**Report To The Broxbourne Sports Club AGM From Hockey**

Overall Hockey has had a successful year, both on and off the pitch.  We are pleased to report that both the Ladies and Men have seen their first teams promoted to the Conference and Premier leagues, respectively.

We would like to draw on the enormous success of our Ladies.  Broxbourne has been a national league club in the past and to be back in the upper echelons of England Hockey is a testament to ladies who played in the squad and to the coaching and support provided by all ladies.

Following this success, the hockey section has signed up a new coach, Sam Marchant.  Sam has shown a drive to take Broxbourne Hockey Club to new heights, is enthusiastic and has the buy-in of all players and the Committee.  We look forward to working with Sam this season and welcoming him into our Club.

Obtaining conference status will potentially come at a cost.  England Hockey have rules on the ground and logistics for match days and the Hockey Committee will endeavour to meet these requirements in the most cost effective and efficient way possible.

On a more sour note, last season we had to disband one of our Men’s sides. This is never an easy thing to do but was needed due to the lack of numbers.  Several players drove this going to university as well as a few members leaving/retiring.  The Committee continues to find solutions to drive membership forward and stabilise our numbers.

In the past 5 years, we have seen the social hockey environment dwindle due to several factors.  We appreciate that this affects the revenue generated by the bar.  We are pleased to report that the social side of our section is on the up and at a pace.   We now have a generation of hockey players who want to socialise at the Club.  Members are staying longer after fixtures and this can only be good news for all.  We have committed to holding several social events at the Club over the coming season to further enhance the social scene and revenue for the Club.  On this note, we have held 2 very successful end of season balls in Ware (attendance circa 100 people) and we will plan, with the main Club Committee, to start holding this now established event at the Club going forward if logistics and arrangements fall into place. Again, this will further enhance revenues and utilise our facilities.

The 2019/2020 hockey season is going to be key.  We are investing in the future of Broxbourne Hockey and will do all in our power to remain, or indeed progress, our teams through the league structures.  Our success on the pitch in turn will drive membership up.

I would like to thank Gary and Phil for their guidance and support over the last year.  Teresa again has been a credit to the Club.  Further thanks must be given to the tireless work of the Hockey Committee.  All our Committee members have been fully committed to the cause and dedicated large amounts of time to ensuring we can play our hockey on a Saturday.