



18th August 2005

**Bromley & Beckenham Hockey Club Merger
Junior Hockey Season 2005/6**

We are delighted to inform you that Bromley Hockey Club and Beckenham Hockey Club have merged.

The new club “Bromley & Beckenham Hockey Club” will be based at Foxgrove Road in Beckenham and will form the hockey section of the sports club at Beckenham Cricket Club, which includes cricket, tennis, squash and running sections.

This is a very exciting opportunity for the members of both clubs. The aim of the merger is to ensure the senior clubs are able to offer competitive hockey to all ability levels, and provide the impetus for both the men’s and women’s sides to achieve National League status. We aim to field 10 senior men’s sides and 7 senior women’s sides.

The junior section will comprise of approximately 350 children. We believe the merger will enable us to provide improved levels of coaching to all age groups and more competitive matches for children of all abilities as well as provide a more structured framework for integration into the senior club. We believe we will also have the potential to become one of the strongest Junior Hockey Clubs in the country.

We have already put a huge amount of work into preparing for next season. We have approximately 50 coaches and helpers organised to coach and manage the 10 groups of juniors.

We have prepared our coaching programmes for next season and venues and times will be as follows:-

Age Group	Venue	Coaching Times
Under 8’s Mixed	HSBC	10.15 – 11.45
Under 10’s Mixed	HSBC	11.45 – 13.15
Under 12 Girls	Ravensbourne	09.00 – 10.30
Under 14 Girls	Ravensbourne	10.30 – 12.00
Under 16 Girls	Ravensbourne	12.00 – 13.30
Under 12 Boys	Langley Park	09.00 – 10.30
Under 14 Boys	Langley Park	10.30 – 12.30
Under 16 Boys	Worsley Bridge	12.00 – 13.30
Under 18 Boys & Girls will train mid-week with the senior club but will be involved in Sunday Leagues/Competitions. Under 16’s are also invited to attend senior club training.		

The season will start on Sunday 4th September and our aim is to provide coaching for each age group each week irrespective of whether there are matches being held, although there may be some exceptions. In most cases league matches do not start until October, but we have National Cup matches for the Boys U15 and U18 sides on 11th September.

Fitness training has already started on Monday evenings at 7.30pm at Foxgrove Road for the Senior Club. Senior Mixed Training will commence in September (date to be confirmed) on Tuesday evenings at 8.00pm at Worsley Bridge. Women's Senior Training will be on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm at Ravensbourne School commencing 31st August. All Juniors aged 14 and over are invited to attend any of the above.

Senior Club trials are to be held on 3rd September. Women's trials are at Langley Park from 10.00am and Men's trials are at Worsley Bridge from 2.00pm. All juniors aged 14 and over wishing to play in senior sides on a Saturdays are invited to attend.

Please ensure you arrive promptly for all training and matches particularly junior training in the early weeks as there will be various administrative issues we will need to deal with before training will start.

We have entered 17 leagues and 4 cup competitions in addition to the various tournaments we attend so that we can keep our promise that all will have regular opportunities to play in competitive matches.

- There will be monthly round robin tournaments for the U8 & U10 mixed groups and U12 Boys & Girls squads. Also, we will be entering the Kent and other U11 and U13 Mini Hockey Competitions.
- Home Matches for girls are likely to take place at Ravensbourne school at 13.30 – 15.00
- Home Matches for boys are likely to take place at either Langley Park at 12.30 – 14.00 or HSBC at 13.15 – 14.45
- Other matches may be held at Priory Sports Centre, Darrick Wood School and KCCC Worsley Bridge Road.

The merger has provided the opportunity to review the membership charges, and you will be sent further details in due course. Nobody will be disadvantaged by these revised fees, and the main changes are that you will be invoiced for your membership fees, you will be able to pay by instalments, and apart from the U18 teams, match fees will not be collected when you take part in junior matches.

Obviously the two clubs have played in different colours historically. To avoid any upset the merged club intends to play in neutral colours, namely white shirts, blue shorts and white socks. The club is currently seeking sponsorship to subsidise the cost of new shirts with the aim of being able to provide embroidered, numbered shirts for sale at a cost of approximately £10. New club socks and shorts are to be available from Beckenham Cricket Specialists, 181A High Street, Beckenham.

Our aim is to enable your children to benefit from good coaching, comradeship, and enjoyment and to reach their personal goals in playing in the team sport that we love, Hockey.

We hope you and your children will join in our enthusiasm for what we believe will be a very bright future for hockey in our area.

Should you have any queries or concerns arising from the above please do not hesitate to contact either Chris Rule on 0208 647 3920 or via e-mail at cjr@kingfisher-fcl.com or Chris Swan on 01892 863 631 or e-mail at cjswanhockey@aol.com

A new club website is being developed as we write, and we recommend that you add www.bromleyandbeckenhamhc.co.uk to your list of favourites. The site will have full details of matches, venues, results, events, news, and other useful information.

We would recommend you visit the site on a regular basis for updates.

A further letter will be sent from the Club at the beginning of September together with a request for payment of the club subscriptions, but in meantime we forward to seeing you in September for the start of an exciting year.

Chris Rule

Director's of Junior Hockey
Bromley and Beckenham HC

Chris Swan