



## **Womens Section Meeting**

**21 March, 2008**

**Ice Sheffield, Sheffield**

1. Roll Call present GH, ST, AW, JP, KM. Apologies were received from HJ and SC
2. GH welcomed everyone to the meeting.
3. Minutes of the last meeting were discussed and the only matter arising was the cost of Officials. This was to be raised with the Referee in Chief.
4. As above.
5. Premier Fixtures – Incredible year for fixture changes. 40% of the season's fixtures have been changed, with only 3 games needing to be re-scheduled due to players being away on International duty. The biggest problem has been the amount of dates given by teams when they are not available to play. Some teams have given 8 or 10 dates, with the limited amount of ice available this is not acceptable. It was suggested that there should be a maximum amount of dates that can be put forward for next season with stricter penalties for teams failing to fulfill scheduled fixtures, for non-allowable reasons. ie: GB duty or ice failure etc.
6. Division 1 North and South – most of the Div 1 problems were down to player shortages and the Womens teams losing ice to senior teams. There has also been a lack of communication between ice allocators/Junior clubs and the Womens clubs at some rinks – which needs to be resolved going forward. There are 2 games that have been an issue due to ice loss  
Sheffield v Blackburn awarded 0-0.  
Swindon v Oxford University – being played for double points at Oxford.

7. U16 Fixtures – There have been some problems in the South with illegal players, paperwork issues and changing face off times without advising anyone. Most of which have now been resolved.
8. U16 Girls – 50 dispensations have been given out this season so far. How many teams are being pro-active in recruiting new players to the sport both at junior and senior levels. There are 3 clubs that have expressed an interest in U16 teams for next season Peterborough, Coventry and Solihull – this could be an amalgamation or individual.
9. South England – There has been very good attendance with the U16 players this season and quite a few new players have been to training. The seniors have been disappointing but that was put down to the increase in trials and raining for the GB programme – however on a good note this has made way for some completely new senior players to step up and play for the South England team. Lee Valley have again supported the South of England programme it's greatly appreciated. Both the South of England Senior and Junior teams are looking for challenge games throughout the summer months.
10. North England – There have been no problems this season. The juniors have been lucky to play on a regular basis by moving into the U16 North League, this has brought on the younger players immensely, and players have been able to see the rewards and benefits with having something to work for – looking towards the England team and ultimately the GB squad.
11. SOX – The players for SOX have been picked and letters are due to go out in the next few days.
12. England 16/Seniors – GH has been able to put together an extensive programme for the England programme which all those involved are aware of, which comprises of 7 training sessions, several challenge games, a camp for the seniors and culminating in a trip for both the 16's and seniors to Canada in October.
13. England to Canada – The details are not yet finalized but the trip should take place between 23-10-08 and 4-11-08, it will comprise of a training camp and tournament in Windsor, Ontario.

14. England to GB relationship – it's important for everyone to realize that being in the England programme can lead to being selected for GB. The GB staff (Reg Wilcox, Simon Manning and Anna Walters) attended the North v South games (16's and seniors) at Coventry in July 2007, this led to one player being invited to the next GB camp and 2 players being identified as talents but not yet at the minimum age for senior GB hockey. All 3 had also been selected for GB U18 programme as a result of the England programme.

Over the last 2 years 10 players have been involved in the GB programme as a direct result of being a part of the England programme. England gives the players experience at playing at a higher level and representing their Country, so if they manage to achieve a place with either the GB 18's or the senior GB squad they are more prepared for the commitment, effort and attitude needed for the GB programme.

15. IIHF skills competition – the junior girl that was successful is Natalie Davies (Kingston). The junior boy is Jack Watkins. The female netminder is Rachel Pullen who is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the World. Congratulations to them all.

16. Trophy weekend – will be the 24 and 25 May at Ice Sheffield. The Sunday will finish later than usual due to the inclusion of the U16 final between North and South League winners.

17. Playoffs – Ice has been booked at Coventry for the 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.

18. AGM – Will be held in Telford again on the 14 and 15 June. The Womens Section meeting will be on the Sunday.

19. GH has put forward a development plan for female for 2008 onwards. It is on draft form at the moment and will be conveyed to all clubs at the AGM.

20. AOB – U16 will not be included in the fair play trophy.

Beth Davis Injury – a parent's video of the game has enable Drs to alter the treatment given to Beth. The Drs were better able to understand the injury and alter her treatment accordingly.

Furthest travelling teams to have the earlier face off times – to be arranged between all teams playing on any particular day and at all ice rinks.