



# Chesterfield Hockey Club

## Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting 7:30 p.m. 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 Held at Cutthorpe CC

*To be read in conjunction with the AGM Reports Document*

1. **Present:**

Anne Kenney, Ella Kenney, Sarah Smith, Chris Dennis, Kara Mason, Callum Taylor, Sam Unwin, Heather Staton, Rob Anderson, Adam Bointon, Christian Batty, Emma Chapman, Mac McCran, Paul Speed, Charlie Calderbank, Callum Taylor, Ruth Elliot, Sam Barrett, Steve Lord, Nick Kennerley, Alex Kennerley, Sarah Smith, Abi Grocutt, Luke Spyra, Nic Wright, Karena Moore, Louis Johnson, Emma Mycroft, Rob Cooke, Ryan Matchett.

2. **Apologies:**

- a. Gary McCormick, Brendan Molloy, Ron Presswood, Kevin Senior, Danny Dunn, Kevin Senior, Nick Roberts, John Nash, Tony Bointon, Dave Balderstone, Lindsay Vaughan, Hara Perry.

3. **Minutes** of the AGM of 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

- a. Accepted

4. **Matters Arising**, not on the Agenda

- a. None

5. **Co-Chairmen's** Report – See Reports Document attached

6. **Secretaries' Business**– See Reports Document attached

7. **Hockey Development**

No available "officer" so Rob said a few words - Going forward, the club are mindful of bringing junior section through, as well as working with schools – the problem is finding coaches.

The club might need to look at qualifying 2 or 3 people to help each other out – disruptive for 9-5 work. Overseas players could come into that if they are qualified.

First real season the club have been positively recruiting players through social media and other channels.

The club are going to put a Hockey Development officer in place to oversee and guide the process.

Seeking to achieve Talent Centre Accreditation in the future, but currently wait for EH guidance – long term goal of the club.

8. **Mini-Hockey**– See Reports Document attached

9. **St. Mary's Pitch**

- a. Dipesh has gone up to spray weedkiller to eliminate the moss – hoping to get him up two times a year to maintain the pitch and surrounding areas.
- b. There has been one major expense – the floodlights are being replaced – 20 years old and the wiring and bulbs being affected. Being replaced with modern wiring, LED bulbs and a timer - £30k total costs. Part funded by Schools partnership and club, consisting of a loan which will need to be paid back. Work will be completed over the summer – one week in the first two-weeks of the holidays. Should not affect any summer hockey access.
- c. Thanks to the captains and volunteers to lock up the pitch.
- d. Beer bottles found in opposition changing rooms – aware that it is a school – must remind them to remove.
- e. Dogs – forbidden on site – might need to remind to arrange something through GMS to remind opposition in advance of games.
- f. There is a new disabled parking bay at the bottom car park.

10. **Selection Report** – See Reports Document attached

11. **Social and Fund-raising** – See Reports Document attached

- a. Difficult year on social side – merging of two sides of club and post-covid.
- b. Organised a great race night at the rugby club – annual event aimed at families – raised £669.
- c. Task to challenge each team to organise an event – seek to increase cohesion amongst the club.
- d. Next event is Annual Dinner – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May at Technique Stadium – plenty of space still available.
- e. 10<sup>th</sup> September – Hog Roast – Simon Davidson is hosting again very kindly.
- f. 100 Club – seeking to open up to ladies' section. Raised £1500 for the club for the year.

12. **Treasurers' Report** – See Reports Document attached

### **Summary**

Overall the club made a deficit of (£267) for the year, we had budgeted a surplus of £15,004.

The main reason for the variance is the money spent on the replacement floodlights of £15,000.

The club balance sheet net assets show £26,325 as at 31 March 2022.

The club bank accounts total £36,867 as at 31 March 2022.

### **Recommendations**

To increase club memberships by £5 for the year per section.

To align the ladies match fees to £10 per match (currently £9) in line with the rest of the club adults.

Leave all other match fees as they are.

### **Objectives**

Clubs aim is to put aside a minimum of £10k per year for the future relay of the pitch and replacement equipment.

Budget for following year will be reproduced again by committee.  
 Proposed increase on £5 annual subscription – Proposed and accepted.  
 Proposed increased on £1 increase on Ladies Match Fees – proposed and accepted.

### 13. Election of Officers

<b>President</b>	Re-elected Gary McCormick	<b>Fixture Secretary</b>	Elected Sarah Smith	<b>1<sup>st</sup> XI Captains</b>	Re-elected Jon Moores Heather Staton
<b>Life Members</b>	No change	<b>Publicity Officer</b>	TBC	<b>1<sup>st</sup> XI Manager</b>	TBC
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	No change	<b>Hon Auditor</b>	Re-elected Matt Timby	<b>1<sup>st</sup> XI Coach</b>	Re-elected Christian Battye
<b>Co-Chairs</b>	Re-elected Rob Anderson Anne Kenney	<b>Umpires Secretary</b>	Re-elected Deej Nelis + Assistant Emma Mycroft	<b>2nd XI Captains</b>	Elected Louis Johnson Nicola Wright
<b>Secretary</b>	Re-elected Sarah Smith	<b>Hockey Development</b>	Elected Sam Barratt	<b>3rd XI Captains</b>	Re-elected Paul Ryan & TBC
<b>Asst. Secretary</b>	Re-elected Nick Roberts	<b>Social Chair</b>	Re-elected Mac McCran Karna Moore	<b>4<sup>th</sup> XI Captain</b>	Elected Luke Spyra
<b>Co-Treasurers</b>	Re-elected Brendan Molloy Heather Staton	<b>Mini-Hockey Co-ordinator</b>	Re-elected Paul Speed	<b>Badgers Captain</b>	TBC
<b>Asst. Treasurer</b>	Re-elected Anne Molloy	<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Re-elected Mac McCran Charlie Calderbank	<b>Discipline Officer</b>	Re-elected Nick Roberts
<b>Selection Chair</b>	Elected Steve Lord	<b>Committee</b>	Ex-officio + Sam Unwin, Adam Bointon, Emma Chapman		
		<b>Social Media</b>	Elected Steve Lord		

### 14. Any Other Business

- a. Rob and Anne are recommending that we get some youth representation onto the committee – look to empower and integrate those members just as much as the rest of the club. Junior Club Captain role – ad hoc basis to start and see how it progresses. Could ask members to apply for a role.

### 15. Date and Time of Next AGM

7:30 p.m., Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.



# Chesterfield Hockey

## Reports to the 2022 Annual General Meeting

### Joint Chairmen's Report

It's been an interesting season after two years of disruption due to the Covid pandemic but it was good to get back playing again. A lot of work had been done, over the last few years, behind the scenes with regards to the merger and it was great to start putting things into practice.

As expected disruption caused by Covid and the change of league structures always meant this would be a difficult return to Hockey for many clubs up and down the country and we think it's fair to say at Chesterfield we have coped pretty well.

Whilst membership numbers have been a little down and we didn't see the growth in numbers of pre-pandemic our captains and selection committees have done well to get teams out week on week. It's been a little disappointing with the limited game time for some teams however this also helped in some circumstances when we were short of players.

As it's been our first year working as a combined club we have had to work through a few issues and differences in opinions. This generally has been dealt with in the right way and we genuinely believe that we are a strong club facing up to difficulties. There is work to be done to further integrate the club but we know that we are up for that challenge and the vast majority of members are 100% behind what we are doing.

Our club ethos of promoting the youth and encouraging all within the club to enjoy our sport must remain forefront of our thoughts and in our actions moving forward we have plans in place as a management committee to continue the work that's been done not just in the last couple of years but in the last few decades.

Social events have been well attended and this has helped raise the funds in difficult financial times. Pitchero has been a success and we look forward to utilising it more next season. Even in these tricky times when we have had some big expenses we have been able to meet these commitments.

The Mexicans were a great addition to our club this year both on and off the pitch. Hopefully they will come back next year to help grow as players themselves and help us as a club.

The junior section continues to thrive, we as a club must thank Paul Speed and all the coaches for helping the next generation of CHC players. One thing that really pleased us this year was the number of u18 girls and boys who have come through the junior ranks, representing both first teams which is testament to our junior program and the commitment of the coaches.

Presentation is the time to talk about other specific team news/celebrations.

Social media and communications throughout the club are as good as they've ever been. Again a big thanks to Steve Lord and the media team.

We have many challenges ahead, as do all community sports clubs across the country, and more than ever we are convinced we at Chesterfield Hockey Club are up for these challenges.

As always we must thank all the committee members, coaches, captains and volunteers who give up their time to help us all. We need more help so we will be looking to actively recruit more volunteers to assist in the running of the club along with more players to help grow the club. Moving into the next year we would like to see further integration between the men's and the ladies sides and between the junior and adult sides whether this be on the pitch or at social events.

We would also like to continue development of coaches and umpires to assist our already excellent setup.

You'll soon hear from the other officers of the club who will report on their individual sections,, again we think these officers who give up their time, for free, to help keep the club running. You also hear from the treasurers with their financial statements and their recommendations going forward. We all know that financially it's been difficult for everybody over the last couple of years and as a community-based club we know this more than most, so we thank all of the members who pay their match fees and subs and our sponsors and benefactors for keeping the club solvent.

We will be electing in some new officers of the club and team captains and we thank the departing parties for their time and hard work and look forward to welcoming to the new members onto the committee and in their roles going forward.

Thank you, Anne and Rob

## **Men's Secretary Report 2021-22**

The new season with the Men's teams playing in the Yorkshire & North-East region has been a success, with administration migrating onto the GMS platform taking place mid-way through the season causing a few issue, that were largely resolved by the end of the season.

There were a number of issues mainly concerning the reduced number of fixtures, which has been looked at by the league. The league have made the boundaries of the bottom areas more flexible, where one club has a few teams in a bottom division, they've moved some across, especially between Dale & Peak. The league are keen to listen to feedback from clubs if we want some other teams moved. The broad outcomes for the Men's and Ladies' teams are as follows:

Men's 1s - Yorkshire & North East Division 1 (M)

Men's 2s & 3s - Peak & Wold (M)

Men's 4s - Peak 1 (M)

Ladies' 1s - Yorkshire 3 (W)

Ladies' 2s & 3s - Peak 1 (W)

This does mean the 2s & 3s in both sides will be playing each other next year!

The full league breakdown is available.

## **Ladies' Secretary Report 2021-22**

Following the England Hockey restructure resulting in Chesterfield entering the Yorkshire & North-East area the ladies went into the 2021-22 season with a brand-new set of clubs to play against and therefore not knowing what to expect.

The ladies started the season with 4 ladies' sides, with 3 competitive teams and 1 development side. Unfortunately, due to several factors, players leaving for university, injuries, players not returning after the covid break, we took the difficult decision to fold the 4<sup>th</sup> team, leaving us with 2 competitive and 1 development side. All fixtures were completed, which came with its challenges, including last minute changes from opposition, resulting in last minute squad changes, so thank you to all the captains and Linz for making this happen.

As you are all aware GMS went live in September last year ahead of the season. It brought major challenges during its implementation, but all the fixtures were entered ahead of the deadlines, which is a big achievement. We were the only club in Peak 2 Women to complete on time. The player registration went fully live from January 2022, which meant that all players were required to be registered before playing. Thank you to all the players for registering swiftly, there was not one occasion where the ladies played a match with an unregistered player. We even had player transfers and they all went through in line with the regulations.

From January all match sheets were to be completed on GMS as well as the paper sheets, which meant additional work for captains. All ladies match sheets were completed on time so thank you captains.

There are some further tweaks being made to the ladies' section of the league for next season, so we therefore look forward to welcoming some additional new ladies' sides to Chesterfield.

## **Junior Hockey Report for 2021-2022 season**

### **Numbers**

Our average attendance on Wednesday evening 6-8pm training for U10s-U14s was 72, of which 20 were hockey hero's (5-8 year olds).

In total we have 100 children registered.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have helped on Wednesday's. It's a large team and a team effort.

### **Yorkshire Youth Hockey League**

This has been a good competition and well organised – as we anticipated.

U10 boys - we only just had enough for a team up to Christmas, although newcomers made it slightly easier in 2nd half of season.

U10 girls we put a team out with no problems -usually around 9-12 available.

U12 boys we put a team out with no problems – usually 8-10 available.

U12 girls we only just managed a team - but reliable committed parents and players made it possible

The structure of the Yorkshire leagues for U10s & U12s is such that the top 50% of the divisions are central - Leeds!

The bottom 50% are regional so more local and some home games which is good for everyone plus revenue from the pitch. We have hosted 8 tournaments which has just covered off entry fees of £360.

U10s were in the lower regional leagues.

U12 boys & girls ended up in Div 2 which is a decent standard. The U12 girls had a strong side very narrowly missing out on regional NE In2H finals - group runners up.

The only drawback to YYHL has been the travelling which has been an issue - especially to Leeds, but the alternative is now Beeston since they have essentially taken over the NoDes.

Its my recommendation to continue with YYHL next season, but I would not rule out a move to Beeston (NoDes) in future if travel became an issue for parents.

### **Next Season U10s & U12s**

Next season we will be looking to transition our current Hockey Hero's into U10s teams - I have already been contacting parents of the older Hockey Hero's.

We will struggle for numbers in U12s boys and girls.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have run teams and/or helped out in some capacity. Particularly Heather Hooper & Rob Anderson

### **U14s boys**

U14 boys started the season as T3 7 a side but let downs with fixtures forced our hand in taking a punt on T2 11 a side. We enlisted the help of 2 lads from Chapeltown who couldn't get age group club hockey.

After Christmas 11 a side ran reliably with some good performances against the likes of Sheffield, Hull, Wakefield, Lindum, Rotherham. Many thanks to Sam & Louis who have reliably looked after this groups, and their positive influence has progressed the group well.

### **U14 girls**

We started the season as T3 7 a side, but could not get reliable fixture's, with only 2 or 3 fixtures over the season. On paper we had plenty of girls for a 7 a side team, but there was not much appetite for Sunday matches, and the team was propped up with U12s on a couple of occasions.

Many thanks to Heather for running the team. Next season we are moving ladies club training to 8pm on Wednesday's following on from the U14s training session. This will provide a window to transition the U14 girls into ladies' hockey.

### **U16 boys**

We had a strong run in the EH T2 comp losing to Isle of Man, and we also elevated from T2 to T1 YYHL post Xmas with some good performances against the likes of Huddersfield, Harrogate & Sheffield.

Many thanks to John for running this team

### **Hockey Hero's**

Hockey Hero's back in Oct-Dec was a success with 21 participants. Initially 20 converted to Wednesday mini hockey, although a few have started to drop away now. 1 or 2 have already played in U10 YYHL tournaments which is brilliant.

As an unexpected bonus, we have got 2 or 3 parents getting back into adult hockey/badgers as a by-product of HH.

### **HH2 starts 18th May for 8 weeks on Wednesday's**

We have 9 participants so enrolled far, but need more. Ideally 20-25 would be good.

If we are going to improve as a club, we need more numbers at the bottom end, so we can provide more than 1 to 2 players per year to ladies & men's 1st teams which is about the current average.

Once again we are relying on Paul Ryan and SHAPE to get into schools and push HH2 in the next few weeks.

Steve Lord has done an outstanding job leading our 1st run of HH, and currently promoting HH2 on social media.

We need to aspire to comfortably get U10 and U12 teams out for every fixture, and not going with the bear 7 or boosting teams with players from another team/age group.

We will also be running 5 or 6 sessions for U12-14s on Wednesday from late May to Mid-July.

We need 1 or 2 more volunteers to extend this to U10's – we need to keep the U10s involved in Hockey – it's a long time to September.

### **Finally...**

Next season we are looking to expand on our group of volunteers to run junior teams on Sundays - please let me know if you would like to help.

I won't be running junior hockey forever with my children finishing a long time ago. I don't plan on going anywhere soon, but it would be wise to start and slowly scale back by involvement for a smoother succession plan in future.

We have some really good volunteers helping out now, but need a few more.

We will fund any coaching courses if anyone is interested in improving their coaching skills.

The Mexican lads have helped a lot on Wednesdays and hopefully will return next year to assist.

We are also looking at linking the Mexican's up with SHAPE to deliver some hockey sessions in schools. Certification/DBS checks need sorting to facilitate this.

## **Chairman of selection**

Moving over into a new league no one was sure how we would fit in, not just that but how many players would fully return after the covid break.

The season started in September instead of the usual October and from the start it was obvious we would be short of players in some, having the Mexicans over was a great help to boost the numbers.

In short I think we have done very well to get teams out most weeks as I remember we had to cancel 2/3 times. Children's holidays is a real killer to the sides as we generally have about 20 players not available.

I think its worth putting a statement out to players and parents about commitments during the hockey season, (some ridiculous excuses this season)

I would suggest taking a team that's maybe a little weaker rather than waiting on players only available once a month, that way we can fulfil the away fixtures and better for captains to work with regular players every week.

The philosophy of moving the younger players through the teams I think this is working, every team has experienced having the younger players having stepped up when needed and impressed.

We had to step up quite a few from the Badgers which is great to see the system working, hopefully a few every season really does help. Thanks Steve for that.

Badgers captain is such an important role within the club to make sure the transition from junior to adult hockey is a smooth one.

Thanks to the Men's captains for the support, results haven't gone our way but I would like to think the men's section is the right environment for players old and young to enjoy.

Few of us are moving on after the AGM.

With thanks to Mac for being captain to any team that will have him for about the last 40 years.

Sam Unwin has had a tough job to for the last few years thanks Sam for the hard work.

Steve Lord has been fantastic for the badgers preparing the kids for adult hockey week in week out making sure they are in a very enjoyable environment.

We have to make sure the role is filled with the correct person the Badgers environment is so important for the future of the club.

As for myself I cant remember how many years I have been head of selection (on the men's side) we have been through some tough years but I'd like to think we are in a good position atm with all the youngsters coming through the men's teams.

I have worked with a lot of captains over the years and enjoyed the role immensely, with so many changes within the club it's time for me to move on for selection and my position on the committee.

Thanks

Nashy.

## **Treasurers' Report**

### **FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

#### **Summary**

Overall the club made a deficit of (£267) for the year, we had budgeted a surplus of £15,004.

The main reason for the variance is the money spent on the replacement floodlights of £15,000.

The club balance sheet net assets show £26,325 as at 31 March 2022.

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#### **Recommendations**

To increase club memberships by £5 for the year per section.

To align the ladies match fees to £10 per match (currently £9) in line with the rest of the club adults.

Leave all other match fees as they are.

**Objectives**

Clubs aim is to put aside a minimum of £10k per year for the future relay of the pitch and replacement equipment.

CHESTERFIELD HOCKEY CLUB  
CONSOLIDATED P&L  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Actuals	BUDGET	Variance	Comments
	Total	Total	Total	
	2,022	2,022	2,022	
	£	£	£	
<b>INCOME</b>				
Subscriptions	16,270	16,865	(-595)	Overall membership numbers similar to last year One less ladies team than budgeted, 22 matches per team budgeted but actual number is a lot less
Match Fees	14,237	18,124	(-3,887)	
Hockey Heroes	248			
	30,755	34,989	(-4,234)	
<b>Less: EXPENDITURE</b>				
Pitch Hire	5,500	8,986	(-3,486)	
Pitchero charges	372	575	(-203)	3.3% of match fees
Registration/Affiliation/Ins	2,215	2,456	(-241)	
Coaching	8,513	7,000	1,513	
Equipment	1,721	1,500	221	
Travel	1,200	2,508	(-1,308)	
Umpires & Officials	165	1,980	(-1,815)	
Junior entry fees	460	0	460	
Hockey heroes	250	0	250	
Junior trophies	571	0	571	
Junior GK kit	570	0	570	
First aid	0	150	(-150)	
Website	0	150	(-150)	
Minibus	120	0	120	
Floodlight replacement	15,000	0	15,000	Not budgeted
	(-5,902)	9,684		
<b>Other income</b>				
Sponsorship/donations	3,333	4,500	(-1,167)	Hog roast/other sponsorship
150 Club	1,500	820	680	Based on last year
Hire of pitch to external	400	0	400	
Junior tuck shop	402	0	402	
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(-267)</b>	<b>15,004</b>	<b>(-15,271)</b>	

Note:

Aim of club surplus is to save minimum of £10k per year for the future pitch relay, this year the surplus was used to replace the floodlights



**CHESTERFIELD HOCKEY CLUB**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Year ended 31 March 2022		Year ended 31 March 2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		0		0
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors	1,500		734	
Bank - Staveley	10,513		7,148	
Bank - Mini hockey	13,907		8,228	
Bank - CHC	12,447		13,523	
		<u>38,367</u>		<u>29,633</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Bob Batty Fund	(-2,042)		(-2,042)	
Floodlight loan	(-10,000)		0	
Coaching fees	0		(-1,000)	
		<u>(-12,042)</u>		<u>(-3,042)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>26,325</u>		<u>26,591</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>				
<b>Capital accounts</b>				
B/fwd (Ring fence monies CHC)	14,290		14,290	
B/fwd (Ring fence monies mini hockey)	8,362		3,910	
b/fwd (Ring fenced monies from Staveley Women)	4,376		4,376	
B/fwd CHC (from merger)	(-437)		0	
		26,591		
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year (CHC mens/ladies)		(-5,541)		(-437)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year (mini hockey)		5,275		4,452
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>26,325</u>		<u>26,591</u>

## **SOCIAL AND FUND RAISING ANNUAL REPORT**

This year has been quite a difficult one on the Social side. The main reason being with the two clubs merging and both finding our feet post-Covid. But saying this we have managed to organise a fantastic Race Night held at Chesterfield Rugby Club in February which was a family affair and it is the Committee intention to make this event "A Family Event" for parents and children alike. This year when all costs were taken out we managed to make a tidy sum of £669 profit, which I must say was brilliant and I want to thank all team captains for their efforts in securing sponsors for the races and also the horses.

Looking forward I want to take this opportunity to task and challenge each team to come and organise an event, it doesn't matter how large or small but it is trying to get the club to "gell together".

Next event is the Annual Presentation Dinner to be held on Friday 13th May at the Technique Stadium. Plenty of place available to book your place. This is a celebration of the Club and the achievements of the teams and also to have fun.

A note for your diary 10 September 2022 – Annual Hog Roast. This is our main fund raising event of the year and Simon Davidson has kindly allowed us to use his garden for this event. Thank you Simon.

100 Club. This is a monthly draw for cash prizes. £20 for 1st prize, £10 for 2nd prize and £5 for 3rd prize. To enter all you need to do is complete a monthly, continuous standing order for £1 per number. I will be displaying at the Presentation Dinner details on how the system works. I have just sent a cheque to the Treasurer for £1500 to go into the Club Account.

Mac McCran

## **4th TEAM END OF SEASON REPORT**

Firstly let me thank all of the players that have "turned" out for the 4ths for this season, which has meant that on one occasion only we have had to concede a game due to lack of players, and this was not the fault of the 4ths but as always we end up supporting the teams higher up in the club.

For those interested in stats here are the 4th teams. Played 20, Won 4, Draw 1, Lost 15, Goals for 27, Goals against 63. Looking at these figures it would appear that we were being thrashed every week. This is not the case. Looking at the teams in our league (Chapeltown 2nds, Doncaster 5 and 6s,) we faired quite well, we only had one drubbing of 9-0 and that was against Chapeltown 2nds. All other loses have been quite respectable. The beauty was that the team never gave up. My message at the start of each game was that I was not bothered about the results but as long as we played decent hockey, but more importantly that we enjoyed it.

Going through the team:

Goalkeeper: Regan Morton. What an asset to the team he has been, and at such a young age. He seemed totally fearless in goal and was mainly responsible for keeping our scores very respectful with a string of excellent saves in each game.

Sweeper: Mac (yours truly). I have enjoyed bringing the young ones through from Badgers and watching them flourish. I have been truly amazing (I have control of the keyboard).

Right Back: Dylan Marshall who when he played and not working has been solid in defence and I could rely on him. When Dylan was not available I had a regular supply of stand-ins, Alex Mycroft who started quietly but found his confidence and has had

some cracking games. Will Hallam has stood in to good effect and has become a bit of a utility player playing in various positions and played them well.

Central Defender: Andy Fisher "Mr Reliable". Andy has been my rock during the season and has never moaned much but just got on with the job and has got the team out of some tight spots.

Left Back: Darren Ward. He is another of my main crew who has improved all season and has not missed many games.

Right Midfield: Isaac Anderson, one of younger players who stepped up from Badgers and during the season his game has improved and he has flourished, not missing many games.

Central Midfield 1: Andy Hall after recovering from a long term injury returned to the team and helped marshal the midfield another of my go to stalwarts.

Central Midfield 2: various players covered this position all of whom did a fantastic job. Josh Swift when not poached by the 3rds, Ewan Wrigley continues to flourish, Ethan Windle continues to learn, Dan Tantram, what can I say about Dan, he never stops is committed and continued to make a nuisance on the pitch.

Left Midfield: David Phillips, he has had a solid season on the left and I don't think he will long in the 4ths.

Forwards: Martin Fisher, continued all season to harass the opposition keeper. This season he did not quite have his shooting boots on, but it was not for the want of trying. Another revelation to the team Robert Smalley, quick, skilful and continued to cause defences problems. A future 1st team player here I think.

Other players who deserve a mention who have played for the 4ths. Tom Weaver who when work allowed turned out and we were a different unit when he played. Steve Lord who was always solid wherever he played. Luke Sprya who dropped down from the 3rds to help and was an asset and a half. Ashton Laing who is in his first season in adult hockey and is learning every game. Gareth Hunter always solid when available.

Well this now comes for me to thank all those players who have turned out for me during my last season as 4th team captain. It has not been a decision taken lightly, I think after doing a Captains role within the club for different teams for nearly 30 years I am handing to the reigns to Luke Spyra. I will still be playing and supporting Luke while he beds himself into the role.

Mac McCran ex Captain 4ths