### Newsletter

#### CROWBOROUGH HOCKEY CLUB



#### Chairperson's 2024/25 Season Report

Writing this report feels strange as it players from all over came back to feels like the season only just began; where has this season gone?! I have always been told that time fly's when players walk back to the pitch like you're having fun. We are a small club who continues to grow and develop and stay with the times. This Club last month. This really season has been our first season playing on our new pitch and we have had some amazingly positive feedback. We are not a big club but we are a hockey family, we hold our own against other clubs who may be commitment throughout the bigger and have larger facilities but they do not have the spirit and mindset of our club. We are a supportive club with a nurturing environment for all abilities and ages. Awards. Although we didn't win to This is what makes Crowborough Hockey Club so special. As a committee we will continue to grow our facilities but we must all remember it is not about what we own as a club and it is about who we are as a club. We must continue to show everyone our values we uphold, year we aim to continue to grow as this attracts new members and maintains the ones we have. From my own perspective, Crowborough Hockey Club has always been a friendly, inviting club, where longlasting friendships are made. Its been next year reflecting on the great watching some of these friendships form throughout the years of my time at CHC and seeing a be part of this Club. few of these players this season returning to Crowborough Hockey Club. A pivotal moment this season was our pitch opening day. Where past and present

Crowborough to celebrate the new pitch. It was great to see past they only just played there last game for Crowborough Hockey demonstrates the values this club upholds. This season our Men's 1s and Women's 4's team have been promoted, well done to both teams for their hard work and season. It is has also given me great pride that we were shortlisted for 'emerging club of the year' at the England Hockey just be shortlisted above other clubs across the country is a true honour to the club. This season we also gained a grant from the local council for new kit and equipment which we plan to spend on new umpire radios and goalie kit. Next our facilities and working relationships with the community, develop our junior players while continue to support our older players. I look forward to this time progress this club has achieved and being as proud as I am now to Finally I would liken to say a

within the club, both club

parents who work tirelessly to

#### In this newsletter you can expect:

Chairperson's Report

Season Summaries

The Pitch Opening

The New Committee and **Award Winners** 

News Bulletin

Volunteers

organise and run the fixtures, teams, kits, teas, training, umpiring and all the bits and pieces that without which, the club wouldn't be able to run.

massive thanks to all those of you committee members, umpires and

# Team Reports 2024/25 Season











### **WOMEN'S 1'S**

CAPTAIN - SAM WILLIAMS PLAYER OF THE SEASON -TILLY RYDER-RICHARDSON



Our Women's 1's after a challenging season have managed to resecure their position in Martlet Division 1. They have had over 20 different people play for them this season including talented youngsters Jess Jolley, Grace Mercer and Hannah Walker, they also have had Tilly Ryder-Richardson and Alice Webb play who are now moving on from the club and leaving for university in September. Emma Christmas was welcomed back from university and featured across 1's and 2's this season and Millie Rymer-Gough who has been formidable in defense rejoined the club as well. Alongside Millie in defence they had the experienced Goalkeeper Sandra Hepple who has saved many penalty flicks this season and defenders Clare Bennett, Kati Innes and Dani Newitt who have all nurtures and supported the youngsters this season to create a well balanced fun and competitive team. Captain Sam Williams has brought a

positive energy to the team and makes a big impact on the game, constantly battling for the ball. She states "A common theme this season has been passion" which just shows how much this team love representing our club and are proud to wear orange. Notable performances this season were from Nicki Churchward for her awesome play in midfield and from Vice-Captain Amanda Catling for not missing a single game and always being in the right place at the right time. Sam Williams, Lucy Smith and Charlotte Richardson have never stopped running and have provided a strong backbone to the team this year alongside Sharron McGinely who has played in any and all positions and never complained. There top goalscorers was Kate Baxter with some quality solo goals including tomahawks, she has also managed to hit the bar on many occasions. Her final tally was 14 goals and the teams total was 38 goals and 5 clean sheets.







### **MEN'S 1'S**

#### CAPTAIN - MIKEY ORCHARD PLAYER OF THE SEASON -HARRY HOOK

The Men's 1's have had an amazing season with a completely new squad bar a few players. After being demoted last season their main goal was to achieve promotion back into Martlet Division 1, and they only went and did it! They started the season with a 9 match run of wins and draws which really gave the team the confidence they needed to get promotion. With the wealth of experience that players such as Captain Mikey Orchard and Hamish Marr hold they have really inspired to team to pull together and be the best they can meaning they have played some excellent hockey. Defender Harry Hook was voted by the team as Men's 1's Player of the season for his admirable display in defense, he has shown great skill and is a big presence in the team. Another big presence in the team is Greg Surridge who has been welcomed back with open arms this season, he gives the team an even strong midfield as he is someone who can push the ball out wide to find the wingers allowing them opportunities on goal. This group of players is described



by many as the "dream team" and has done wonders for their morale meaning they only lost 3 games this season. Men's overall highest goal scorer was a close competition however ended up going to Olly Yeoman after an incredible display of 15 goals over the course of the season. In 2nd place for Men's 1's highest goalscorer was Sam Chick on 12 goals which is closely followed by Hamish Marr and James Partridge on 10 goals each in joint 3rd place. The team ended up placing 2nd in the league after leaving it to one of the last games of the season to secure promotion. It was a nail bitting, narrow 1:0 victory over Brighton with a legendary drag flick short corner goal from Freddie Knott which sealed the deal for the Crows. Overall an impressive total of 79 goals where scored and 6 clean sheets where kept. As a club we cannot wait to see how the boys do once back in the league they are meant to be in.















The Women's 2's have had a really strong season showing real promise for the future. They have nurtured and helped to develop many young players. Some weeks they even had 10 under 18's on their team sheet! They welcomed a few players from our women's 3rd team such as Meg Shaw, Jess Ikeson and Sophia Dennett and they also gained from outside the club the skillful Caroline Cardozo who fitted in perfectly with the team. They also benefited from the

quick, young legs of the newly formed Women's 4's including Tabbi Cater, Poppy Cureton, Daisy Howels and GK Tilly Singleton really boosted the team's ability and the game play moved up to the next level. The few more experienced players on their team including Captain Josie Mitchell, Claire North, Vicky Dennett and Michelle Hulse have provided stability and a strong core to the constantly changing team around them. Whilst promotion

wasn't gained this season it is definitely a possibility in the upcoming seasons. As a whole the team had a great dynamic and played beautifully together scoring a total of 57 goals with Captain Josie Mitchell being their top goal scorer with 16 goals, despite suffering an injury late on in the season. Everyone at the club wishes her well in her recovery and cannot wait to see her back in action next season.

### WOMEN'S 2'S

CAPTAIN - JOSIE MITCHELL PLAYER OF THE SEASON -SOPHIA DENNETT









### **MEN'S 2'S**

### CAPTAIN - IAN EASTON PLAYER OF THE SEASON JETHRO HOOK

The Men's 2's have been a force to be reckoned with this season, they have kindly welcomed a handful of young players from the Men's 3's to play at a higher level and have supported them to develop into some incredible players. With new leadership from Club Legend Ian Easton they managed to place comfortably mid table in Martlets Division 3. They started out the season well with a 2:1 win versus Hailsham but soon went into a quiet patch of 5 games without a win before beating East Grinstead at the end of November in a close 3:2 victory. After a long Christmas break the boys started as they meant to go with a 4:1 win over promotion seeking Horsham which was described by the team as one of the highlights of the season. The rest of the season consisted of wins. losses and draws but each game was played in good spirits and showed promise for this teams future. The Men's 2nd overall highest goal scorer this season went to James Lee, he has

been a great addition to this team and scored a total of 14 goals. Not far behind for the Men's 2's was Captain Ian Easton with 10 goals and short corner extraordinaire Darren Pulman with 7 goals. In total the team scored 46 goals this season and had 1 clean sheet. Player of the season which was voted for by his peers went to Jethro Hook. He is such a positive presence on the pitch and is always creating opportunities for the forwards by passing the ball with confidence and skill. Unfortunately the team are losing a very important member of the team this season Will Sermon to university, he is such a great young talent and is just insane at wingback. We are also losing Phil Newington who is hanging up his hockey stick after 40 years. Both of them will be sorely missed and are welcome back anytime! Despite these big losses of players there is such great promise developing through the men's section and we can't wait to see what the Men's 2's have in store next season.







### WOMEN'S 3'S

CAPTAIN - SARAH MERCER PLAYER OF THE SEASON -BETHANY BURNS





The Women's 3's have continued to develop this season. The existing players welcomed some players who where returning to hockey this season and some just starting now. These newcomers Charlie Owen, Holly Sharp and Amber Halstead have brought such a positivity to the team and a strength to the team. Some great friendships have been created and this team has created a fun and friendly environment which nurtures young girls into adult hockey. The team have had some increadible performances against some of the top teams in the league including a 1:1 draw against top of the league, this shows what this team can do. There have also been some frustrating games but the team has regrouped and always played with beaming smiles. Captain Sarah Mercer has worked hard all season to create a wonderful team with such a great dynamic and the club are so excited to have her again as Captain next season. They have given some of the girls development there first taste in adult hockey including Bethany Burns who was the teams top goalscorer and Amelia Turner who is becoming such a confident player. Next season the team looks forward to focusing on improving fitness and there set play to ensure they keep consistency accross the season.











### **MEN'S 3'S**

CAPTAIN - STUART SMITH PLAYER OF THE SEASON -JUDE FULLER

New players have joined this season being new to the sport and some boy's development have moved up into men's hockey for the first time. Alongside them are some more experienced players such as Matt Burns, Justin Singleton and Graham Clampin, they bring skill and leadership alongside new Captain Stuart Smith. He has brought passion and drive to the team and they have benefited from his direction and voice on the pitch. Although they started out a bit rocky with a few large scorelines against them this was because the team looked different from last season. From then on every game they just kept getting better and this meant players

like Ted Fulham got chnaces in Men's 2's as they proved they could take on higher level of hockey. The team supported this and knew it was imperitave to encourage players to move up within the club at the right time. This has really contributed to the developement of the young palyers in the men's side of the club.Each game they gelled together more and more due to the strong core to the side and soon where getting some great results. Wins, losses and draws were all part of there season but every player gave their all and enjoyed being part of the team which is the focus of the 3's team. It is an accesible side for all types of players in the club.











### WOMEN'S 4'S

The Women's 4's have had an absolutely incredible first season ending in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Martlet Division 4 gaining promotion for next season. The ladies fitted in perfectly into the step up to adult hockey and where lead by Captain Fiona von-Hinten, Herself, Meg Bissett and Caroline Webb provided a lovey environment for the girls to develop while not feeling to overwhelmed by the step up in ability from girl's development. In total the team scored 55 goals and got 9 clean

sheets. 22 out of the 55 goals where scored by Fiona von-Hinten and she was this seasons Women's section top goal scorer. Player of the season for the Women's 4's went to Meg Johnson for her noticable performaces all season, she plays anywhere she is asked to and is calm ans collected on the ball. She is a big asset to the team and is a really great player who will get even better the more time she plays at a higher level. Players such as Flo Fuller, Poppy Cureton and Tabbi Cater

have been given opportunities in the Women's 2's this season as well, they have coped at the higher level with ease and have played some beautiful hockey. All the girls should be very proud of the achievement of promotion and of there overall improvement over the season. The team have coped with the change from girl's to women's hockey very well and it is going to be an exciting few seasons for the ladies section as these talented girls move up through the teams.





### BOY'S DEVELOPMENT







## COACH - FRASER MILNE PLAYER OF THE SEASON HENRY STUBBINGS MOST IMPROVED WILL RENDALL

This season has been a transitional one for Boy's development with a number of players joining the squad to play their first 11-a-side games. This was reflected in our league position which didn't reflect how competitive the new group were in the majority of games. The group demonstrated significant improvement over the course of the season making big strides in their positional knowledge and discipline as well as their decision making. With this their hockey skills also advanced, their confidence in themselves and each other grew which was great to see. Despite most results going against them the boys remained positive and supported each other throughout the season setting a great example for our club.



### GIRL'S DEVELOPMENT

COACH - FIONA VON-HINTEN
PLAYER OF THE SEASON OLIVIA SPRINGER
MOST IMPROVED HANNAH BECKETT



Girls development had a strong season this year and ended up finishing mid table which is a great achievement. They have welcomed 8 new players to the squad and they all have fitted in really well. The team have held their own against much bigger players and clubs getting some great results. For example the last game of the season the team beat Lewes 5:1 with an incredible hat trick from Matilda Whitney. Across the Girl's development and Women's 4's there are 36 girls aged 11-15 playing hockey each week and that is thanks to Fiona von-Hinten. The Girl's have done the club proud this season and we cannot wait to see how they do next season with some of them hopefully getting opportunities in adult hockey.







### MIXED

#### **CAPTAIN - VICKY DENNETT**









With the drive from Vicky, Crowborough have fielded the first mixed team in years this season. Each month they played a team in a Sunday league, it was lots of fun and it brought the men's and women's section closer together. They came second in the league overall with only 1 loss and came home with 3<sup>rd</sup> place medals at the finals tournament day. Vicky has arranged lots of fun hockey for this side over the summer.









#### The Pitch Opening

What a day our official pitch opening of our and Beacon Academy's newly relayed astroturf. The spirit of our club is honestly amazing.

Thank you everyone for your donations and support to get the day up and running and so much fun.

A big thank you to. Calum Giles for opening the pitch and even making his Crowborough Hockey Club debut!

Thank you to the past and present players who came along to play as well. It was like you never stepped off the hockey pitch! We hope you all know you are welcome back anytime and we hope to see you all back up at the pitch again soon.

It was such a successful day and was such a great community event to bring the past and present together, uniting the club together with people throughout all of our history

#### New committee

Club President - Hilary Brown Club Captain - Lucy Smith Chairperson - Dani Newitt Club Secretary - VACANT Club Treasurer - Keren Loder Men's 1's Captain - Harry Hook Women's 1's Captain - Sam Williams Training, Welfare, Growth and Development Officer - Justin Singleton Fixtures Secretary - Amanda Catling Umpire Secretary - Amanda Catling Safeguarding Officer - Justin Singleton PR Officer - Vicky Dennett Sponsorship Officer - Sam Chick Social Secretary - Kate Baxter Membership Officer - Josie Mitchell Digital Officer - Bethany Catling

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered this season and welcome to the committee Harry Hook and Josie Mitchell.

Also big thank yous to Caroline Webb, Charlotte Richardson, Hamish Marr and Mike Orchard for your help over the past few seasons.

#### **Award Winners**

Club Person of the year - Amanda Catling

Loyalty Cup - Nicki Churchward Non-Player Award - Brett Parish Umpire of the year - Bethy Catling Highest playing girl - Grace Mercer Highest playing boy - Freddie Lee Women's fair play - Michelle Hulse Men's fair play - Stuart Smith Girls Dev - Olivia Springer

Most improved girl - Hannah Beckett

Boys Dev - Henry Stubbings Most improved boy - Will Rendall

Captain of the year - Josie Mitchell Women's 1's - Tilly Ryder-Richardson

Women's 2's - Sophia Dennett

Women's 3's - Bethany Burns Women's 4's - Meg Johnson

Men's 1's - Harry Hook

Men's 2's - Jethro Hook

Men's 3's - Jude Fuller

Team of year - Women's 4's

Most improved women - Jess Ikeson

Most improved man - Ethan Blake

Well done everyone who won awards at the 2025 Dinner Dance!!!

### NEWS BULLETIN

#### **AGM Summary**

Starting in September Subs will be increased:

- Senior Women and Men £32 per month.
- Student Women and Men £27 per month.
- Under 16 Girl's and Boy's 22 per month
- Under 12 Girl's and Boy's £5 per session or £15 per month.

Standing orders are to be continued ALL year round. Any issues please contact a committee member.

Please be responsible on Beacon Site. Remember it is a no drinking, no smoking/vaping and no dog site. Please respect this and leave it the way you found it.



#### CROWBOROUGH HOCKEY CLUB





WOMEN'S - 10AM-11:30AM DEVELOPMENT - 11:30AM-1PM (AGED 11-16 GIRLS AND BOYS) MEN'S - 1PM-2:30PM

Fun, inclusive, friendly and competitive hockey for people at all levels

#### **FREE FOR EVERYONE**

Beacon Academy AstroTurf, Crowborough, North Beaches Road, TN6 2AS



Crowborough Hockey Club

## Vacant Committee ROLE

Club Secretary

#### **DETAILS:**

A club secretary is the organisational backbone, handling communication, managing records, and ensuring a smooth operation.





Send a message to Dani at 07771 805610 or an email to crowboroughhockey@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET THAT THERE IS
A VACANT ROLE ON COMMITTEE. IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW THEN
USE THE CONTACT INFORMATION ABOVE TO
FIND OUT SOME MORE DETAILS.

#### Captains

Captains for Adult Teams and Coaches for Development Teams for the 2025/26 Season:

- Women's 1's Sam Williams
- Men's 1's Harry Hook
- Women's 2's Josie Mitchell
- Men's 2's Ian Easton
- Women's 3's Fiona von-Hinten
- Men's 3's Stuart Smith
- Women's 4's Sarah Mercer
- Boy's Development Fraser Milne
- Girl's Development VACANT

For next season we have a new captain, Harry Hook for Men's I's. This is very exciting for the club as he has played for CHC for years and loves the club like no other. Thank you to Mikey Orchard who Captained the team last season. We wish the captains well in the coming season and can't wait to see how well they can do with their teams.

#### Volunteer Appreciation



















THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS SEASON. THERE ARE WAY MORE THAN THE PEOPLE PHOTOGRAPHED HERE AND TO MANY TO LIST BUT ON BEHLAF OF THE CLUB THANK YOU. WE COULD NOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU. SEE YOU ALL NEXT SEASON.