas. Also thanks to Geoff Paterson, the coach of the Under 15s and the 2nd Grade side which I proudly captain, for his continued support, advice and inspiration during the season.

The Glebe Under 17s played 14 games, for 7 wins, 4 losses and 3 draws. Glebe was not defeated by nor did it win by more than two goals in any game of the season, highlighting the evenness in standard differential among the five teams in the competition. I pray for a graded competition like this every year, although with hopefully with another few teams to emerge on a competitive level to extend the length of the season. Glebe scored 22 goals and had 19 scored against. The team consisted of:

Tauren Tarrant: An exceptionally talented and often brilliant goalkeeper. Served his two-year apprenticeship in the Under 17-2 side before making an outstanding contribution to the team's success this year through a lot of hard work in training. When he gets specialised individual training at grade level (Hello, George Manou!) he will get to top grade level before he turns 20. A close 3rd in Players' Player voting and 2nd in the V.J. Turner Cup voting, Tauren could be anything. *(13 games)*

Andrew Crawford: Or Snowy to his mates, had an outstanding year due to a new-found level of fitness, improved lifestyle (i.e. a steady girlfriend) and a good attitude towards fulfilling his role in the team. Led by example, showed his authority in defence (particularly in the grand-final) and started to curb his bad habit of running the ball out of defence. A great team man, Snowy came 2nd in the Players' Player voting and will be missed next year when he has a year off. However, he'll be playing the year after, otherwise I'll break his arm! *(13 games)*

Liam Casey: Was rotated between fullback and inside forward for much of the year, but was most reliable at right back towards the end of the year when he won the Players' Player award in our disappointing grand-final loss. Made some great tackles as the last line of defence and forged an effective partnership with Snowy at the back. Should have a big year next year. *(12 games)*

Daniel Carey: Dan was pushed against his will into the unaccustomed position of fullback early in the year and did very well, showing great anticipation and speed, good tackling skills with his long reach and the ability to clear the ball long and hard. Eventually he settled well into the left half position, making some good runs up the left flank. Had a good game in the grand-final and will only improve next year. *(13 games)*

Hugo Adrian: Played left half for much of the season and improved rapidly as he became stronger on the ball and used his excellent flat hit more regularly as an effective means of distribution. Hugo's skills are coming along quite well too, so when he starts to put on a bit of bulk he will be able to beat players at will. Very receptive to advice from his peers around him, Hugo will continue to make substantial improvements next season and will excel as a senior member of the Under 17s. *(13 games)*

Adam Howard: The most improved and consistent player in an Under 17 side that I have seen for many years. He started the season as inside forward, but as soon as he was moved to centre half he excelled. Great tackling technique, good positional play, excellent distribution and improving stick skills. Adam won the side's Players' Player, the revered V.J. Turner Cup for the most improved player at Under 17's level in the club, and was a member of the Sydney Under 17 Invitational side at the Australian Invitational Championships at Tamworth which defeated the NSW Waratahs for the first time ever. The sky is the limit. *(13 games)*

Andrew Cronin: Another solid contributor at right half, made good improvement during the season. Slow to start due to having missed playing hockey for one year while on a foreign school exchange programme, and was one of our best by the year's end and will definitely benefit from another year's experience in the Under 17s if he can get an exemption to play. I was especially impressed with the improvement in his tackling technique and in his effective distribution. *(12 games)*

Rowan Kelly: Often unpredictable and volatile, Rowan brings so much to the team with his strength, pace and goal scoring know how (equal leading goal scorer with 7 goals). However, brain explosions at inopportune times and a declining reputation with Sydney's umpires often means Rowan spends more time off the field than on, which may result in bringing undone the hard work of his team mates, witnessed when he was not able to take the field for the grand-final. A passionate and committed team and club member, I have no hesitation in saying that Rowan will mature and excel when he steps up to full-time senior hockey next year. *(10 games)*

Will Warmer: The team's quiet achiever at inside left, maintained a monumental work rate throughout the season despite the hindrance of a nagging Achilles heel injury towards the latter stages. Excellent in cover defence, Will also scored two goals and would have been a great asset to the team next year. Unfortunately, we will lose him as he goes overseas on a school exchange programme. Best of luck, Will, and see you in 2002. *(12 games)*

Tris Hardman: A good performance this season, his aggression at striker was often crucial in the opposition's defence to cough up possession for us. Scored a miraculous goal early in the season (total of 3 goals), his incisive runs often got the team deep into enemy territory. However, opposition teams picked up on this and he was constantly double-teamed and gang tackled in the latter stages of the season. Needs to increase peripheral vision so that he can learn to take better options in attack. *(13 games)*

Brendan Booth: The Captain, and outstanding player of the team, Brendan's huge array of skills helped us out of a lot of trouble and created a lot of opportunities for our strikers, many of which were not taken. Did not score a goal all year (surprise) and was inconsistent at times. However he was inspirational in our epic semi-final victory where he inspired the team, despite bouts of cramp, to have courage and faith in themselves. A regular 1st Grader and member of the Champion NSW Under 18 side. *(11 games)*

Tim Harvey: Tim, a fleet-footed right striker, showed several instances of skill, speed and deception throughout the year. However, his goal shooting often let him down, despite the fact that he was the season's equal leading goal scorer on 7 goals. Has to learn to concentrate and not ball watch, otherwise he can be kept out of the game for long periods. Other than guarding against laziness, Tim is an outstanding talent and a passionate team member and should play regular 2nd grade next year. Represented NSW Under 17s also. *(10 games)*

In closing, I'd like to thank all the players' parents for the constant support of their sons in both training and match attendance. Thanks to those who assisted with umpiring duties this year. Any nominations for the position of manager to the team next year will be duly appreciated as I feel that perhaps I took on a bit too much responsibility this year — just concentrate on coaching next year. Thanks to my buddy and offsider Ben Everist, who, due to a serious knee injury, was forced to sit out the season. This did not stop Ben from attending almost every game of the season — a genuine team man. Thanks also go out to our extremely competent Junior and Senior Management Committees, whose full support I have again enjoyed. The Glebe District Hockey Club is in extremely good hands, as long as its members continue to give their full support to the cause.

*Adam Campano
Coach/Manager*