



CORNWALL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Annual Report from CHA Youth & Schools - 2019/2020

By John Raquet/Barbara Reynolds

Headlines

The CHA Youth & Schools Committee still only consists of three active people! We really need willing volunteers for minor committee work or we engage more of the CHA committee in some roles. The CHA structure will be reviewed if the AGM Resolution is passed.

Over the past year we delivered the Club & School Competitions and the Player Pathway however, the pandemic and lockdown impacted only at the end of the whole season, losing one AC training session, an AC competition day, 3 school tournaments and one club junior league day. The committee has decided to either cancel or rearrange each of the above as necessary. With affected clubs offered a credit note for next season on their entry fees.

Player Pathway

1. Development Centres (DC)

We held three Development Centres in Bodmin, Truro and Pool, last May and June (2019) at U13 and U15, with a total of 182 players participating. We had sufficient coaches and welcomed some new faces to the coaching team.

2. Academy Centres (AC)

We continue to run the Cornwall at U14, U15 and U17 level for both boys and girls. These sessions run from October to April, with four competition dates for each age group.

We can report that 146 players took up places at the Academy Centre this season. This was higher than last year. We had particularly strong u15 girls, U17 girls and U17 boys. We continue to struggle with low numbers in the U15 and U17 boys.

3. Performance Centre (PC)

The number of Cornish players successfully selected for the West Performance Centres amounted to 7. With 23 players awaiting a PC assessment.

Notable successful Jacob Pengelly from Penzance joining the U16 England NAGS group.

4. Coaching

The committee would like to thank all the coaches that participated in the DC/ACs this season. We have a good pool of coaches and keep providing CPD opportunities for those interested in furthering their coaching. We ran an Academy Induction Workshop for all 18 Cornwall coaches as well offer coach bursaries to 3 coaches.

Junior Competitions

1. Schools

We have 18 schools affiliated to the Cornwall Schools & Youth. It would really help if clubs could engage with their local secondary schools in order to keep hockey on their curriculum.

We currently administrator 22 school's tournaments/festivals per season, these include girls, boys, mixed, 11 aside, 7 aside and indoor. We really appreciate the support from our schools, who host and administer these tournaments on the day, we couldn't do it without them!

We decided not to offer the Tier 3 (7 aside) competitions this season at U14 and U16 due to no demand from schools.

Congratulations to Truro High School being crowned National Champions in the Tier 3 England Hockey National Schools Championships!

2. Clubs

We do wish to thank Caradon, Penzance and Truro for running the leagues as well as Falmouth and Bude for their support with the U16 leagues. Thank you to everyone who made these leagues a success!

Cornwall Leagues

- U10 Mixed - Caradon HC
- U12 Girls - Truro HC
- U12 Boys - Truro HC
- U14 Girls - Penzance HC
- U14 Boys - Penzance HC
- U16 Girls - Penzance HC
- U16 Boys - Caradon HC

National In2Hockey Championship

- U10 Girls - Truro HC
- U10 Boys - Penzance HC
- U12 Girls - Truro HC
- U12 Boys - Truro HC

Only the U14 Girls and U10 mixed leagues were impacted by COVID 19. It was a shame that our National In2Hockey champions and runners up couldn't represent Cornwall at the West regional finals.

General

Clearly, this report is compiled in the midst of lock-down and so we are planning the 2020/21 season to include various options as there are many unknowns like access to pitches.

I would also like to thank Barbara for her tireless commitment to Cornwall Youth Hockey - and urge others to commit a little more to support your rather than committee!