



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2016-17

Happy New Year Mighty 'Ning faithful. I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas period full of frosty morning jogs and afternoon core strength training ready for the second half of the season...! ☺ As always, the Sonning Journalistic Team have been busier (and better) than Sky News and bring you another a packed Newsletter... read and enjoy.

COLTS

The colts section have been very busy over this first half of the season!

The section is growing, with over 50 regularly attending on a Tuesday evening and 30 older players on a Wednesday.

As well as their weekly training sessions, players have competed in the Thames Valley Minis on Sundays, at various venues across the county, where we perform very well. We are grateful to Chris Manning and Woffers for taking charge of the TVM sessions that we have been responsible for running at our own club.

Over 50 colts in December took delivery of their new playing shirts (as subsidised from some of the recent club fundraising) and we look forward to seeing these worn proudly both for training and matches in the future.

Huge congratulations to Freya Meadows Tuson who has been selected for the Berkshire County Junior Development Programme.

We are indebted to those who continue to offer their time to coach and assist with the SHC juniors and it has also been encouraging to welcome some new adult and student helpers to our midst this season. We are grateful for all who support the section and would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved in the New Year (anthonyoke@virginmedia.com). The children really do love what we offer and with even more helpers what we provide could be even greater.

Anne, Okey, Woffers & Alison

November –
Reading Uni



October –
Henley





WOKINGHAM AWARDS

At the end of November, a special group of Sonning HC's finest once again attended the prestigious Wokingham Sports Awards Ceremony... and not only did we have numerous nominations, but we also had a winner! Well done to our nominees Rose, Amanda, and Christy – you are an inspiration to us all & your recognition is thoroughly deserved!

Nominations/Winners:

- Volunteer of the Year: Rose Scales (Runner-up)
- Unsung Hero: Amanda McDonald (Runner-up)
- Spirit of Sport: Christy Eyles Goldsmith (Winner)



L1 UMPIRING COURSE

Since Chad's 'imminent rise to fame from a recent England Hockey article' the pressure is now on him to get our Umpiring numbers up... So by popular demand, he's arranged another L1 Umpiring Course at Sonning HC on **Sunday 22nd January** (9am-4:40pm). It is aimed at those looking to umpire lower level games at clubs, and is the second step on the Umpire Development Pathway.

The course costs £50, but you do receive your own 'cards & whistle' for this, plus the club will reimburse you if you complete the following:

- Complete 5 introductory games (these are lower level games – help with be provided)
- Complete Your Assessment either game 6 or 7 (This will be a "higher level game" which Chad will help prepare you for)
- Complete a further 3 or 4 games to make 10 games in total.
- To retain your L1 qualification – umpire a minimum of 3 games per season.
- Please note, you will still get your £5 per game so in theory you will be £50 better off

Book at: <http://www.englandhockey.co.uk/courses.asp?section=296§ionTitle=Find+a+Course>

Please be advised bookings must be made in the name of the participant – not the parent or guardian's name. Bookings close 7 working days before the course date (or when full). Please send any queries to umpiring@englandhockey.co.uk or chad@trainingtcs.co.uk

YOUR HOCKEY CLUB



For the rest of you, don't forget to volunteer for umpiring slots and help Chad complete his coordinating schedule early on so he can relax each week! Please sign up where you can – many hands make light work after all, and we can't play hockey without umpires! ...& remember you get £5 for your time!



SOCIALS 2016-17

So far we've already had Hoktoberfest; the Bonfire Night extravaganza; a Pie-off vs Bicester raising £337.73 for Hockey 4 Heroes; and of course, the usual messy Christmas bash!!



 **HOCKEY for
HEROES**



Caption anyone?!

STILL TO COME:

- ❖ 14th January: Chezza's Cheap Night Out - Curry & Quiz RETOX
- ❖ 4th February: Blind Date - followed by a school disco
- ❖ 4th March: I'm a Sonning Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here
- ❖ 1st April: Easter Egg Hunt - with breakfast
- ❖ 22nd April: End of Season Dinner & Awards Night *(Club photo during the day)*
- ❖ 6th May: Wine & cheese evening
- ❖ 3rd June: Sonning Sports Day with BBQ/Picnic

Make sure you get involved 'Ningers!! Full details can be found in each of the events in our Facebook group 'Sonning Hockey Club', or communications will be sent round closer to each of the events themselves...



OTHER INFO

TRAINING DATES

Men's: Tuesday 10th January – Tuesday 28th March

Ladies': Wednesday 4th January – Wednesday 29th March

CUP GAMES

With just the Ladies' 1s remaining in a knock-out competition, head to Sonning Lane on **5th March** for their **quarter-final** versus Phoenix & Ranelagh! A local derby at the Doombur Arena! Please be there in all your blue and gold glory! <https://www.facebook.com/events/1819120628301231>

HOCKEY 4 HEROES

Congratulations to Wendy Doolin, Mai-Po Wan, and Katharine Pike who were selected to join the Hockey 4 Heroes Ladies' squad for 2017. We look forward to hearing about your endeavours!

WEBSITE

For any new members yet to do so, **please sign up to our website:** www.sonninghockeyclub.co.uk. All communications come directly from the website regarding selections, updates and news. Please ensure you select the option in your profile settings to allow us to use your email address for any comms.

AVAILABILITY

Don't forget to update your availability on the website, for the second half of the season. If this is not completed you may not be selected for games as captains may assume you are unavailable.

SONNING FESTIVAL

Our mixed 11-a-side hockey festival is back again this year, Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th June. Theme is Sonning Farm. Start spreading the word, getting your team & fancy dress organised, and get your entry fees in ASAP to secure the earlybird discount! Sign-up here: www.sonninghockeyfestival.co.uk

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>

HAVE A GREAT 2017 'NINGERS! #COTN

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