Broxbourne Hockey Club

# Co-Chairman’s Report 2019-20

The extraordinary circumstances presented by COVID-19 meant our season was curtailed and all teams missed at least one league game. Unfortunately, our Ladies 1st XI got relegated from the third tier of the English hockey but it was a great experience for them as players and us as a club and we are determined to make it back to the national stage next season. The Mens 1st XI had a strong season and narrowly missed out on a second successive promotion, the middle of the club remained stable with mid table finishes but both our 4th XIs got relegated.

The Ladies playing at such a high level was undoubtedly instrumental in securing a sponsorship deal with a local company which is a relationship we hope to build on and benefit both partners.

The abrupt finish to the season and subsequent restrictions also meant that we were not able to hold our annual ‘Badger Ball’ at the club nor were we able to host our summer league. It was not all doom and gloom as with the help of the Main Sports club and following England Hockey’s guidance we were able to get the pitch back in use as soon as it was safe as well as hiring it out to other local clubs in need.

The period without hockey allowed us as a committee to focus on preparation for the forthcoming season which saw us retain, reshuffle and make key additions to the coaching staff to assist in achieving our goal of both Ladies & Men playing in the National Conference in the near future. A conscious effort was also made to increase our exposure on social media and as a direct result the Ladies section have recruited enough players to field a whole new team so a 5th XI have been entered into the East League. The club has also run a ‘Back to Hockey’ initiative where in time we are hoping to covert adults returning to the sport or trying it for the first time into playing members.

Our Junior section continues its upward trajectory with teams competing against other local clubs on a monthly basis and giving a very good account of themselves in county competitions. Off the back of a summer camp and another targeted social media campaign we are excited to welcome in excess of twenty new Baby Badgers to the club.

At the time of writing preseason is in full flow and we are preparing for business as usual and a full league schedule for all teams so fingers crossed for a successful and interrupted season to come.

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Co-Chair

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