



GCHC Mens Section Season Preparation

Good Afternoon all,

I hope this message find you all well in these strange times. As this week sees the remainder of the teams returning to the pitch for training and matches. I thought I would send out a final e-mail to remind members of certain things to help make things as easy as possible for our team captains.

COVID-19 Guidance

If you haven't already done so please read England Hockey's advice for participants to understand how we can all return to play our much loved sport as safely as possible:

http://www.englishockey.co.uk/core/core_picker/download.asp?documenttable=libraryfiles&id=20831

As and when guidance changes that affects how we might operate, we will endeavour to keep members informed and up to date.

Squads

Over the coming weeks before the season starts, captains have the tough job of establishing their squads for the start of the season this will be the group of the players they will be selecting from each week along with any players received down from the team above.

These will formally reviewed periodically through the season and changes will be made as appropriate. You captain is your port of call for day to day club matters, keep them informed so they are able to do their jobs effectively!

Availability into Clubbuzz

Starting now each week by Sunday evening you should ensure your availability is update to date in clubbuzz for the following Saturday. As a reminder the clubbuzz system assumes your available unless you tell it otherwise. To put in a period that you are unavailable to play, log in to clubbuzz:

<https://gloucestercityhockey.clubbuzz.co.uk/login>

Go to “My profile” and under Omissions click “Add Omission” and select the dates you are not available to play. This then filters through to captains when they look at selection making it much easier for them to do their job!

Selection

We are introducing a slight change to the way we are conducting selection compared to last year to ensure a consistent time at which we deliver selection emails out to players. Like last year we will hold our selection meeting every Monday evening at 8pm. However unlike last year by the end of Monday evening all selection emails will be sent out for all teams and this is the way you will find out what team you have been selected for. In addition any players not selected for a game that weekend will receive an email to confirm that is the case so they can plan accordingly.

Any player that has not been selected for their assigned squad and wants feedback and to understand the reasons why they have been dropped should then contact their captain so they can arrange for an appropriate time for feedback to be given, captains are very willing to give feedback when asked so I do encourage players to ask for feedback if they find themselves in this position.

The key reasons for this are to ensure selection emails go out early and at a consistent time each week to help people plan their Saturday and to avoid captains spending large portions of time making multiple attempts to contact players regarding selection. Ultimately smoothing the process out for all!

If, after speaking to your captain, you have a concern with a decision that has been made in selection please feel free to reach out to either myself (mensclubcaptain@gloucestercityhockey.co.uk) or Rich Mobberley as the mens vice club captain (mensmembership@gloucestercityhockey.co.uk) and we'd be happy to chat through your concerns.

Training & Pre-season Matches

Training times are published here and this week sees the Mens 3s & 4s training kick off as well:

<https://gloucestercityhockey.clubbuzz.co.uk/training>

It is very important each week you keep your captained informed if you cannot make training. Due to COVID-19 guidelines for hockey training from EH we have to carefully plan sessions to ensure we are in compliance to those guidelines. In addition it greatly helps session planning to know how many will be attending, making the session much better for everyone!

Pre-season matches are also all on the website as well as being the pre-season invites everyone received.

Mens 5s

Despite COVID-19 and the affects it has had on many clubs, GCHC has been fortunate and our numbers have kept very strong. With a new set of youngsters looking to push into mens hockey as well, a mens 5s in the league next year is a clear aim for the club.

In the mean time we want to try and run Saturday friendlies and we have strong leads with a couple clubs looking to field an extra team on a Saturday with one club already saying that they should have enough players to do this and are definitely keen. The aim will be to have a mini league with these clubs for additional Saturday matches. We will look to field the mens 5s as much as possible as availability dictates.

With this in mind I will over coming weeks look to try and finalise this idea with those clubs and look to instate a men's 5s captain. If anyone is interested in helping run this side and develop the new youth coming through please get in touch!

Captains

As mentioned earlier captains will be the key contacts for you all on the day to day running of the club and any questions you might have, for reference their contact details are:

Mens 1s

Ben Link
ben.link@ge.com
07882 644526

Mens 3s

James Knowles
jamesknowles54@gmail.com
07712704071

Mens 2s

Seb Seneque
senegus@hotmail.com
07976824775

Mens 4s

Chris White
chalky-w@hotmail.com
07738969578

As always if anyone has any issues feel free to get in touch. Otherwise I look forward to sharing another successful season with you all (COVID permitting).

Kind Regards
Mark

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