



Carlton Redcliffs Hockey Club
CHRISTCHURCH

Annual Report

November 2017

To be presented at the

Carlton/Redcliffs Hockey Club AGM

At the Speight's Ale House - Bealey

Sunday 26 November 2017

4.00pm

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of 2016 AGM Minutes
3. Presentation and adoption of Annual Report and Accounts
4. Election of Officers
5. General Business

Office Bearers for 2017

Patrons	Monica Munt
President	Pat Barwick
Vice Presidents	John Steeds, Jeremy Symonds
Men's Club Captain	Chris Goldsbury
Women's Club Captain	Sarah Byers
Junior Club Captain	Katherine Pierce
Secretary	Ele England
Treasurer	Paula Burgess
Coaching Coordinator	Lee Munt
Committee Members	Rob McGregor, Jennifer Rutherford, Ian Dalley, Maria Hayes

Life Members

Sally Burrage (1938)	Dave Page (1976) dec	Pat Barwick (1994)
Shirley Haig (1994)	Audrey Timlin (1994) dec	Murray Connor (1994)
Leon Munt (1997)	Richard Munt (1999)	John Steeds (2000)
Pam Thompson (2001) dec	Cathy Baker (2001)	Bev Savage (2005)
Monica Munt (2006)	John Schoeman (2006)	John Christensen (2009)
Rob McGregor (2010)		

New Zealand Hockey Federation Life Member	Pat Barwick
New Zealand Hockey Masters Advisory Council	Lee Munt

2017 REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

Canterbury and National Representatives 2017

NZ Black Sticks

George Enersen	Dominic Newman	Nick Haig
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NZ Development Squad

Leah Butt	Kirsty Nation
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Canterbury Cats NHL Team 2017

Sarah Rutherford	Leah Butt	Sophie Cocks
Bridget Kiddle	Kirsty Nation	Charlotte Symes
Margot Willis	Gemma McCaw (Midlands)	

Canterbury Cavaliers NHL Team 2017

George Enersen (Captain)	Dominic Newman	Trent Summers
Tom Mouldy	Declan Keaney	Andrew Hastie (coach)

Senior Men's Team (Beavers)

Chris Goldsbury

Senior Women's Team (Barracudas)

Anna Radonovich

Kate Willis

Sally Moorfield (coach)

Canterbury Under 21 Regional Men

Declan Keaney

Canterbury Under 21 Regional Women

Leah Butt

Bridget Kiddle

Charlotte Symes

Kate Willis

Margot Willis

Canterbury Regional U18 Men

Keeley Legge

Mitchell Davis

Nick Lidstone

Liam Sharp

Lee Munt (Assistant Coach)

Tanyia Legge (Manager)

Canterbury Regional Under 18 Women

Pippa McKinnel

Brittany Wang

Chris Goldsbury (Coach)

Canterbury Association U18 Men

Sam Armitage

Lars Dalley

Gabriel Evans

Oscar Storey

Canterbury Association U18 Women

Anoushka Chiswell

Canterbury U15A Boys Team:

Liam Adams

Eshaan Patel

George McCallum-Clark

Canterbury U15A Girls Team:

Anneke Calder

Aleisha Davis

Jessica McLennan

Francesca Williamson

Jemma Watson

Canterbury U15B Boys Team:

William Shand

Oscar Parker (West Coast U15 Boys)

Canterbury Primary A Boys

Flynn Sharp

Hamish Sherratt-Smith

Canterbury Primary B Boys

Rico Gamble

Canterbury Primary B Girls

Mila Hastie

Primary Development Boys

Tim Chapman

Primary Development Girls

Sorrell Shand

Primary Training Squad - Festival of Hockey (Christchurch)

Liam Hall	Riley Jones	Fletcher Lawn	
Neve Ballin	Samantha Shaw	Holly Smith	Zoe Pierce

New Zealand and Canterbury Masters

Lee Munt Coach - NZ Men's 45s at Tranztasman series.

Trophy Awards for 2017 Season

Rodney Hefford Memorial Cup	Edward Enersen
Peter Prutton Cup	Robin Whitmore
Audrey Timlin Memorial Cup	Paula Burgess
Monica Munt Trophy	Bridget Kiddle
Special Recognition Certificate – to a promising youth player (U15)	Liam Adams
Pamela Thompson Cup	Anneke Calder
Senior Coach – John Schoeman Trophy	Leon Munt
Junior Coach – David Cox Trophy	Tara Wingfield
Amanda Hooper Memorial Cup	Sophie Cocks

Junior Awards:

Amanda Hooper Memorial Trophy:	Mila Hastie
Lee Munt Trophy:	Charlie Wise

Senior Most Valuable and Most Improved Player Awards

Team	MVP	MIP
CPL Women	Sophie Cocks	Margot Willis
Division 1 Women	Anneka Calder	Bella Stephenson/Jess McLennan
Division 2 Women	Sarah Burton	Olivia Robertson
Division 3 Girls Youth	Georgia Matheson	Claudia Wiffen
MWO	Trudie Baker	
CPL Men	Andrew Dunbar	
Division 1 Men	Chris Greenshields	Regan Black
Division 3 Men (Colts)	George Pierce	Jayden Hopkinson
Youth Boys	Blake Clements/Liam Adams	Liam McSoriley
MWO Men	George Thomas	Caleb Ballin

Junior MVP and MIP for 2017 Season

Team	MVP	MIP
Year 3/4 Super Sticks	Millie Junge	Sarah Clarkson
The Smashers	Sam Trusttun	Sam Pilbrow
Redsticks Team	Lotta Bennett	Mimi McFerrier
Pirates	Finlay Sharpe/ Liam Sullivan	Thomas Wright
Piranhas	Nina Hayes	Juliet Freeman
Sharks	Neve Ballin	Charlie Oliver
8 Wonders	Zoe Willis	Sienna Caetano
Seahawks	Jacob Crow / Duncan Clarkson	Harrison Randall
Marlins	Elizabeth Redmile / Stella Washington-Brown	Georgie Powell
Strikers	Tate Aikawa	James Aitken/ Liam Jones
Barracudas.	Kara Gooding	Samantha Kyle/ Benita Clark
Black Dogs	Kent Bamford	Kyle
Breakers	Liam Hall	Ollie Munt
Girls yr 7-8 a-side Team Black	Anna Wildbore	Leah Wilson
Red Dogs 11 a-side boys	Flynn Sharp	Christian Hille
11 a-side girls	Mila Hastie	Kiera Hall
Penguins	Summer Smith	Lucy-Rose Tulloch
Stingrays	Zara Gamble	Scarlett Pilbrow

Cathy Baker Girls Fair Play Award Carlton Redcliffs Junior 11-aside kwik sticks team

President's Report – Pat Barwick

2017 saw another solid season of club hockey enjoyed by all of our members. Nearly all teams appeared to have good numbers that made it easier to run them. We have been quietly building the senior membership and certainly there are large numbers of juniors continuing to join and enjoy hockey as a sport. Our relationship with local schools and the arrival of a group of Div 2 women players from Harewood (who were unable to field their second team on CHA rules) certainly made a positive impact on the season.

Both the Men's and Women's Premier teams had another successful season always being amongst the top playoffs in every competition. They continue to be our flagship and do us proud especially as these performances enable us to retain our players across all grades as they see positive pathways for their development.

The work done in setting up and developing the youth grades has been really positive and this is also providing a clearer pathway for Junior players coming from our very successful Junior programme. This year the Junior leaders in the club created a preseason Junior Academy that provided an opportunity for young players to have some build up to the season and develop their skills before trials. This was a solid commitment from the coaches and was ably supported by some of the CPL players which was really appreciated.

As you can see from the long list of Club Awards, CHA and NZ Player Representatives and results in this report – our members continue to be successful and perform well in all areas of the game. This is ably supported by the many volunteers who work hard to guide and enable players to be the best they can be and to provide an environment where they are well supported and can enjoy their hockey.

I particularly want to highlight our volunteers this year! With the great effort they all make we continue to grow and perform well at all levels. The committee are working towards sharing out the load of any one administration role and making each one less of a burden or time commitment. We will be very keen to hear from any of you who can assist in anything that the club needs to provide or do to keep rolling on - more hands certainly make lighter work for all but more importantly as well, is that we need the great skills of young people who can do those small IT chores that we older ones are not as familiar with. It is the way you like to communicate and get the info you need so please give us a hand. You do not have to be on the committee and attend meetings to be part of the "helping team"

Thank you firstly to all the Coaches and Managers in every club grade who assisted with teams throughout the season. It is a big task and we really do appreciate your voluntary efforts. We are fortunate to have such great people involved and are pleased to have the co-ordinators and support volunteers that back up and assist the coaches. With many parents and High School players putting their hand up in the junior section it is important for us to provide support and opportunities to learn more as they begin to coach. Rob Whitmore has fulfilled a great role in this space guiding many and providing training drills and competition information and updates. He also took a team this season so was very busy but still did well to assist.

With Ian Dalley stepping down from role of Junior Club Captain - the club needed an equally efficient substitute. Katherine Pierce (MWO Player and already a junior coach and committee member) was happy to step in. Yet again the junior club grew and managing these numbers can be a challenge; Katherine has patiently sorted teams and run trials and skills sessions where required to enable the junior players to have the best fit. Thank you to Katherine and her small group of supporters who were always on hand to manage and run this large section of the club – well done all of you.

Our juniors are very important to us as this is the future of the sport – so thank you also to the parents – who each week bring their player to practices and games. Who encourage sportsmanship, commitment and camaraderie; the hockey future thanks you.

The desire to have more social chances to mix 'mingle over player of the day awards for example once a month is being pursued for this junior group especially and we are discussing a venue for this – will be working closely with Heathcote Cricket club.

In the Youth area, Ian Dalley has again been a stalwart and is ensuring that this aspect of the club is strengthening and providing an appropriate place for the early teenage group to play and enjoy their games. I believe that CHA needs to make some strong rules to assist this level of hockey to grow and be successful for the girls as well... at least up to U15. It could be an exciting development grade. Ian is ably supported by Vaughan and Simon England especially, coaching the boys.

In the open grades we are indeed fortunate to have coaches – all mentioned by name in the division reports – of such a high calibre supporting our players. We know that our players get the best possible coaching and are certainly given opportunities to develop their game if they attend the regular training and skills nights provided. To have so many past Canterbury and NZ players giving their time back to the club in coaching roles is outstanding and I know that the players and parents appreciate this.

We also recognise and congratulate the number of parents, players and coaches who step up and coach school teams as well. Many of these school teams this year also achieved considerable accolades and successes. The club acknowledges these efforts as well.

Our committee volunteers who are often also coaches and managers have continued to drive towards building and consolidating the club again. There is still plenty to be done of course. The fresh outlook of new committee members always helps and we have enjoyed having Jenny Rutherford and Maria Hayes join us this year, and in her second year Paula Burgess has certainly made an impact in the financial aspects and systems. Members need to support her work by paying fees on time and helping her, rather than making more work having to chase these things up. We have been able to update and provide large amounts of new protective gear especially, with the funds this year.

Tanyia Legge withdrew from the committee after some good work and was instead busy coaching and managing across a number of teams (club and Canterbury level) as well as assisting other coaches. Jennifer Rutherford also resigns from the committee to a manager role with rugby league, taking her skills to a different sport. Skills developed coaching, refereeing and on committees are transferable, can be career pathways and this is an example of this. Thank you for your service to hockey.

Although we will struggle to let her go we are going to see Ele England step down from the Secretary role after a considerable time albeit in two shifts. Ele was secretary for 4 years and after a break was very helpful in stepping back in 5 ½ years ago when stalwart club member and then secretary Pam Thompson became unwell and passed away. Ele just does the job! She is efficient and very patient with us all - well for a long period before she quite rightly rages at those of us not completing a job on time (mostly reports!). Ele's skills are great and she has handled the role outstandingly, tidying up all aspects of where we used to be and especially in continuing to sort the website and relating to and working with the NZH data base and registrations, etc. We really appreciate what you have done for us Ele and will miss you a great deal - especially your humour and input around the committee table and the support you give to anyone throughout the club who has ever asked for it. You really have run the club!

The good news is that Ele is prepared to undertake a transition period where she will settle in the three new people that will take her place - yes three!! - when we find them of course. That is the size of the role today (now split into website, registrations and general correspondence - mostly with CHA) and so if you can help us please let us know and we will ensure that you will be well supported to get started. Thank You Ele – you are undoubtedly a great example of a true volunteer in sport and we have been fortunate to have you with us in Carlton Redcliffs.

Finally I want to recognise our oldest club member Sally Burrridge who turned 100 years young during the year. Sally has always maintained a strong interest in her old club and until she was moved to Wellington to be nearer family in recent years was often involved in club activity when she could be. We wish her well.

My apology for not being at the AGM this year to thank the committee personally and to thank all of you throughout the club for another solid and happy year. I wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you, and your family and friends, all return for 2018.

Treasurer's Report – Paula Burgess

Another financially successful season. The club made a small increase to all subs during the 2017 season and will look to maintaining the subs at the same rate for the 2018 season. Although this will be revised once the costs for the 2018 season are set by Canterbury Hockey.

This season the club ran a junior academy over the summer which raised around \$8,000, this was then used to purchase safety gear, resources and academy cost for the juniors.

This season the club have also been fortunate to secure grant money of \$4,000 from Pub Charity for turf fees and \$2,500 from NZ Community Trust for safety gear.

During the 2017 season the online payment system has on the whole been utilised well with the majority of all subs being fully paid by the end of the season. The club still need to encourage all to register online as there were still a number who failed to do so.

Looking forward we need to encourage members to pay their fees far earlier in the season and to complete their online registration before games start.

Canterbury Hockey costs and turf hire costs have been rising over the last few years. The club need to be mindful of this and take every opportunity to fund raise as we cannot always rely on being successful with grant applications. The challenge for 2018 and beyond is for the club to set clear financial targets, apply for grant assistance and most importantly take every opportunity to fund raise both in the senior and junior areas of the club.

Men's Club Captain Report – Chris Goldsbury

2017 might not have been one of the most successful on the pitch for the men's side, but as a whole the club can be proud of the calibre of players that pulled on the red, black and teal on a weekly basis. We had men's five teams scattered across the grades once again, with a strong core of players returning from the 2016 season along with some new players to the club.

Our Premier Men had a season of so close but yet so far, with second place finishes in the championship, CPL final, and Porritt Cup. An early season Super Six title their only piece of silverware across the season. The Division One Men had some new faces grouped with some more familiar ones, and were largely competitive throughout the season but couldn't breach the top two sides and finished in third. Our Colts and Youth sides both contained a host of new faces, some playing hockey for the first year, and both performed admirably to showcase the talent that will push through over the next few years. The Mid Week Men followed a similar path to our top two teams, with the side a nice blend mix of youth and experience, but ending in another finals defeat for the club.

We are blessed with a strong contingent of coaches on the men's side, with Jeremy Symonds continuing his role with the Premier Men, working closely with Lee Munt to ensure a pathway between our top two sides. Lee was ably assisted by Tanyia Legge, while the return of Hayden 'Bushy' Shaw to Christchurch enabled Jeremy to take flight mid-season to Bali with minimal disruption. The England brothers of Vaughan and Simon preached their hockey gospel to our Colts boys, while Hayden Chapman passed on his knowledge to our Youth Boys.

The club has a strong number of quality up and coming players, which bodes well for the future. This was emphasised with eight boys winning national titles with the Canterbury U18 Men's sides during the year. At senior level, Declan Keaney made his NHL debut for the Canterbury Cavaliers, while also representing at U21 level. Declan was joined in the Cavaliers by club newcomer Trent Summers, who also finished top of the CPL scoring charts, while Tom Mouldy made a mid-week dash to Wellington as an injury replacement. Chris Goldsbury also travelled to Wellington with the Canterbury Beavers. We also had good representation at the younger age groups, and we hope that this can continue and increase next year and beyond.

On the International Stage, George Enersen, Dominic Newman and Nick Haig flew the Redcliffs flag. While not pulling on the club colours in 2017 due to their residence in Auckland and overseas travel throughout the year, all three are committed to playing for the club when in Christchurch. All three played in the test series against Pakistan in February, with Dom then traveling to Malaysia for the Azlan Shah Cup. Nick was selected for the World League 3 in South Africa, before joining with the Herakles club in Belgium for the European Season. George captained the Cavaliers again at NHL, with Dom also taking part but being struck down by injury. George then had two trips to Australia, firstly with the NZ Development team taking part in the AHL, and again recently at the International Festival of Hockey with the Black Sticks.

We look forward to what will be an exciting, yet slightly unknown 2018. The hope is to have two new water turfs at Nga Puna Wai, with Canterbury Hockey suggesting this will be no later than June. We have a need to continue to develop our young talent, providing opportunities to them when they are ready and also continuing our strong results at the top end. Let's hope we can put a few more trophies in the cabinet at the end of the next season.

A huge thanks to all our coaches and managers that gave up their time to lead their respective sides this year – your work is hugely appreciate. We also thank the committee for doing all the hard work in the background so as players we can just do the fun stuff and play. Without you it wouldn't happen. As players we are privileged to pull the club colours, and look forward to doing it all again in 2018!

Premier Men – Jeremy Symonds (Coach)

The 2017 squad was very much the same as the 2016 side. Having proven a successful year and team formula previously it was always going to be a year measured against past exploits. The team took a slow start to the 6 a side competition and never really developed a full squad until the first competition game. The side proved to have the measure of most teams in the competition but somehow made finishing off games more difficult than it should have been each week. A good team culture and ability to lift team work rate meant the side tended to win games late in the second half.

The team managed to come second in the round robin by all but the narrowest of margins. They also made the Porritt Cup Final but were pipped at the post with numerous players unavailable on the day of the final. The team also made the Canterbury Premier League Final but again were beaten by a polished Harewood side on the day.

The season was one of near misses. Having a chance to take honours at every stop throughout the season we just couldn't manage to finish off the task.

Notable performances were plenty throughout the season. Andy Dunbar was yet again outstanding. Ed Enersen was the inspiration on many occasions and was a worthy recipient of the Rodney Hefford Trophy. Declan Keaney (also Canterbury u21), Trent Summers and Tom Mouldey all made the Cavaliers side and played National League. Chris Goldsbury played for the Canterbury B side.

In all, yet another memorable season, if not one that will leave the team thirsty for greater honours next year

Coach
Jeremy Symonds

Men's Division 1 – Lee Munt

This year's team was a mix of gnarly old buggers and young talented guys who in time will become gnarly old buggers.

We carried a squad of seventeen players and whilst that seems on the face of it to be excessive we still found it necessary to call upon more gnarly old buggers to cover the young fellas that required holidays and R and R.

In all seriousness the Club is extremely fortunate to have a group of very talented young guys in the Division 1 and premiere sides, the only problems associated with this is that there is a very heavy draw on this talent for school first elevens and age group Rep sides.

Managing these players is extremely important to avoid player burnout and hence the need to carry a larger group.

Performances ranged from superb to average and I guess consistency was our eventual downfall with a final placing of 3rd equal in the championship.

The Division 1 men's and Prem teams contributed 8 players to the Canterbury U18 men's' regional and association teams - both teams winning their respective tournaments so a big congratulations to them all.

A big thank you to Tanyia Legge for her contribution as our Assistant Coach and Manager by default, I could always rely on Taniya to make sure everyone was reminded about trainings, game times and venues although that did not always mean that we all got it right.

To Mike, Dean, Greenie, Andy and Coleman thanks for making the younger guys feel welcome and where and when appropriate pass on some of the knowledge / experience you have.

The future I believe is very bright if we can continue to foster the talented players we have had over the last couple of years, but we cannot rest on our laurels and must create opportunities and challenge these guys to be even better.

Cheers
Lee Munt

Colts – Division 3 Men – Vaughan and Simon England

For the start of the season it was good to see some old faces return and new faces joining. It was going to be a hard season with the spine of our team from last year moving up a grade. With so many new players, we were looking forward to rebuilding the team.

With the grading games there were some hard fought victories and loses. In the end the team was graded into Division 3 men. The first half of the season we started off very strong, winning the first couple of games and ending up sitting near the top of the table. We carried this strong performance to the start of the second half.

The second half of the season, we had a lot rough patches throughout. It became increasingly harder to win games as the teams around us found their stride and our younger players started to find it hard to keep up with this increase in pace of the game. At the end of the season we ended 6th in our grade.

Overall it was a great season, thanks to Ian for managing the team. We are looking forward to next season with the team.

Youth Boys

This year we committed to enter a youth team early in the season despite being short in the Colts team. We had a good group of year 9 boys coming through from 2016 and we managed to pick up some young lads who didn't make the Avon youth team.

Hayden Chapman did a great job with the team on game day and they ended up 4th in a very even competition. Vaughan and Simon England were crucial through the season when Hayden was unwell as both the youth and colts teams trained together.

Special mention to senior players Blake Clements and Liam Adams who provided the strength in the team and often played on Sunday for the colts as well. The team had excellent support from some year 8 boys who show excellent promise - Flynn Sharp, James Griffen, Rico Gamble and Connor Robertson, as well as one year 7 boy Hamish Sherratt-Smith, who more than made up the numbers when the team was short.

Well done to our MVP and MIP recipients. Thanks also to managers Ben sharp and Dino Patel.

Midweek Open – Greg Pierce

We had another enjoyable season. The grade was a quite even so most weeks the games were close.

We ended up fifth in the league but only 2 or 3 points away from second. However, we clawed our way through to the final, losing 5 - 4.

Many thanks to all those who turned up each week and to those from the club that umpired us.

Congratulations to George Thomas and Caleb Ballin our MVP and MIP.

Women's Club Captain's Report – Sarah Byers

The CPL Women started off the season with another tough trial selection due to the high calibre of players. With some new sponsorship for the team, thanks to McKenzie & Willis and Shine Lawyers, the girls also looked the part as they began their campaign to retain their CPL title. Their season started off in the right direction, taking out the South Island Super 6 Tournament and they continued throughout the season sitting comfortably in the top 3. They however, were unlucky to not reach the final after an eventful semi which was rained off and then replayed after a contentious decision to play the remaining 17min and not go straight to shoot out.

The team finished the season in 3rd place and while the goal of winning wasn't reached, it was another great season on and off the field with the girls continuing to build on the foundation of the team which comes from hard work but also a lot of enjoyment.

The Div One Women reached the semi-finals for the first time for some years which was a credit to the hard work and the continued growth in this team. While the team didn't make the final, they certainly made their mark as a strong and competitive side. The team developed well throughout the season with a number of players highly impressing the CPL team when they were called upon to fill in for their side. Overall, the team had another successful year that resulted in individual successes within Canterbury selections and this will hopefully continue in the seasons to come.

The Div Two Women welcomed the addition of a group of players from Harewood who brought the team some new skills and experience. Along with the existing team members of previous years, the team looked strong for the season ahead. With two different coaches taking the team throughout the season, the girls

adapted well and maintained their focus throughout the season. The team finished up in 6th place after some tough games, but as the players continue to build and develop together, it is exciting to see what 2018 will bring.

The Div 3 Women was a new team for the Club that was built from a range of players from different schools and junior clubs. It took the team some time to get to know each other and get used to playing with one another which resulted in some tough matches. Despite a difficult first round, the team kept their heads up and continued to give it their all. Once the team was finally placed in the middle tier of the competition, results started to come their way and they finished off the season in a much more competitive position.

Overall, Carlton Redcliff's had another strong season which was driven by not only the hard-working players, but also the dedicated coaches and managers who worked tirelessly to help develop their teams.

I would like to thank everyone for their commitment to the Club and I look forward to what 2018 brings!

Premier Women – Sally Moorfield and Shirley Haig

The season started with 17 players being selected from 3 trials. The trials were well attended and Shirley Haig, Pat Barwick and Sally Moorfield were the selectors.

Only 3 new players were added to the team. Brittany Wang an exciting young player and our only school girl this year, Sophie Cox a Black stick who requested to come to the club and Leah Butt after a 4 years away in Dunedin returned to the team.

During the year Ruby Huschild left for the States and Jacqui Moorfield joined the team in July.

Claudia Leighs organised a sponsorship with Shine Lawyers and also McKenzie and Willis. With this funding the players got tee-shirts and tops. We also got a coaches board, and bag.

The team won the South Island Super 6 tournament with a highly skilled team and were runner-up in the Monday night super 6.

The CPL was again a competition between the 3 top teams. Harewood, HSOB's and Redcliffs. We drew with HSOB's and Harewood and lost to them both by a single goal to finish 3rd in the round robin and faced HSOB's in the semi-final.

This semi-final was washed out with 17 minutes to go and despite the umpires and both teams agreeing to abandon the match and just play the shoot out at a later date, the competition committee enforced us to play the 17 remaining minutes on the Wednesday night. Unfortunately this was a time slot when we had three players out who we were not allowed to replace.

HSOB's scored early in the 17 minutes and we never recovered. We finished the season well with a comprehensive beating of Marist to finish the season 3rd.

Although 17 players should be plenty there were Saturdays during the season when only 8 of these were available. I would recommend that in following seasons players are expected to play all Saturdays.

Trainings were taken on Monday evenings by John Radonovich. He is a great coach and the players were very lucky to have him take these sessions. The skill level of the players especially the strikers improved with his coaching. I took the Wednesday trainings and the girls ran a fitness session beforehand.

Helen Willis again managed the team on the sidelines. Thanks. Sarah Rutherford organised the uniforms, umpires and finances of the team. This work really helps the team run smoothly.

Many players represented Canterbury and New Zealand. Congratulations to all players listed earlier in the club report.

A big thanks to the Carlton Redcliffs committee for all their great work. Especially Ele for being so easy to deal with and sympathetic to the coaches when we ask for something.

Over all a very successful season, just couldn't quite repeat last years success - 2018. Will be our year !!
Sally Moorfield Coach.

Women's Division 1 – Pat Barwick (Coach)

It was an enjoyable experience for me to share the season with this team again. We had a difficult start with serious early season injuries that meant some very young players had to step up early and take responsibility. The team started as a good balance of young and experience but the 3 senior players who were injured meant a big loss to the team and especially when we also saw Ru leave for her overseas trip in late May.

The group were “keen to learn” and that always makes it easy to coach and to have fun doing so. Yes, it was an interesting season balancing injuries, players being involved with more than one or even more than two teams at various stages and therefore needing to allow time away from our training to save overload. Everyone was very responsible about this – those that could be at trainings and games and those that needed to take time - All of these things were a challenge, but all coped with the scene so well and, that we made the semis in spite of it all was fantastic and I was very proud of them. Div One has not made it to semis for a long time and whilst this was very pleasing- I think the WAY we played was for me the most pleasing aspect of our season. I do try to give the players plenty of responsibility as I believe that it improves their decision making on the field and once used to this coaching style they begin to grow and understand why I encourage certain playing patterns and ask a lot of questions of them. As we got more into the season there was a lot of good talk and sharing of ideas along with support of each other on the pitch. It made for a strong passing game where all players are both needed and respected in the game plan. No-one can play this game on their own! We finished 4th.

A number of players had the chance to fill in for CPL and also experienced great success with their “other” teams and that was a super bonus and a recognition of personal performances as well. Representative players are listed in the report and also our MVP and MIP recipients - just need to add that our MVP Anneka Calder was also named the Canterbury U15A team MVP as well. Well done!

So- thank you, as all contributed to us being a good team and a happy one. Thank you to EJ who took the bulk of the leadership role. Great effort. I must also say how good it was to have the injured turn up in the dugout as much as you all did, and the help that Nush and Fran did too, doing the stats while injured. I really respected that commitment to the team by all of you when you could have been frustrated and stayed away. It probably showed how well you all supported each other and wanted the team to succeed. Thank you again! Look forward to seeing you next year.

Women's Division 2 – Paul Bamford (Coach)

Our women's season started with a few new team members this year – this included a welcome addition of players from the Harewood club. This has given us a good squad - new as well as existing team members.

The team started with Clare as coach from last season however she departed to the US on a planned trip in early May. Pat approached me to coach for the rest of the season which I accepted. With that I found we had a team of very capable and talented players enthusiastic and always willing to learn new skills. Their dedication and commitment on the field was always 100% - and from a coaching view, myself and Jo Leith, our brilliantly organised manager, were always proud of the way the team played.

Harnessing a range of abilities helped performance and getting consistently better results as the season progressed was an important goal. Round one was really a building phase in the season and with round 2 rapidly approaching targeting a higher table position for the end of the season seemed a reasonable quest. The second round had numerous results where we really showed how well we could play even with some losses that didn't reflect the game. A key victory including one over the Hornby team reversing the first up loss late in round 2 was a real boost and helped pull us up to play off for places 5 and 6 vs Marist. The girls gave it their all but with the game tied until the last 3 minutes Marist broke the deadlock and won unfortunately. This effectively left us 6th overall for the season from 9 teams.

I have no doubt that this team can certainly improve in 2018.

The Division 2 team is still a feeder to the Division 1 Women's team – with a number of the young women in our team filling in at times for Division 1 means this is working well for our club.

Awards for season:

Most valuable player – Olivia Robertson

Most improved player – Sarah Burton

I enjoyed coaching this team during the season, they are a fantastic group of young athletes and I really must thank Jo for her emphatic support as manager – it really made the coaching easy. We didn't always get the results we wanted however sometimes there are games like that! Look forward to coaching this team again in 2018 - if required.

Midweek Open White

Not available at time of publication

Women's Division 3 – John Steeds

The Carlton Redcliffs Women's Division 3 Youth team was a new team in the club for the 2017 season, the nucleus being the South New Brighton Primary girls who had played primary hockey for the club last year. They were joined by other year 9 girls and some year 10 girls from several different high schools. This formed a very large squad, in fact too large, but it became a manageable 16 after a couple of promotions to Division 2 and 2 withdrawals.

After a couple of practices at Nunweek Park we had learned each other's names and our season started in the top tier of 3 in the youth competition (age eligibility U18). Our young team struggled against opposition nearer the upper age end and we found it difficult to hold possession, establish a pattern, and learn new positions when under considerable pressure. To the girls' credit, they stuck at the task and kept positive despite the losses which were to continue until we could be re-graded after 1 full round of 8 games.

At mid-season we were placed in the middle tier, still with some of the teams that had beaten us, however over the 9 remaining games we posted 3 wins, 1 draw and reduced our losing margins from earlier on.

Morgan Bailey captained the side extremely well, leading by example and contributing to the team culture on and off the field. She was a solid performer in the halves and developed into a very capable right half by season end.

Our MVP was Georgia Matheson who played well in several forward positions before we settled on centre half where her skill and work-rate enabled her to be strong defensively, distribute the ball effectively, and support the forwards on attack. She was also successful as penalty corner striker.

Claudia Wiffen was our MIP. Claudia played in goal and kept our losing margins respectable, especially in the first half of the season. She made spectacular saves throughout the season and filled in for the Division 2 team several times.

I need to thank Jason May for helping with the coaching at every practice. This meant we could divide the squad up and work on different skills at times. Jo Chalmers took on the role of manager early on which freed me up to just think about the hockey. Jo also organised a very enjoyable team dinner at the Ferryhead Winnie Bagoes at the end of the season.

John Steeds

Junior Club Captain

Katherine Pierce

Kia ora koutou! 2017 has been a very successful but busy season as our junior club continues to grow.

This year we started our Junior Academy, an Andrew Hastie initiative. It involved 4 sessions of 2 hours and attracted over 80 children ranging from Year 4 to Year 8.

A huge amount of work to get this off the ground was taken on by Tara Wingfield, supported by Rob Whitmore. Other key contributors were Caleb Ballin, and Tanyia Legge. The sessions were organized and co-ordinated by Andrew Hastie. There was a large contingent of coaches including current coaches and both Premier Men and Women players. The drills were well thought out and well received by all involved. The feedback from the parents and children was very positive and we will look to run a similar academy in 2018.

There was once again an increased number of children trialing for our Junior teams. Following these 18 teams were registered.

Our Junior teams comprised

- 2 Year 11 Girls teams
- 1 Year 11 Boys team
- 1 6 aside Year 7/8 Boys team
- 6 Year 5/6 Girls teams
- 3 Year 5/6 Boys teams
- 3 Year ¾ Girls teams
- 2 Year ¾ Boys teams

Unfortunately we did not manage to get **Funsticks** up and running at Sumner school, as numerous potential co-ordinators of the programme fell through. We hope to restart this next year. Shirley Haig ran a version of it in Opawa.

Notable achievements for the junior club this year were as follows:

Canterbury Representative Team Selections.

Primary A Boys, Hatch Cup Tournament (5th Place)

- Flynn Sharpe
- Hamish Sherratt-Smith

Primary B Boys, McGrath (1st Place)

- Rico Gamble

Primary Development Boys

Tm Chapman

Primary B Girls, McGrath (1st Place)

- Mila Hastie –

Primary Development Girls

- Sorrell Shand

Primary Training Squad, Festival of Hockey (Chch)

- Liam Hall, Riley Jones, Fletcher Lawn.
- Neve Ballin, Samantha Shaw, Holly Smith, Zoe Pierce

I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all the coaches and managers, who tirelessly accomplished up to 18 practices during the weeks, from March till August and 18 games on weekends, not to forget the emailing and texting, the answering of parents questions and the juggle of subbing super enthusiastic athletes. And not to forget the skills and understanding of hockey they have passed on to their teams.

Have a Safe and Happy Christmas and I hope to see you all back in 2018.

Boys Teams

Red Dogs -11 Aside Boys Division 1

Andrew Van der Bent and Hugh Williams
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Managed by Ben Sharp

Of our 14 team members, we had a relatively young squad this season with 8 year 7s and 6 year 8s. We started the year very competitively, placing second in the Nunweek Super-6 Tournament at the end of May.

Right from the beginning we were sorted into Division 1. Having already had a taste of the competition in the Super-6 tournament, we knew there would be some tough competition, but also that we were going to be highly competitive.

There were two main emphases this year: developing stronger stick skills and improving the quality of our passes. Trainings were tough, but the boys all developed strongly in these areas.

Overall, we didn't perform quite as well as we would have hoped. There were times when our boys lost matches due to a lack of belief in their abilities. On the other hand, there were times when the boys defended superbly, and I have no doubts that we would have had the highest penalty corner strike rate of any team in the division. We finished the season somewhere in the middle of the pack.

We had four boys selected for Canterbury teams this year which was an outstanding achievement. Hamish Sherratt-Smith and Flynn Sharp were selected for the Canterbury Hatch Cup Team, Rico Gamble was selected for the Canterbury B team, and Tim Chapman was selected for the Canterbury Development Squad.

Thanks Ben Sharp for doing an amazing job managing the squad this season. Thanks to Glen Robertson for assisting with practices and games -especially when Hugh was late or unable to make it. Also, thanks to Deb Robertson for getting us access to the new Rangī turf on a couple of occasions. Thanks to all the other fantastic parents for their support and encouragement.

Black Dogs – 6 aside; year 7 and 8

Hayden Chapman

This was a team of mainly year 6 and 7 players. The season had its challenges and it was great to see the boys pull together and play well as a team over the season. The boys worked hard on the basics and understanding the importance of getting these right. There were some excellent sets of play during the season across the whole team. Thanks to Vaughan England for coming down and running some of our week day training sessions.

This team will be stronger in 2018.

Breakers – 6 aside; year 5 and 6	Dean Munt and Murray Harrington
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The year 5/6 Breakers team had a really good season that the team and club can be proud of. The season started with trials, which were a bit different for the boys, and the coaches, and meant that the make-up of the team was a bit different for them.

We started the season in the top division and were one of only 3 teams to remain in that top division right through the season. We had solid wins against all but one team, Marist over the first few rounds, which included some big wins where we scored some great team goals.

By the time the third round started, the competition organisers finally got the 6 strongest teams into the top division and we had 5 really tough games to finish the season. Whilst there was a loss and a draw involved, we did win the majority of these games, including a fantastic win against Marist in our last game.

One of the challenges that we did have this season was that we did not have a permanent goalie, which became more obvious as the season went on. Whilst the boys all had turns, and a number were excellent, it made a huge difference when we were able to use Finlay from the Pirates team and we thank him and the team for making his services available.

All the boys contributed to our results, and with about half the team eligible to play in the same grade next year, things are looking bright. We have 3 boys that will be moving up to 11 a-side next season and they are all outstanding players who I'm sure will be very successful moving to full field hockey.

Finally, big thanks to the parents of the team. We always had a heap of support at our games, which I know the boys enjoyed.

Pirates – 6 aside; year 5 and 6	Tara Wingfield
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This season the Pirates team took to the field in eager anticipation, yet despite the team's enthusiasm and Black Sticks attitude we suffered a hard start with our fitness and skills not matching the division we were assigned to. After several significant losses we were grateful to be regraded into a lower division.

Our first game in the new division granted us a significant 7/0 win and the collective efficacy of the boys rose considerably. From that point forward, we didn't look back and enjoyed a great season.

Charlie Taylor and Ayrton Edwards demonstrated that in one season you can become apt, skilled and a valued member of the team. Ayrton was fast, showed good stick work with a ferocious tackle, and Charlie blew us away with his tenacity to play anywhere.

Throughout our games we relied heavily on our backs, with Henry Forgie showing enormous potential in defence with big hits and constantly stopping the breakaways.

Sefton Wingfield and Mackie Page showed outstanding performance as defenders, and channelled 'Gandalf the Grey' by adopting his mantra - "they shall not pass!"

Finlay Sharpe brought a sense of stability to a rather manic side - behind his quiet and gentle manner lurked Jaws just waiting to defend as Goalie (watch this space).

The grace of our forwards was enjoyed by all - Liam Sullivan led the charge as a right wing and his tenacity was likened to a Jack Russell terrier who wouldn't let go of the ball. Thomas Wright showed great adaptability and took ownership over left wing, and finally Callum Gard deservedly played centre forward for most of our games due to his great strategic play.

Well done boys - a great season and deservedly the Division 3 Champions!

Seahawks – 6 aside; year 5 and 6

Tara Wingfield

The Seahawks had a stunning season and all the players finished with a solid set of hockey skills, a strong understanding of the game and enormous team spirit. Our strikers stood out throughout the majority of our games; Harrison Randall, who took over left wing and owned it, Jacob Craw who developed great stick work and was well placed as our centre forward, and Tim Phillips who brought an incredible run rate to the team and a passion for right wing. Our strikers were well supported with Duncan Clarkson who provided a great tackle as well as the dexterity to also play as a back.

We were lucky to have the 'Brothers Grim' on our team - Alex and Logan Neville-Clist carved out the defence. Alex has a tenacious tackle and incredible grit when it got tough, and Logan was well trusted and formidable as our goalie. Max Barclay joined us for half the season and we look forward to his return, as his dyed orange hair and high run rate stood out! Likewise, Matthew Rickard (a complete rookie) showed a strong understanding of the game, great team support and a willingness to keep trying.

It was a pleasure to coach this team. The boys were respectful, were willing to learn and shared a love of the game. Thank you to our manager Claire Randall, and to Dave Clarkson and Steve McEwan who helped enormously with every practice. The Seahawks went from a beginner team to placing 3rd in their championship. Well done

Strikers – 6 aside; year 3 and 4

Georgie Jones

Season Team Report for 'The Strikers' Year 3 and 4 Boys Hockey Team ... 'The Strikers' hockey team consists of 8 fantastic boys aiming to have a good time on the turf. At practice and in the game, I think they have achieved this. They took the opportunity to turn any serious coaching moment into a bit of a joke at practice, which has kept the fun element alive and well.

The boys' basic skills have developed and improved over the season, understanding more about running with the ball on their stick, pushing to a teammate, working together to defend and score a goal and going up to make a tackle. They have more of an understanding of the different positions and how each is important to the team and the end result, not just playing up front and being the one to pop the ball in the goal! We had a few games with first up defensive holes making some heads drop, so one focus was to keep a positive team spirit and determination throughout the game. At times this has been challenging but they have certainly made great gains on this and it shows in their play till the full-time whistle as the season draws to a close.

This has been a fun team to coach, full of personality. It's been a joy to watch their skills and attitude develop over the season.

Smashers – 6 aside; year 3 and 4

David Pilbrow

This year 3-4 team was made up of novice hockey players and we struggled initially to find enough players to get to the six needed for a team. It was a learning year with all players needing to learn the basic skills of hockey and a few tactics. Our inexperience was reflected in our results with only a couple of wins during the season but towards the end there was a definite improvement in skill and understanding. Some of the skills practiced during the week were finally put into play with good results and better games in the last 1/3 of the season.

Practicing with the Strikers each week was an advantage with some of their more experienced players able to show why practice was important and we could develop tactics together which were invaluable during games.

With more practice there should be some good players in the future.

Girls Teams

Red Team – 11 aside; year 7 and 8

Andrew Hastie and Tanyia Legge

This year's team ended up with a fair balance of Yr 7 and 8 girls which meant some previous 11 aside experience and then some with none. It is a huge step up for those girls coming from 6 aside; the size of the field and the work required on the field to be competitive is quite daunting!

The fact that most of these girls attended the Carlton Redcliffs Academy gave them some idea of what it would be like for the season but even the first game was a shock for them in Division 1. After a round, we moved down into Division 2 where we were more competitive and at the end of the season started scoring goals and having some wins and all of us were enjoying it a lot more! We could see that it just "clicked" in those last few weeks for the girls.

Our MIP player worked hard at each training and we could really see improvement in her understanding of her position and using her skills. This was shown by scoring a fantastic goal in our last game. Congratulations Kiera Hall.

Our MVP is a Players choice award this season and has been chosen by the team. She ran herself into the ground every week, tackled and tackled, her ball skills were great and an awesome passer. Congratulations Mila Hastie.

Congratulations to Mila for her selection into the Canterbury B girls' team. They travelled to Rotorua in the October holidays for the McGrath Tournament coming away with a 1st=.

Also, congratulations to Sorell Shand for her selection into the Canterbury Primary Development Girls team. They competed in the Festival of Hockey here in Christchurch finishing in 2nd place.

They were a lovely bunch of girls to coach, it was great to see the improvement each week, and having the space at St Margaret's to train certainly made a difference we believe to that improvement. We're just keen to get the "nice" out of them on the field!

So well done to all of the team and we really look forward to seeing you all back in Carlton-Redcliffs colours next season.

Black Team – 11 aside; year 7 and 8

Rob Whitmore

The stats:

Played 14 games, won 7, lost 5, drew 2, scored 30 goals, conceded 13, ended up 2nd in the competition
Started with 16 players, gave away 2, gained 1, lost 1 to the North Island and 1 broke her elbow, 5 players had never played hockey before, all learned to play and 1 scored 2 goals in the semi-final!

The season:

As coach, I was very pleased with the team's progress, which peaked in the semi-final with an excellent 4 – 0 win, demonstrating great passing and tight marking. For a long time, there was an ingrained 6 a-side instinct to get the ball and immediately hit or push it straight back up the middle of the field, hoping it would get to a striker. Inevitably, it would be trapped by the increasingly skilful year 7 and 8 players and the eventual remedy was to take the time to scan and pass out wide. I saw players having fun and learning things and I hope they will all continue playing hockey during the coming years.

I would like to thank Martin Johnson for filling the Manager role so well, helping me with vocal instructions during the games and covering for me when I was away. I would also like to thank Tanyia Legge and her daughter Maeve for their ongoing support at practice nearly every week, aided by Margot Willis for 5 weeks in the middle of the season. We had an excellent group of supportive parents, thank you all for your ongoing support throughout the year.

Sharks – 6 aside; year 5 and 6	Caleb Ballin
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The season started like every other.... A new team, raw and untapped potential. Moulding clay in the right hands!

THE SHARKS TEAM: Neve Ballin, Lily Ballin, Zoe Pierce, Anwym Merchant Williams, Holly Smith, Charlie, Sam Shaw and Sophie Cusiel

Coaches: Katherine Pierce and Caleb Ballin

Manager: Sue Cusiel

Time Keeper and subs manager maestro (Caleb was terrible at it and got demoted): Miranda Ballin wisely took over.

THE SEASON: The preseason started off in grading games for division 1 where we lost most of our games to HSOB, Marist, Southern, with wins against Rangiora, and Harewood.

After a difficult decision having lost a number of games in the grading games the Redcliffs sharks decided to bravely fight on in division one.

We had a great group of girls who really improved throughout the season. The coaches real focus was on developing all round skills, with a real focus on playing a skilful game of hockey.

In the end, the Sharks went on to beat Marist, HSOB and STAC, St Albans and after losing the final by one goal to Southern, they finished second in the championship.... Not bad for a team that lost nearly all of their grading games!

Overall the team finished in second place.

Piranhas – 6 aside; year 5 and 6	Andrew Hawkes
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Team

Courtney Iliffe, Grace McGregor, Helena McLaughlin, Holly Griffin, Juliet Freeman (MIP), Nina Hayes (MVP), Olivia Hawkes, Tessa Durkin; Coach: Andrew Hawkes, Manager: Christina Freeman.

Following two narrow early season losses the Piranhas had a fantastic year in Division 3 with the remainder of games being wins and some hard fought draws. All games were very close with some exciting hockey being played.

The standout feature of the Piranhas play was how they linked and passed as a team, with this often being pointed out by the opposition coaches. Backed by some super support on the side-line the team had an excellent year.

Nina Hayes provided the gel for the team in goal and made outstanding saves all season. Courtney Iliffe was very strong on the ball and scored some fantastic goals. Grace McGregor anchored the defensive and made some telling tackles as well as possessing a strike weapon with her hit on penalty corners. Holly Griffin was a dynamo and showed determination all year. Helena McLaughlin has developed excellent balance as a hockey player and has some deft skills, whilst Olivia Hawkes grew in confidence and displayed accurate passing skills all season setting up some nice goals. Juliet Freeman was hugely determined and showed great improvement, especially with her skills on the ball. Tessa Durkin was renowned for her speed and some great determination in scoring some excellent goals. Many thanks to Christina Freeman for her help in managing the team. From a coaches point of view it was a thoroughly enjoyable season.

Barracudas – 6 aside; year 5 and 6

Scott Kyle

At the start of the season the Barracudas were a yet to be proven team as only half of the team had ever played hockey before. The first game was a real shock for the girls, as well as the coach, where we met a very strong and obviously well drilled team. The girls tried their best in this game managing to compete very well considering their inexperience and complete lack of positional play. Luckily, the experienced players held the game together keeping the score down to an acceptable level. After the first games shock had passed, the team steadily developed over the next few weeks and within no time flat were becoming a team not to be taken lightly.

We only had six players which was a concern at first, but we managed to get help when needed from other teams, where we borrowed an excellent goalie and later a great fullback. Having only six girls the pressure was always on, one time against the top team we had a bad injury and had to play most of the game with only five players, but fortunately all the girls rose to the occasion and we ended up winning anyway. Other bonuses only having six players were no subbing and more time on the field to improve and improve they did. Apart from the last game, the girls dominated the grade winning almost all their matches, which they should be very proud of.

Overall, the Barracuda's had an excellent season, the teams' skill and knowledge of the game improved considerably and surprisingly all the girls developed a slightly different set of skills, which complimented each other and worked perfectly within the team. The environment was positive and enjoyable, and this was made possible by a combination of factors such as, good coaching, good management, supportive parents and most of all a great bunch of girls. I hope that all the girls have enjoyed the year and will take their new skills and knowledge with them into 2018.

Stingrays – 6 aside; year 5 and 6
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Jay Jeram

The Stingrays team: Beau Landells, Esha Jeram, Hester Nott, Olivia Doughty, Scarlett Pilbrow, Zara Gamble, London Vuleta.

The Stingrays girls team had a great season. We won 8 drew 3 lost 3. We had a good run in the second half of the season. All the girls played so well and practiced hard. Our MVP was Zara Gamble and MIP was Scarlett Pilbrow. I would like to thank the club for a great set up, our team manager Colette Doughty and most important all the parents support on the sideline on game day.

Marlins – 6 aside; year 5 and 6
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Andy Rule

The Marlins team started the season with some experienced players, some newcomers and some newbie coaches.

Our Team building started with a team chant, fun practice sessions and extravagant player of the day prizes. The Marlins bonded quickly and developed a strong defence; they backed each other up and scrapped hard for draws and wins.

Game day involved a pre-game talk (that was largely ignored) and a lot of yelling at players (mainly my daughter, as I was scared of parents) and an expectation of a good result, which the team delivered more often than not.

Because of the pressure put on players for results we made our practice sessions as fun as possible, which was easy as we had no idea what to do anyhow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tara Wingfield and her team for the practice games and advice that made the Marlins so competitive and Marlins co-coach Chris Powell for his organising skills and motivation.

A big high five goes to the experienced players that formed the backbone of the team as new players came to grips with the technical aspects of the game.

Red Sticks – 6 aside; year 5 and 6**Lyn Jansen**

Another great season with the Redsticks girls. The girls have had a variety of games showing determination and real commitment. One supporter on the sideline commented how impressed she was that the girls never gave up! I have never seen the girls give up or get down hearted despite the score. The girls have scored 17 goals over the season and finished in 5th place out of 6 in Division 5. Special mention to an awesome bunch of parents/grandparents/ siblings and friends supporting on the side line. I am always so impressed by the encouragement and support they give the girls.

Neveah and Paige have held the Redsticks tight defence and controlled the play from the back. Neveah is a cool, calm player and developing her auto pass and strong hit from the back. Paige has a good eye for the ball, good timing going in for the tackle and is not phased by size or speed of the opposition. Mimi is quick, strong on the ball and has clicked in this year to the feel of the game and passing the ball. Annabelle is the youngest player and only her second year playing. She will be one to notice down the track. Impressive ball control, a right drag that is better than mine and she is speedy and agile. Lexi's strength is dribbling the ball and keeping it on her stick and her hockey is improving each season. Briarley is speedy and hungry to score goals and has got the feel for moving into space to be available for the pass. Amelia has a high work rate and is handy both up front and in midfield; she is determined to get the ball and puts pressure on. Lotta stands out in both her dribbling and control of the ball; she is looking for the pass and has been the top goal scorer for the season.

Great bunch of keen and fun girls. Look forward to 2018.

Coach: Lyn Jansen

Manager: Barbie Harrison

8 Wonders – 6 aside; year 3 and 4**Richard Schoeman**

Our Team of eight girls were from four different schools, five of them having played Fun Sticks the previous year and 3 who were experiencing hockey for the first time.

For me the season wouldn't be about winning but trying to teach the girls basic skills, developing confidence to use those skills but most of all to have fun while doing it. We had 20 practice sessions during the season and all 8 girls attended just about every practice, which showed their dedication and willingness to learn. I believe the practices were always challenging, varied and hopefully fun!

Due to the girls being from different schools, team-building exercises helped the girls to interact and become part of the TEAM. Individual One on One sessions also helped to identify weaknesses and are definitely beneficial at this early age of development.

The initial grading games were pretty much one-sided affairs with us conceding many goals but each time the girls kept their heads up, kept smiling, and were all at practice the next week eager to learn which was fantastic.

Once graded, our games started to become closer and the skills training was starting to show, and we managed to have a couple of very good wins. The passing and effort being shown was recognised not just by the parents but also by the girls themselves as they started to believe and have confidence in the skills they now had.

Still a long way to go but I'm sure the girls will all be back next year, a little bit older, wiser, faster, stronger, but all with 8 new friends!

Lastly, I have to thank all the girls' parents who were so supportive throughout the season; it made coaching their daughters so rewarding especially when they could see the improvements being made.
Cheers Schoey

Super Sticks – 6 aside; year 3 and 4

Karen Aitken

The Super Sticks have had a great season, I have been very lucky to have coached a great bunch of girls with a great bunch of parents. The parents were very supportive, positive and fun.

The Super sticks have come so far in a such a short amount of time, we started the season as complete beginners, not knowing how to hold our sticks to showing some really awesome skills on the field. I'm so proud of each of the girls and this has been a very rewarding experience. Every player improved enormously both in their stick skills and understanding of the game.

Sarah Clarkson's was our most improved player as her skills had improved immensely , she listened well and tried her best at training and at the games. She was a wee dynamite on the field giving it her all! Our most valuable player went to Millie Junge who had a huge workload on the field on both attack and defence. She saved quite a few goals as well as being the highest goal scorer this season.

Thank you Karen Junge

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