

6 July 2015

Dear members and friends,

Information following the AGM on 21 May 2015 and Board meeting on 22 June 2015:

- **Summer Camps 10-14 August 2015.** The next fantastic SAHC holiday hockey camps are Mon 10.8.15 and Tues 11.8.15 (all-inclusive ages 8-16) then Thurs 13.8.15 and Fri 14.8.15 (ages 14-19 playing adult league hockey or JAC level+). The camps are being organised and led by our own England and GB international Ellie Watton. Coaches will include several current internationals, including three international goalkeepers (Maddie Hinch, Kirsty Mackay and Sabbie Heesh). Camp details are here: [http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page\\_27604/Junior-Summer-Camps.aspx](http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/pages/page_27604/Junior-Summer-Camps.aspx)
- **Situation Still Vacant: Umpire Liaison Officer.** After months of looking nobody has yet stepped forward to take this on. Unless someone does, the Director of Hockey will regrettably soon have to call upon the club captains and team captains to organise their own umpires.
- **Club Strength and Conditioning Sessions.** Organised by John Garner every Wednesday until the end of July, 7:30pm-9pm. Meet near the Athletics Track at Westminster Lodge.
- **Summer League.** Huge thanks to Cath Hart for organising such a brilliant summer league. Also to Kate Rudlin and Mike Grainger for opening up the clubhouse and bar.
- **Beanies on Holiday Competition 2015.** The *Beanies on Holiday* competition is up and running with these contributions from youth goalkeeping coach and men's 3<sup>rd</sup> XI captain Andy Rajah at famous locations in California, Nevada and Arizona:



***How to Join In:***

- take your SAHC beanie with you this summer
- send an email to [mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk) by 13 September 2015 with:
  - your best photos
  - your name and description of where photos were taken
- **Club Colours Survey.** There were 198 senior playing member responses to the online survey. Here are the results:

Ladies section

- 77 members responded
- 61 out of 77 (79.2%) wanted the ladies to stay with tangerine and navy, of whom:
  - 46 felt very strongly (32) or quite strongly (14)
- 16 out of 77 (20.8%) preferred the ladies to switch to tangerine and black

Men's section

- 121 members responded
- 83 out of 121 (68.6%) wanted the men to stay with tangerine and black, of whom:
  - 53 felt very strongly (29) or quite strongly (24)

- 38 out of 121 (31.4%) wanted the men to switch to tangerine and navy

Club as a whole

- 144 out of 198 (72.7%) thought the same colours throughout a good idea in principle
- As to which colours throughout:
  - 103 out of 198 (52%) thought it should be tangerine and navy, of which:
    - 55 (53.4%) would be “fine” if we imposed the opposite
    - 33 (32%) would be “mildly irritated”
    - 15 (14.6%) would be “very unhappy”
  - 95 out of 198 (48%) thought it should be tangerine and black, of which:
    - 53 (55.8%) would be “fine” if we imposed the opposite
    - 30 (31.6%) would be “mildly irritated”
    - 12 (12.6%) would be “very unhappy”

The Board discussed the results of the survey at its meeting on 22 June 2015. It was unanimously decided not to proceed with any plan to change to two colours throughout the club (whether (a) tangerine and navy or (b) tangerine and black). That was for the following reasons. Although 73% of the club think unified colours would be good in principle, the position is that:

- **Tangerine/navy versus tangerine/black choice splits the club down the middle (52%/48%)**
- **It would only be “fine” with half of those who prefer the other (55.8%/53.4%)**
- **Making men play in tangerine and navy would be:**
  - against the preference of 68.6% of men
  - most of whom feel strongly or fairly strongly about it
- **Making ladies play in tangerine and black would be:**
  - against the preference of 79.2% of ladies
  - most of whom feel strongly or fairly strongly about it
- **EuroMasters 21-28.8.15 Appeal for More Volunteers.** SAHC and Oaklands College are hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Masters Championships. Between August 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> the tournament itself will see up to 500 players, officials and visitors from all over Europe come to the event each day. Playing host to an event of this scale requires a small amount of work from a lot of volunteers, not a lot of work from a small amount of volunteers. Whilst we have received some fantastic support already from a number of people – the plain truth is that we need more volunteers to step forward. Please contact: [matthewleedham@btconnect.com](mailto:matthewleedham@btconnect.com)
- **Flyerz Hockey.** SAHC’s disability hockey initiative with Oaklands College has now been launched with two pilot sessions in June/July. Thank you to guest coordinator Roger Lilleystone, to Kirsty Armstrong (College Sports Maker at Oaklands) and all those who volunteered. The scheme will restart in September and Andy Halliday is now looking for leaders and volunteers to take this important project forward...



- **Rule Change Guidance.** You can find this here: <http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/clubs/65/docs/Rules%20Changes%20Guidance%20Final%20May%202015.pdf>
- **Lionel Thomas Presentation.** Lionel reports that he has enjoyed his night at the Opera as a result of the ROH tokens presented at the AGM to mark 35+ years’ service of the club. Here’s the Chris Hobson presentation photo of Lionel at CP:



- **Player retention and recruitment.** Our club is growing. We need to retain our current players, re-recruit those who played for us previously, and enlist new players. If you can think of anyone we should be contacting, to stay or re-join or join, please let me know.
- **USA opportunity.** US-based SAHC player and coach Matt Jobson reports that he has an opportunity for female U19 players and their families to join a team for the USA National Hockey Festival at Palm Springs California on 25-29 November 2015. If you are interested, let me know.
- **World League Congratulations.** To Hannah Macleod, Andy Halliday and John Hurst on GB's successes at the World League competitions in Spain (won by GB women) and Belgium (GB men placed third), as a result of which both GB teams have secure qualification for the Rio Olympics.

Thanks, as always, to everyone who works so hard within the club. There is plenty to do so please do offer if you think you could help in a new way.

A special thank you to our *Partners*, listed below. We need to expand the list so please let me know if you can join or enlist someone to join this scheme for just £9 per month. The details are here:

- **Partners Booklet.**  
<http://www.stalbanshc.co.uk/clubs/65/docs/PARTNERS%20BOOKLET%202015.pdf>

**Mike Fordham QC (President)**

[mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikefordham@hotmail.co.uk)



**FIRST TEAM PARTNERS**

1. Anon G
2. Anon
3. Dorothy Allistone G
4. Peter Beard
5. Harry Birtley G
6. John Blain G
7. Dave Burns G
8. Andy Connop
9. David&Rosemary Davey
10. Nick Edmonds G
11. Mike Fordham G
12. Mike Grainger G
13. Peter Halliday
14. Geoff Hayward G
15. Peter Hazell G
16. John Knight G
17. Mark Lavers G
18. John Layfield G

19. Matt Leedham G
20. Mike Lloyd
21. Linda&Norman Macleod
22. Phillip Martin G
23. Kate Rudlin
24. Mike Skittery
25. Alex Spencer
26. Adrian Stephenson G
27. James Tompkins G

**YOUTH HOCKEY PARTNERS**

1. Anon G
2. Dorothy Allistone G
3. Ed Bevin
4. Jenny Birch
5. Harry Birtley G
6. John Blain G
7. Dave Burns G

8. Nick Edmonds G
9. Mike Fordham G
10. John Garner
11. Mike Grainger G
12. Geoff Hayward G
13. Peter Hazell G
14. Annie Hems
15. Quentin Keeling
16. John Knight G
17. Mark Lavers G
18. John Layfield G
19. Matt Leedham G
20. Christine Lockwood
21. Phill Martin G
22. Maureen Roe
23. Adrian Stephenson G
24. James Tompkins G

G = Gold Partner