

LICHFIELD HOCKEY CLUB DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SEASON 2022/23







Lichfield Hockey Club Development Plan 2022/23

Introduction

Lichfield Hockey Club, formed in 1961, has grown to become one of the biggest clubs in the Midlands. This development plan details some of the proposed actions targeting short, medium and long term goals. This plan has been created and is monitored through the club committee with regular reviews taking place. This plan will help the club work towards it vision, which is to be an open, inclusive and friendly club providing all members with the opportunity to play and enjoy hockey whatever the age, gender or ability.

The clubs objectives are as follows:

- 1. To encourage, promote and develop hockey in Lichfield and its surrounding areas, being inclusive and actively encouraging all aspects of the sport of hockey.
- 2. To provide quality structured hockey and coaching for all abilities, ages and genders without prejudice developing opportunities for juniors, seniors and masters.
- 3. To be the leading club in the area for junior development, nurturing the talent and ambition of the individual to reach their full potential and feed into senior hockey.
- 4. To provide a social hub for all our members.
- 5. To work in partnership with the local community, local schools and other sporting organisations.
- 6. To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club.

The club was recently re-awarded its England Hockey Clubmark accreditation which demonstrates that the club operates to a set core criteria and has good practices in place to ensure that we deliver quality hockey in a sustainable and vibrant club environment.

Our position today - August 2022

The club has the number of members as shown in the table in Appendix 1. (Note: These figures are from the clubs website however soem, especially junior members, are still yet to register as members on this new system.)

Through the winter season the club runs 6 mens teams, 7 ladies teams, a development (Badgers) team, junior age group teams from under 8 to under 18 and a number of masters teams. Our Men's first team plays in the National League and our women's first team plays in the Midlands Premier Divisions, with aspirations of promotion to the National League. During the summer months the club runs 6 summer league teams as well as a number of holiday camps for junior members. Lichfield Hockey Club members have achieved recognition at both regional and international level with players representing their countries in World and European championships from age group to masters level.

Coaching sessions, run by our coaching team, take place throughout the week on our club pitch based at Lichfield Sports Club. Weekends are fully taken with hockey games and junior development sessions and tournaments. During the day the pitch is used by Lichfield Cathedral School whilst in the evening junior football takes place when not used by hockey.

The club pitch remains a fantastic asset to the club and wider Lichfield Sports Club (of which LHC is a member). Plans to replace the surface are being developed alongside plans for a second pitch. Car Parking has recently been improved following the installation of a second car park following funding from HS2 and much work by some members. Work is currently also being done to try to install a path between the clubhouse and pitch. Changing facilities and the clubhouse remain good however we are conscious that additional changing rooms would be greatly beneficial.

We are currently working through an application to become an England Hockey Talent centre. A Talent Centre club is a club that provides high quality provision for players at early talent development level (Talent Foundations). This provision will be embedded within the club's junior programme. Talent Centre accreditation recognises the quality of a club's talent development environment and provision, not individual players.

England Hockey will recognise, through accreditation, environments within the Talent System that provide high quality talent development. In time, EH envisages the operation of around 100-120 Talent Centres so that every child should have reasonable access to one or more of these opportunities if they wish to and if it is right for them.

The club has aspirations in the longer term to become an England Hockey Talent Academy, these are intended for the highest potential 15 – 18-year-old players.

The club has recently appointed a new chairman following the retirement of the previous one after 28 years and the process of embedding a new committee has begun. Work moving forward will focus around this development plan with this document being updated annually.

Development Plan

This development plan focuses on 8 Key areas as highlighted below:

Key Focuses

Key Focus 1 - Developing our playing programme

Key Focus 2 - Developing our people

Key Focus 3 - Developing our key policies

Key Focus 4 - Developing our facilities and equipment

Key Focus 5 - Developing our finances

Key Focus 6 - Developing our publicity and communication

Key Focus 7 - Developing our social offer

Key Focus 8 - Developing our external links

Key

NC - Neal Critchley, DE - Dave Eastland, DW - Dave Willenbruch, TW - Tony Wilmott, LJS - Lindsey Johnson-Smith, NMcG - Neil McGregor, MS - Mitch Smith, AH - Alida Hill, CM - Carl Mears, RB - Roger Beaney, CR - Carol Rodgers, AM - Ange Mason

Key Focus 1 - Developing our playing programme						
Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support		
Adapt training times to allow for better progression of players. Age group - General Training - Performance training.	NC	Aug 22	☐ More members attend training.☐ Clarity of progression	Training costs		
☐ Introduce masterclass sessions for	NC	Oct 22	☐ Masterclass sessions booked and	Coaching costs		
members to work on specific skills. Introduce a mixed team.		Oct 22	advertised. Mixed team fixtures are played.	Pitch hire		
 Organise a two day open age summer mixed tournament. 		Mar 24	Tournament organised and completed			
Expand Masters provision by introducing more teams.	TW	Sept 23	Additional Master team introduced.	Cup entry fees		
 Organise an annual two day summer masters mixed tournament. 	TW	Mar 23	☐ Tournament organised and completed			
 Introduce a player mentor programme to help develop our members and help progression. 	NC	Sept 22	Player mentors appointed and working with players.			
Hold regular Back to Hockey sessions throughout the season.	DW	Sept 22	☐ Back to hockey sessions planned for the	Pitch and coach		
Rebrand our junior training programme.	NC	Aug 22	year, advertised and completed. Junior training advertised.	Printing costs		
Launch a regular coaching programme in primary schools.	NC	Sept 22	Primary programme introduced and completed in primary schools.	Programme costs		
Look into starting Flyerz hockey (Disability hockey programme)	TW	Jan 23	Plan for the introduction of Flyerz hockey completed and discussed with EH.	Pitch, coach, equipment		
☐ Apply to become a Talent Centre. ☐ Look at what the club needs to do to	DW	Oct 22	☐ Application completed	equipment		
become a talent academy	NC	Oct 22	Plan formalised as to what steps the club need to take.			
Develop our training offer for youngsters during holiday periods.	DW	Dec 22	☐ Holiday camps planned and advertised.	Video system		
Look at the facilities for video games. Introduce the role of club captains.	NC NC	Sept 22 Aug 22	Regular videoing of games.Club Captains introduced.			

Key Focus 2 - Developing our people						
Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support		
Introduce a consistent approach to paying coaches based on qualifications and experience.	NC	Aug 22	☐ Clear structure mapped out and communicated with coaches.	Coaching costs		
Encourage club coaches to upskill by attending EH courses and be part of the	DE	Oct 22	☐ Coaches sign up for training.	Course costs contribution.		
single system. Investigate coach mentor programme using more experienced club coaches.	NC	Sept 22	Coaches feel supported in the end of year review.	Cost of mentors		
Increase the number of qualified coaches in the club.	DE	Jan 23	Number of coaches in the club increases.	Course costs contribution Cost of course		
☐ Encourage more members to achieve their Level 1 umpire qualification.	DE	Jan 23	☐ Number of umpires in the club increases.	Cost of course		
☐ To reward captains and encourage others to be available to Captain.	LJS	Apr 23	☐ 15% rebate made at the end of the season to all Captains.	Cost of refund		
To create a captains handbook to ensure Captains know what is expected and what is available to them.	NC	Aug 22	Handbook shared with captains and coaches.			
☐ To encourage more club members to attend regional and national trials at all levels.	NMcG	Apr 22	☐ Trials advertised and numbers tracked			
To ensure all welfare officers are suitably upskilled.	DW	Sept 22	☐ Training recorded centrally.	Training costs		
To encourage all committee members, captains and coaches to complete the EH Inclusion and Diversity course.	NMcG	Oct 22	☐ Training recorded centrally.			
Renew, as required, DBS checks for coaches, captains and volunteers.	NMcG	Oct 22	☐ Central DBS records updated.	DBS costs		
☐ Ensure all appropriate people complete the EH Safeguarding course.	NMcG	Oct 22	☐ Training recorded centrally.	Course cost (£10pp)		

Key Focus 3 - Developing our key policies								
Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support			
Review and update policies as required Update the website to ensure all appropriate policies are available to	NC NC	Sept 22 Sept 22	☐ All policies updated☐ Website shows all relevant policies.					
members. Update policies relevant to the Talent Centre application.	DW	Oct 22	☐ Talent centre application completed					

Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support
 Work towards the surface replacement of our existing pitch. Continue to seek funding for a second pitch. 	NC DW	Sept 24 Sept 25	 Plan in place with JMC to replace surface, ensuring all funding is available as required. Plans for second pitch progressing. 		Cost to JMC of resurfacing. Cost of pitch Cost of walkway
Install a walkway between the clubhouse and the pitch.Prepare a maintenance plan for the pitch.	NC DW	Nov 22 Oct 22	☐ Walkway installed.		~£13k Maintenance cos
Look to develop additional storage areas.Develop and enhance the pitches	CM CM	Oct 22 Oct 22	Plan created and sharedAdditional storage area created.Plan for creating refreshment are finalised.		Containers/ Conversion ~£5k
refreshment offer. Repair boards around the pitch. Formalise sponsorship boards/banners around the pitch. Look to get an online calendar with pitch	NC NC NC	Oct 22 Oct 22 Oct 22	 Boards around the pitch repaired. Banner around pitch updated and new ones added. Online calendar visible to all members. 		Repair costs
 bookings on. Investigate options for installing some seating at the pitch. Work towards renewing kit offer for 2023. Create a standardised set of kit for coaches. 	DW NC NC	Dec 22 Mar 23 Nov 22	Plans drawn up and discussed switch the committee Outline plans discussed with committee Kit plan shared with committee and coaches.		Seating cost Kit costs

Key Focus 5 - Developing our finances							
Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG		Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support	
Create a sponsors and partners brochure highlighting opportunities to work with LHC.	NC	Aug 22		Sponsors brochure created and shared with members.			
Review and develop our finance systems and policies.	LJS	Dec 22		Systems reviewed and recommendations made to the committee.			
Arrange to start using appropriate accounting software.	LJS	Oct 22	☐ Software being used		Software costs		
Investigate employing a bookkeeper to help simplify the job.	LJS	Oct 22		☐ Bookkeeper investigated and recommendations made.		Bookkeeper costs Square reader cost	
Purchase a square reader to enable electronic payments at the pitch.	LJS	Sept 22		Square reader purchased		~£150	
Continue to develop our use of Clubbuzz to ensure ease of collecting subs and match fees.	AM	Aug 22		☐ More players sign up to Clubbuzz and clarity given to all how it works.			
☐ Increase the number of juniors using Clubbuzz.	CM/RB	Oct 22		☐ Most juniors use Clubbuzz for match fees.			
Use gift aid more to ensure maximum funding.	LJS	Oct 22		☐ All donations make use of gift aid			

Key Focus 6 - Developing our publicity and communication								
Key Actions	Lead Person	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support			
 □ Introduce a communication secretary as part of new changes to the club structure. □ Ensure regular use of social media to highlight news stories and successes. □ Introduce a regular club newsletter to link more closely with members. □ Introduce a weekly results sheet showing results and scorers for all teams. □ Update club branding. □ Update the website to ensure as much 	NC NC NC	Sept 22 Sept 22 Aug 22 Sept 22 Aug 22 Aug 22 Aug 22	 □ Communications secretary appointed □ Regular social media stories posted. □ Newsletter created and regularly sent to members. □ Results sheet distributed weekly. □ Clarity on club branding. □ Website shows up to date information about the club. 					

information as possible is available to members. Create a members area on the website	Sept 22	Manufactura and an district		
where videos of games can be shared so all members can access them. Promote being a vice president to keep people involved with the club.	Sept 23	☐ Members area created and used.☐ Number of VPs increases.		
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Key Focus 7 - Developing our social offer				
, , , , , ,	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support
 □ Look to build a regular social offer across the season of a variety of events to engage all members of the club. □ Develop a set of membership benefits through links with other organisations 	Oct 23 Dec 22	 Social events planned across the year and information shared with members. Document shared with members highlighting partnerships and benefits. 		
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Key Focus 8 - Developing our external links				
	Timeline and RAG	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Cost and Support
 □ Develop our relationship with England Hockey. □ Complete Talent centre application. □ Launch a regular coaching programme in primary schools. □ Establish a firm presence in secondary schools in our wider area, including private schools, to raise the clubs profile. □ Create a sponsors and partners brochure highlighting opportunities to work with LHC. □ Look at options to host regional and national events with associated social events. 	Mar 23 Oct 22 Sept 22 Oct 22 Aug 22 Oct 23	 Regular contact maintained with England Hockey. □ Talent centre application completed. □ Coaching programme in Primary schools relaunched. □ Clear structure of presence with secondary schools created. □ Sponsors and partners brochure created. □ Regional or National event held at club 		Coaching costs Coaching costs Cost to put on event.

Appendix 1

Member statistics

Data from club website membership 18/8/22.

	202	1 - 2022 sea	son	2022 - 202	3 (Current -	August'22)
Age Group	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 6	1	1	2	1	1	2
6 - 7	6	3	9	6	3	9
8 - 9	7	10	17	7	10	17
10 - 11	4	11	15	4	11	15
12 - 13	13	16	29	13	16	29
14 - 15	16	25	42	16	26	42
16 - 17	17	21	39	18	21	39
18 - 19	10	9	19	10	9	19
20 - 29	38	32	74	38	36	74
30 - 39	16	23	43	17	26	43
40 - 49	13	18	32	13	19	32
50 - 59	13	13	29	15	14	29
60+	12	9	21	12	9	21
TOTAL	166	191	357	170	201	371

^{*} Additional work needed to ensure all juniors are signed up.

^{* 9} members no age added