



HOLCOMBE HOCKEY CLUB JUNIOR NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2024

Hello All,

The new season is here! We hope you have had a great summer and are ready for the new season. To all our new members, a warm welcome to Holcombe Hockey Club. We hope you will enjoy your experience at the club - we strive to provide a safe, friendly environment for young hockey players to develop their hockey skills while having fun and creating new friendships.

In this newsletter you will find a few new changes for this season. If you have any questions, please contact us and we will be happy to answer any questions you have. Here's to a successful 2024/25 season!

Marcus Davies and Craig Snell (Directors of Junior Hockey)

Email: juniors@holcombe.hockey (the first new change is our email address!)

Training Sessions:

For the 2024-25 season, Sunday training sessions will start on 8 September, with Monday and Tuesday training starting on 9 and 10 September. All training sessions have been posted on Teamo.

Age Group (School year)	Gender	Day	Time
U6s (YR & Y1) U8s (Y2&Y3)	Boys and Girls	Sunday	09.30 – 10.30
U10s (Y4&Y5) U12s (Y6&Y7)	Boys and Girls Boys and Girls	Sunday	09.30 – 11.00
U14s (Y8&Y9) U16s (Y10&Y11)	Boys and Girls Boys and Girls	Sunday	11.00 – 12.30
U14s (Y8&Y9) U16s (Y10&Y11)	Boys and Girls Boys and Girls	Monday	18.00 – 19.30
U10s (Y4&Y5) U12s (Y6&Y7)	Boys and Girls Boys and Girls	Tuesday	18.00 – 19.00

For the U6/8/U10/U12 age groups, parents/guardians are required to stay at the club during the training sessions. All junior players should **NOT** enter the pitch area without a coach being present.

This season, we have increased the training session costs to £5. The last increase in the junior fees was back in 2019 and we continually try to keep the training costs low. However, with rising costs across the club we have had to increase the fees. This charge will be applied to all junior training sessions - weekend and mid-week.

We have no plans to introduce a junior membership fee so all junior fees are still just through the training fees. All training and match fees will be collected through Teamo, as normal.

GMS Registration

We have entered the U14/U16 girls' and boys' teams into both the EH Cup and South East leagues again this season. In a recent league meeting, it was stated that all players need to be registered on the England Hockey GMS (Game Management System). This was due to a number of teams fielding players from higher teams in their development teams last year. If you are already registered on GMS to Holcombe, then you do not need to re-register as a junior. However, if you have not registered to Holcombe, please use the link below to register. If you are playing senior hockey at another club, you will still need to register to Holcombe so that you can be included on the competition team sheets.

<https://gms.englandhockey.co.uk/>

If you have any questions regarding GMS registration, please contact us.

Welfare and Safeguarding

Amy Hull is the dedicated welfare officer for the junior section. If you have any concerns regarding welfare or safeguarding, please contact Amy Hull on the following email address:

welfare@holcombe.hockey

Alternatively, you can contact Tracey Shelley the club Welfare Officer at the same email address.

Kit

The club kit can be purchased through the following link. We have now moved over to Mizuno as our chosen kit supplier.

[Club Kit - Holcombe Hockey Club.](#)

If you have any questions regarding the kit, please contact Lindsay Hobbs the club kit coordinator at kit@holcombe.hockey

Teamo

On Teamo, we know it is not always the most user-friendly of apps but it is the platform we use throughout the club. All training, fixtures, socials and squad communications will continue to be through Teamo. This is particularly important for fixtures so that we know how many players are available. Please continue to put your availability on Teamo for all events as this really helps us to co-ordinate things efficiently. If you have any questions about Teamo, please let us know and we will guide you through it.

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers

The junior section is run by several dedicated volunteers. We are always looking to expand the numbers so that we can do more within the junior section. The junior section is a large organisation so there are plenty of roles to be filled. Please do not worry if you do not have the appropriate skills, chances are you do for most of the roles. Below are some of the key areas where we are looking for volunteers so if you are interested, please contact us via Teamo or when you next see us at the club.

- 1) Coaches and assistant coaches** – You can never have enough coaches. Even if you have never coached before having some extra support for the lead coach helps the sessions run more efficiently. If anyone would like to start to coach, then we can help with coach the coach sessions as well as formal coaching courses run through England Hockey.
Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell

2) Kitchen – This is the heart of the club on a Sunday and Lucy South has done a fantastic job in running the kitchen with support from a group of dedicated volunteers, we cannot thank them enough. The funds raised by the kitchen flow straight back into the junior section to buy equipment, enter tournaments and provide training for the coaches. We do need more volunteers in order to maintain the low prices in the kitchen. Any mandatory food hygiene training costs will be covered by the club.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell, Lucy South or anyone from the junior kitchen volunteers.

3) Ball Patrol Co-ordination – helping the U14/U16 PTMs arrange the ball patrol for the Men's & Women's 1st XI matches.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell

4) Fixture Co-ordination – planning fixtures and setting up the triangular tournaments at Holcombe. We have successfully hosted large tournaments across the season for the U10/ U12s. The more we host the more revenue we generate as well as providing opportunities to develop young umpires.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell

5) Parent Team Managers - As our numbers are growing, we will require more and more support from parents to help manage the different age groups. The role is primarily taking the player register at the training sessions and helping to co-ordinate the games/tournaments. This is a very important role that bridges the communication requirement between the club and parents as well as providing valuable support to the club. We will provide full support, please do not feel afraid to volunteer!

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell

6) Junior Kit Exchange – For the last two seasons, we have run a kit exchange where players can donate old kit (shirts, shorts, shinpads, hoodies, jackets etc) for others to use. This is a great way for new players to start get kitted out. We are looking for someone to help co-ordinate this.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell

7) Social Events – Much like the junior kitchen, the junior social events are the essence of the junior section. Amy Chester is supported by a dedicated group of volunteers who help arrange and co-ordinate the different junior events. These events are great to bring the whole junior section together and foster great team spirit.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell, Amy Chester (social@holcombe.hockey)

8) Umpiring – We are always looking for new umpires and umpiring within the junior section is a great way to start. Over the last couple of years, we have been very successful in developing our junior umpires and we are looking to continue this. We have a lot of junior matches and tournaments this year across all the age groups. Harry Jarvis is the new club umpire co-ordinator and Adrian Hull will be continuing to support the junior umpire development. So, if you are interested in umpiring as a player or parent, please let us know.

Key contacts: Harry Jarvis, Adrian Hull (umpiring@holcombe.hockey)

9) Volunteering Through Duke of Edinburgh – We continually support the junior players through their Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) Awards through both the physical or volunteering sections. If there are any players who will be embarking on the DoE this year and were planning on putting Holcombe down for one of their sections, please contact us. We want to

ensure that we can support all the juniors through this process with the appropriate volunteering tasks and development.

Key contacts: Marcus Davies, Craig Snell