



Parental Involvement – Important information – Please read

As you are aware Bromley and Beckenham Hockey Club is a sports club run by and for the benefit of its members. Our junior section is part of that club and is run by a group of approx 30 dedicated volunteers who are mainly either playing members themselves or parents of junior members.

The club's aim is and has been to provide a resource to help with the development of your child's journey in Hockey. This starts as early as 6 and continues up to U18 level. We hope to help develop their skills over the years to enable them to reach their own individual goals, whatever level that might be.

Hockey is both a team and social sport and we believe this will help develop their social skills through their involvement in the junior section.

Ultimately we hope the juniors will participate in being a member of the senior Hockey Club as part of their recreational activities. We have been very successful to date with many of our senior members having progressed through the junior section and many of our juniors achieving representative honours at County, regional and National level.

We are concerned however that some parents merely see us as an activity centre where children can be dropped off and picked up at a later time. Whilst we know time is important and a scarce commodity it is important that you ensure there is a coach at the training location and that the session is taking place before leaving your child. We have regrettably had situations where children have been dropped off when a session has been cancelled and children left stranded at the site.

More than this though, we need your help. As an amateur sport we are short of all typical resources, namely helpers and finance. We know there are many parents who stay and watch the coaching sessions and matches and assist by giving transport assistance to away fixtures. We would however like to encourage more to do so and also to assist us to run the junior section. We need more coaches, more coaching assistants/helpers, more admin assistance and more finance.

We are one of the most successful Junior Hockey Clubs in the South of England, but we are not just about elitism and whilst we wish to promote the club to the highest levels we also want to spread the access of Hockey in the community to as wide a population as possible and to children of all levels.

As the only club in the borough with a junior section, we already work closely with Bromley Mytime, which is a charitable organisation established by Bromley Council to promote sport in the borough. We hope to assist and encourage our older juniors who have an interest in sports coaching to take leadership awards and/or coaching courses and provide them with the

opportunity to coach younger children in either borough junior schools and/or the club as part of either school GCSE or A level course work and/or the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

Organising and running all of this takes time and money, which is where we need your assistance. We would welcome help or assistance in any of the following areas:-

- Coaching ó either as an assistant or helper to existing coaches or if qualified, to act as a coach within an organised group. We can assist with training to become a qualified coach for those interested.
- Admin helpers ó assisting coaches run their groups or helping with the general running of the junior section.
- Drivers and/or match managers ó providing lifts to and helping organise away matches.
- Fund Raisers ó We need to raise funds to purchase expensive equipment and coaching aids for example Goalkeeping equipment and progress the clubs development ideas and projects. If you have ideas for fund raising or can run an event or can sponsor or know a potential sponsor.

The majority of the subscription costs at present are required just to cover the cost of the hours of Astro pitch time utilised every Sunday during the season. Regrettably the cost of hiring these pitches increases every year. On top of this we have to purchase equipment, coaching resources and everything else required to run the section. There is so much more that we want to do to improve the overall experience of both the current junior membership and those of the future, but we need your help to do this.

Our club is a community and we welcome you to become more involved in our activities.

If you can help in any way please contact Chris Rule by phone on 0208 647 3920 or via e-mail at cjr@kingfisher-fcl.com