



ST ALBANS HOCKEY CLUB

## SAHC SCHOOLS PROJECT 2015/16

September 2015

Project generously sponsored by Maureen Roe

Project Coordinator: Ellie Watton  
(SAHC Schools Liaison Officer and Hockey Development Officer)



*Based at Oaklands College our club is launching new initiatives and promoting new links with businesses, colleges and schools. Our Schools Project, described in this Booklet, is aimed at promoting the sport of hockey in our local schools, as well as encouraging local children to join our youth programmes and activities at Oaklands.*



## The Club

SAHC has 300+ full *Playing Members* playing for our 17 teams in weekend league and friendly fixtures, plus over 225 *Youth Members* who attend our Colts youth training on Sunday mornings and can play in our youth teams.



More than 200 parents, family members, friends and sponsors of the club have been enrolled into the *Tangerine Army*, a database which enables us to stay connected and keep people informed about what's going on at the Club.



Our *Youth Hockey Partners* are people who are willing to help us raise some extra funding for our youth hockey initiatives.



*"I joined St Albans hockey club because there is a brilliant atmosphere of friendly fun hockey but with great ambition. The facilities that St Albans have at Oaklands are fantastic and I am excited to be playing at a club with so much potential"* Ellie Watton, England and GB, SAHC Hockey Development Officer

We also run youth hockey masterclasses and holiday hockey camps at Oaklands.



## *The Schools Project*

Project Coordinator: Ellie Watton (SAHC Hockey Development Officer and Schools Liaison Officer). Ellie is in charge of planning, liaison and delivery.

Schools Ambassadors: The Schools Ambassadors are members of SAHC (past or present) with coaching qualifications and experience, who will have completed appropriate CRB processes, and who will promote youth hockey on behalf of SAHC and encourage participation in the sport and in SAHC youth hockey programmes. They are:

- Simon Archer
- Malcolm Emmerson
- Amy Kee
- Dan Klinger
- Sarah Mobbs
- Martin Scanlon

The Schools Project involves SAHC “Schools Ambassadors” conducting visits to our local schools, as pre-arranged by the Project Coordinator:

- Leading in PE lessons/sports sessions, introducing the sport of hockey
- Taking the necessary equipment and retrieving it after the session
- Distributing take-home flyers

We have invested in Quicksticks Equipment which will be kept at Oaklands and can be used by Schools Ambassadors on schools visits. Some schools may wish subsequently to purchase their own Quicksticks equipment. Quicksticks is ideal for junior school children.



Quicksticks is an introductory game of hockey for 7 to 11 year olds

Promoted by England Hockey, the game is designed to introduce young people to the game of hockey. It is 4-a-side, can be played on any surface, and uses a larger, lighter and safer ball. It is a fun, fast, safe and exciting game that has been designed so that anyone can deliver the game, regardless of previous hockey experience.



We ask our Schools Ambassadors to:

- wear SAHC kit and clothing
- hand out a “Take-Home Flyer” to all participating children
- supply poster-size versions for display at the school
- write-up a brief description of the visit with any feedback

We hope to follow up our schools visits by:

- Responding to further requests from schools if we can
- Welcoming local school children to watch L1/M1 games at Oaklands
- Hosting schools games/tournaments at Oaklands
- Introducing more children to our Colts Section (Sunday mornings)
- Encouraging participation on our youth holiday camps

The SAHC Schools Project has a generous sponsor (Maureen Roe). We believe it is right that Schools Ambassadors are paid to visit schools. We will always explore with schools whether they have funding available which can be used. Subject to that, we hope to be able to pay a Schools Ambassador £25 to conduct an initial half-day school visit. We envisage that sessions at junior schools will be indoor (gym/hall) and will use QuickSticks. Schools may be encouraged to obtain their own QuickSticks kits.

We also run *Satellite Clubs* funded by Sport England: a Monday after-school hockey club at Beaumont School and a Friday lunchtime hockey club at Oaklands.

We are keen to hear from any school who may like to work with us.

Ellie Watton

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