



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2015

The season is now in full swing, and we hope everyone is enjoying being back in the action. This month's newsletter is jam packed with useful and exciting information, so read on...

CONGRATULATIONS

Max Whitehead & Lizzie on their engagement last month in Morocco



MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE THIS WEEKEND – COLTS & SENIORS

The deadline is upon us! Payment should be made through the payments section of the website, which is simple, safe & easy to do. This will also allow you to purchase the membership which is relevant to you: <http://www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk/payments>.

Please click on the link below for step by step instructions on how to pay your membership through the website and also some answers to FAQs: <http://www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk/news/payment-of-annual-membership-fees-1502573.html>

If you have any issues/questions with paying your membership, then please contact Sam 'JT' Terry (Men's 1s): membership@sonninghockeyclub.co.uk.

EASYFUNDRAISING - THE #SPENDCHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

The club is registered with EasyFundraising, which is a fantastic & easy way for us to raise **free money for the club** – purely from your online shopping that you would have done anyway.

In the run up to Christmas, Pitchero is running a competition - whichever club raises the most in free donations **between October 28th and December 9th wins a £500 donation to their Club!** So the umpire's whistle has gone, what are you waiting for? Get shopping! Pitchero will then be giving bi-weekly leaderboard updates from today to see how we're doing...

To help us win, first go to <http://pitchero.easyfundraising.org.uk/support/>, find our club, sign in, and then click through to the website you want to make your purchase from and that's it. The price of the goods is exactly the same - you don't pay anything extra, the company donates. For more information, visit: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>

Ask friends and family as well to support our club and keep reminding them to use easyfundraising when they shop online for Christmas presents. They'll be raising money for our club as well as helping our chances in the competition.

So get shopping 'Ningers! & spread the word!



HOCaKEY OFF

After the success of our Club Day Bake Off, which led to some twitter banter with Bicester Hockey Club, we are now hosting a **HOCaKEY Off** at Sonning **THIS SUNDAY (1st November)**! This involves a mixed 11-a-side hockey match followed by a bake off. The points awarded for both components will determine the overall winner & the 2015 HOCaKEY bragging rights!

Competition was strong, auditions were gruelling (think GBBQ), but five of the best bakers at the Club have now been selected to represent us; and 11 mediocre hockey players too!



Push back is at **3pm**, with the cake judging back in the clubhouse after at **4.30pm**. We will have external cake judges making their impartial decision on taste, appearance and texture – the cakes having the additional restriction that all their ingredients must be bought for under £10!



Once the competition is over, all the delights will be sold to players & supporters. All proceeds from the event will go to **Hockey 4 Heroes**, so please bring your pennies.

#HOCaKEYOFF



SOCIAL MEDIA COMPETITION

Got a great pic to share?! Have a photo that perfectly displays our Club at its best?! Well now you could win something for those moments! We will be running two competitions on social media this year; a competition running throughout the season - the '**Spirit of Sonning**' (**#Sonningness**), as well as a bi-monthly competition: the first of these running in Nov/Dec will be '**Christmas**' (**#Christmas**)... obviously!

To enter; tweet or Facebook a photo, related to the relevant category, **using the hashtag #COTN and the competition phrase!** There will be **prizes** and winners will be announced in the Newsletter and at the End of Season Dinner!

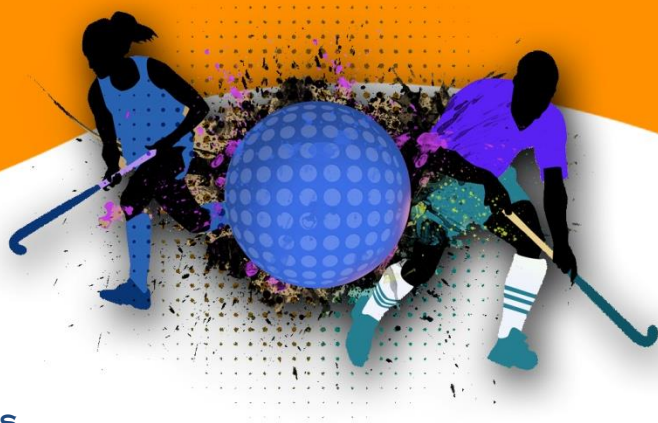
You can find all our Social Media **details at the bottom** of the newsletter. As always, **please do your bit and share/like all our posts** where you can.

KIT

****Correction on last month's newsletter - Hawkinsport has recently moved** from The Parade, and is now at Unit 10a Wessex Road Industrial Estate, Bourne End, SL8 5DT

SHC CODE OF CONDUCT

A reminder of our Code of Conduct, which we expect all our members to abide by at all times:
<http://www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk/a/sonning-hockey-club-code-of-conduct-44840.html>



COLTS

OCTOBER THAMES VALLEY MINI TOURNAMENTS

- We entered 5 teams into the TV mini tournaments on 11 October - the first time we've had so many players aged 6 to 11 playing competitive hockey in one weekend, many of whom were making their debuts!
- Sonning HC hosted one of the U12s tournaments
- All teams performed extremely well and had lots of fun in the process. Well done!

Our U12s:



WOKINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER AT SONNING HC – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Sonning HC is **hosting** the Wokingham Primary Schools Tournament once again
- 12 local schools have entered a team and this is another great opportunity to get our name out in the community.
- **Volunteers are needed** to assist with the event between 3.00 and 6.30pm. Can you help?
- If you are able to help with umpiring; meeting & greeting; photography or central time-keeping, please contact Chris Manning on chrismanning123@btinternet.com

WEBSITE

For all our new members out there, **please sign up to our website ASAP:** www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk. All communications come directly from the website regarding selections, updates and news. Please ensure you select the option to allow us to use your email address for comms.

AVAILABILITY

Once registered on the website (above) please update your availability. If this is not completed you may not be selected for games as captains will assume you are unavailable. For a detailed guide to getting your availability up online see: [Website-masterclass-setting-your-availability](#) (or ask your teammates!).



KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS

MEN'S 1s – Men's Vase

The draw is now confirmed and the Men's 1s have a home tie vs Bicester for their first round on **Sunday 22nd November at 2pm.**

MEN'S 2s – 2nd XI Cup

Next round: HOME vs Surbiton 2s - Sunday 1st November at 1.30pm (this Sunday!)

Previous round: 11th October vs Teddington 2s - Won 5-1 (Chris 'Radar' O'Hagan)

When you enter a cup competition you always hope for an easy 1st round to get you into the competition for a decent run. This was probably the thought process of our opposition as the draw came out. Imagine the cry of "Yes" from the Teddington Captain as he realises they will be playing Sonning HC who are the equivalent of about three leagues below them.

The day came and we were waiting for the oppo to turn up. With about 15 minutes before the game was due to push back, Teddington finally turned up. They got set on the pitch with all their players and highlighted that they would be playing with 9. The game got started and even with 9 players they put pressure onto Sonning who were still trying to figure out how to play against 9. As the 1st half continued, Teddington won a P-Flick as the ball went past Mitch in goal and hit a Sonning foot on the line.

1-nil down, Sonning finally woke up and started to pass the ball around, equalising 10 minutes before half time. The confidence was up, Sonning went on the attack, and slotted another from a Short Corner before half time.

The 2nd half started, Teddington went on the attack, realising with a lack of players they needed to score early as they were going to struggle later in the game. The defence stood strong, thwarting the constant pressure. As the gaps started to open more chances appeared for Sonning and the game became more of a shooting drill. But like at training, Sonning were not hitting the target with enough conviction. However, we did score 3 more in the second half with Santa getting a hat-trick.

That win takes us into the next round of the draw. Darn - we are now to play Surbiton 2s. I think we might need to be more clinical next time round!

LADIES' 1s – Women's Vase

The teams are now finalised and the draw has taken place with the Ladies' 1s getting a bye for the first round. Their next match is now not until **Sunday 14th February 2016**, with the oppo to be determined in the first leg played in November.





LADIES' OVER 35s – Cup/Trophy

Next round: HOME vs Clifton - Sunday 8th November at 2pm

Previous round: 18th October vs Horsham - Lost 2-3 (Katharine 'Pikey' Pike)

The Classics started their 2nd season in the cup with a home tie against Horsham. Both sides had strong line ups and they were well matched. The visitors started well with their centre forward causing problems and she had an early shot which was well saved by Rose. To everyone's surprise Sonning took the lead in the 6th minute with AJ setting up Coops to score. Soon after Horsham equalised with a corner goal after the home side had a player sent to the half way line for being too quick at the initial corner. Sonning kept out the visiting forwards but needed an expert clearance above her head from Ruth. In the 28th minute a Sonning attack down the right ended up with a ball across the circle where debutant Stacey Jenkins was in the right place to score. Horsham equalised within 3 minutes, but Sonning continued to create attacking opportunities. The second half saw Horsham take the lead in the 10th minute but both sides continued to press for further goals. The best move started from the Sonning left defence, down the right where the ball was crossed to Bryony. Her 1st time effort was bound for the top corner but the Horsham goalie managed to get a glove to it to save over the bar. There were some great battles in midfield with Helen on the floor 3 times in the 1st half when facing the visitors' captain, and some great battles between Sonning central defenders Rita and Mei and the oppo centre forward. We think Rita won a good majority of these and enjoyed the combat!

In summary, a really good team performance from everyone and both teams played their part. Comments from their players after the game indicated they had loved the game and it was "feisty but fair".

This defeat sends the Classics into the trophy where they have another home game v Clifton on Sunday 8th November at 2pm. All supporters are again welcome as you make such a difference - thank you!

SOCIALS

The first Saturday of every month is **Club night**, with activities varying from a 'quiet' one at the Clubhouse bar, to events such as quizzes & race nights in the back room.

Tickets will be on sale very soon for the Christmas Party – held at our own Clubhouse – so keep your eyes peeled! More information will follow before each of the remaining dates, but for now, make sure they are in your diary:

7TH November – Drinks at the bar

5th December – Christmas Party – tickets on sale very soon!

2nd/9th January

6th February

5th March

April – End of Season Dinner



UMPIRING COURSE

We all know that **without umpires there is NO hockey**, therefore we ask that you give a little back to your Club, and think about becoming a qualified umpire. To do this, you will need to register for a local course (details & link below) and complete the [Online Rules Test](#) (basic playing rules) beforehand.

- **Level 1 Umpire Course** (deadline 04/11/15)
- **Venue:** Wokingham Hockey Club, Cantley park, Wokingham RG40 5QG
- **Date:** Sunday 15th November 2015
- **Time:** 9am - 4:40pm

Course sign-up (bottom of page): <http://www.englandhockey.co.uk/courses>

Once qualified you will be able to:

- Umpire games at the appropriate level to gain experience (our Umpire Coordinator, Chad, will advise)
- Join the Berkshire Hockey Umpires community.
- Take an on-pitch assessment (only when you are ready)
- Help support your club mates to play hockey by umpiring for seasons to come

YOUR HOCKEY CLUB



The Club will reimburse the course fee to fully registered Sonning members, once they have gained their Level 1 qualification AND umpired 5 games as a qualified umpire.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

We need a **Social Secretary!** As probably the most social Club in the world, this is a position of great honour and importance! **If you think you can help, please contact Oliver 'Wadders' Waddington** at chairman@sonninghockeyclub.co.uk

NEWSLETTERS

If you have anything you want to include in the newsletters then please let us know by sending an email to: sonninghockeyclub@hotmail.com

UNTIL NEXT MONTH 'NINGERS...! #COTN

Any questions or queries please address them to: sonninghockeyclub@hotmail.com

Follow us: <http://twitter.com/SonningHC> and <http://instagram.com/SonningHC>

Like us: <http://www.facebook.com/SonningHC>

Website: www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk

