



HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

# HOCKEY WALES

ANNUAL

REPORT

2021–2022



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## INTRODUCTION

This year, Hockey Wales are delighted to share stories and news of on pitch hockey activity – something we have not been able to do for some time! As we continue to return to normality, we remind ourselves of our purpose and how we have successfully worked towards achieving our strategic intent during a complex period. The team at Hockey Wales have not only survived the global pandemic but have thrived and continued to remain focused on creating thriving environments; helping people achieve their potential; creating opportunities; engaging our membership; and developing partnerships.

We continue to build upon our ambition to become less reliant on public funding, more commercially minded, and a sustainable carbon neutral organisation. We welcome the opportunity to work with like-minded organisations as we strive to put hockey in everyone's household, continuously perform on the world stage, and thrive in schools and communities.

## CHAIR & CEO MESSAGE

It is with immense pleasure we open this year's annual report displaying a year full of hockey activity. It has been lovely to share experiences and see happy faces enjoying the sport we love. The pandemic has taught us to be kind to each other and to appreciate how lucky we are, and as we return to hockey, we would like us to continue with this in our minds. Our volunteers, hockey family and staff continue to work extremely hard to ensure our sport is thriving across communities and we are extremely grateful to all who make hockey happen.

This annual report provides an opportunity to share our brilliant achievements as a Hockey Family: 100s of primary school children engaging in our Hooked on Hoci programme; 200+ exceptional young ambassadors leading the way; our exceptional third team who umpire and officiate our games; our amazing Masters programme that continues to grow in numbers and age with our eldest players over 80 years of age; our Clubs who inspire their communities; and our exceptional performance on the world stage, notably our senior men qualifying for the World Cup for the first time in history. But we must not forget the unseen. The hours of work, risk management, business support and good governance that allow our wonderful game to happen.

As we look forward to a more consistent and brighter prospect where hockey is not interrupted by the global pandemic, we are excited for our future. A future where hockey is in everyone's house, where we continue to perform on the world stage, and where hockey is thriving in our communities and schools. We hope you enjoy our annual report and take the time to reflect on the journey we have been on together - a journey that shows we are Better Together.



Conrad Funnell  
Chair



Ria Burrage-Male  
Chief Executive Officer

A full-page background image of a hockey player in a red jersey, rendered in a halftone dot pattern. The player is in a dynamic pose, leaning forward. Overlaid on the image are several white geometric lines: a solid curved line on the left, a dashed curved line below it, and two solid diagonal lines crossing the frame. The word 'ENGAGEMENT' is printed in white on a dark grey rectangular background in the upper left.

# ENGAGEMENT

## CLUBS ANALYSIS

### A MEMBERSHIP RANGING FROM AGES 4-82

#### % MEMBERSHIP IN WALES



HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

##### TOTAL MEMBERSHIP (TOP 5)

Swansea HC  
Whitchurch  
Gwent  
Cardiff University  
Cardiff & Met



##### SENIOR MEN (TOP 5)

Cardiff & Met  
Swansea HC  
Cardiff University  
Whitchurch  
Bridgend



##### SENIOR WOMEN (TOP 5)

Cardiff University  
Swansea HC  
Cardiff & Met Ladies  
Whitchurch Saints  
Gwent



##### JUNIOR BOYS (TOP 5)

Whitchurch  
Cowbridge Juniors  
Gwent  
Eirias HC  
Swansea HC



##### JUNIOR GIRLS (TOP 5)

Teigrod Tywi HC  
Penarth Ladies  
Merched Pwllheli HC  
Whitchurch  
Gwent

Please note: 'Top 5' refers to most amount of members.

#### CLUBS CATERING FOR MEMBERSHIP CLASSES



HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

N<sup>o.</sup> of  
CLUBS

% of  
CLUBS

SENIOR MEN

24

36

SENIOR WOMEN

50

75

JUNIOR BOYS

37

55

JUNIOR GIRLS

52

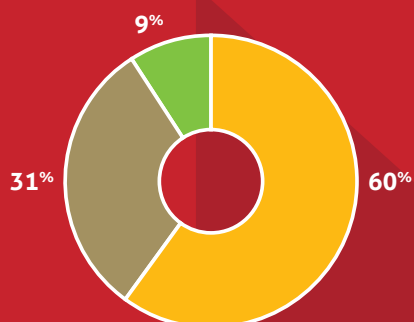
78

ALL CLASSES

14

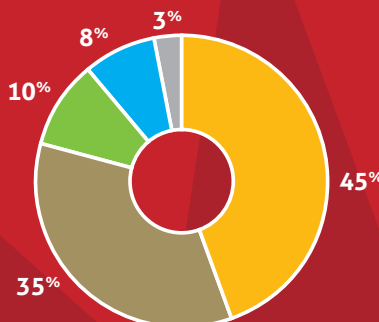
21

#### MEMBERSHIP TOTALS



- Clubs Increased
- Clubs Decreased
- Clubs No Change

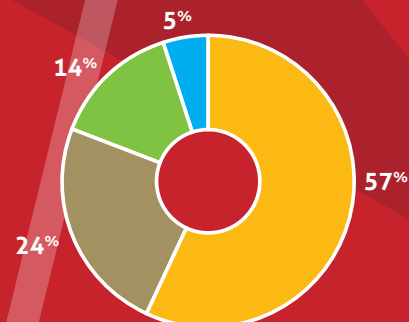
#### SCALE OF CHANGES (INCREASED MEMBERSHIP)



- 1 to 10
- 11 to 30
- 31 to 35
- 51 to 70
- 71 to 90
- 91+

Please note: Proportion of clubs who have increased in membership and by how much. E.g. if a club has increased 1-10 members etc.

#### SCALE OF CHANGES (DECREASED MEMBERSHIP)



- 1 to 10
- 11 to 30
- 31 to 35
- 51 to 70
- 71 to 90
- 91+

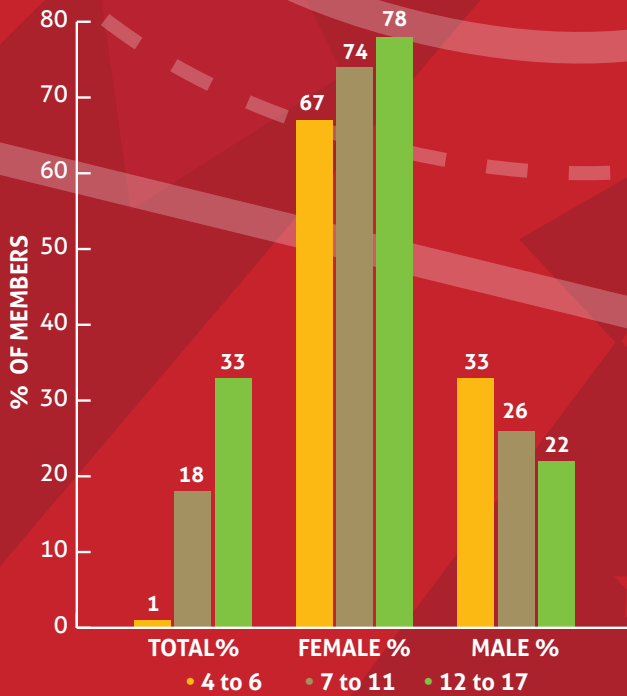
Please note: Amount of clubs who have decreased in membership and by how many.



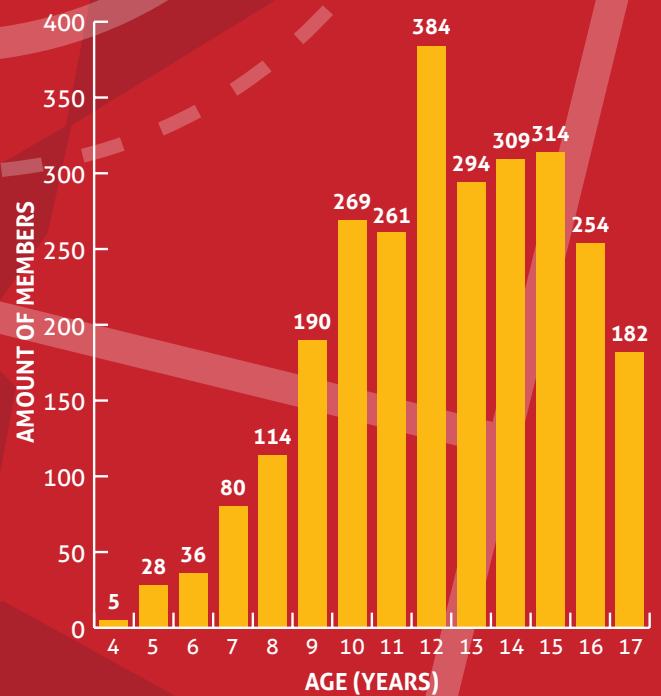
# SCHOOL ANALYSIS

## A MEMBERSHIP RANGING FROM AGES 4-17

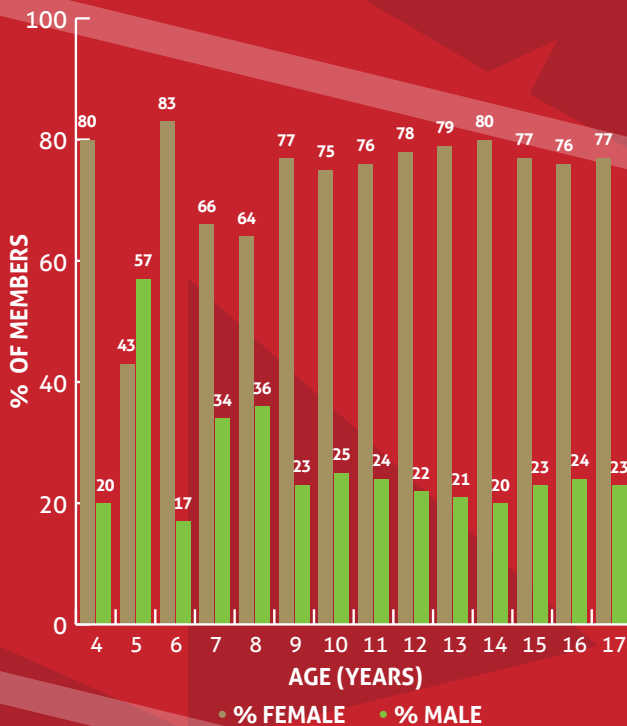
% SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP



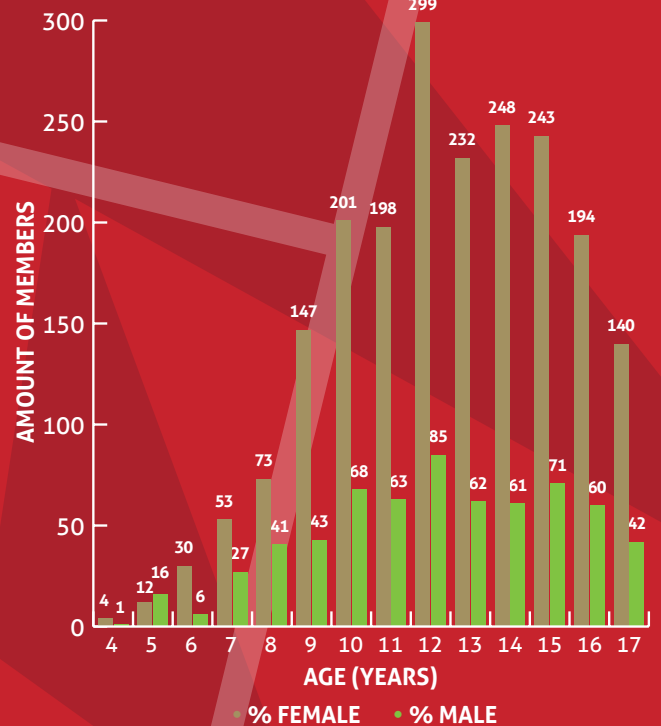
SCHOOL AGED MEMBERS



% SCHOOL AGED MEMBERS (GENDER IDENTITY)



SCHOOL AGED MEMBERS (GENDER IDENTITY)







At the end of March 2022, we saw the development of a Walking Hockey Centre at the National Hockey Centre, Cardiff. After receiving support from the National Lottery and a partnership with Sport Cardiff, we began running sessions for those aged 65+.

The aim was to improve social inclusion and activity post Covid by having a fun, leisurely session of walking hockey, followed by cake and a hot drink, providing a fantastic opportunity for people to connect and build friendships.

As the year progresses, we wish to continue to support and facilitate clubs with the skills, knowledge and resources required to provide walking hockey within their clubs to engage with current and potential members in this highly social way.

"The aim was to improve social inclusion and activity post Covid by having a fun, leisurely session of walking hockey"





A workforce of around 200+ hockey young ambassadors across Wales who are based in schools, colleges and universities will be trained up to help us facilitate 22 local authority schools' festivals and support delivery (pre, during and post festivals) in their own settings.

The Hockey Young Ambassador Programme will be celebrating its 10-year anniversary this year. The programme began in 2012 as part of Hockey Wales Olympic Legacy to inspire the next generation. Over the course of the 10-years, the programme has supported over 500 young people across schools and clubs to help grow our game, as well as provide a voice for young people. The programme has helped develop individuals through the power of hockey and has provided a multitude of opportunities across Europe.

Hockey Wales are excited to be part of the 'Aspiring & Inspiring Young Leaders' along with a number of European Leadership Organisations, other European National Associations, and the EHF to develop a European Programme to further support young people and develop our next generation of leaders.





Since re-launching the programme in November 2021, we now have 27 schools signed up (18 primary and 9 secondary) from across 14 local authorities. Through the various packages on offer (bronze to platinum) schools can access teaching resources, training, mentoring, equipment, and coaching in support of delivering hockey in PE or extracurricular clubs.

As a result of this programme and through direct funding from Friends of Welsh Hockey, we have also been able to support Swansea, Rhyl and Newcastle Emlyn hockey clubs to deliver bespoke Hooked on Hoci projects in their local catchment schools.

Through these targeted interventions, clubs will deliver Hooked on Hoci sessions to support schools in preparation for them to attend their county hockey festivals. It will also enable them to develop stronger school-club links, coach a captive audience and promote and market their membership offers, which will hopefully lead to successful transition.



# ACHIEVING POTENTIAL







## ACHIEVING POTENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Nothing is ever certain in international sport, despite the attempts at planning, predicting, strategising, and preparing for success as best you can. Team sport even more so, given the many variables at play. When we look back on the Performance and Pathway activity during this reporting period, what we can be certain of is that all our players and staff serving these programmes will have one thing in common: trying to make the present and future better than the past. It is simply what drives our high-performance culture as a hockey nation.

This attitude has been demonstrated time and time again in this last year and has provided our teams greater belief in their abilities to compete at their respective levels. Personal milestones have come along in numbers, whether that be senior men and women getting 1st or 100th caps, whilst past records have been surpassed, such as Lewis Prosser in 2021 becoming the highest capped male player of all time, joining Leah Wilkinson who holds the women's and all sports record. Welsh representation in the GB programme has been at an all-time high. All 4 of our

representatives in 2021 living out their dreams and all being selected for the Tokyo Olympics, with 2 bronze medals returning courtesy of Sarah Jones and Leah Wilkinson. Our senior men qualified for a World Cup for the first time in their history in an epic set of matches in Cardiff in October 2021. The women agonisingly close to joining them but still finishing on a high as runners-up in their own qualifier.

COVID times offered an opportunity for our NAG's U19 teams to go toe to toe with other home nations, which saw them demonstrate their own growth and aspirational achievement, with both boys and girls teams registering victories against England. Alongside this it was silver medals and history created once again for the U18 girls in the last edition of the Futures Cup and another silver medal, this time for the U17 girls, as we re-entered the UK School Games.

Winning and podium places for Welsh Hockey teams and transition into GB programmes are now not just a dream but a realistic aspiration to work hard towards. The levels of coaching provision, coach development provision and performance support to assist development and progression are

now more than we have previously been able to offer. The Pathway now has new levels of holistic, mental health and well-being engagement, whilst psychology and nutrition support has been made available to our senior teams on a regular basis by working with our partner institutions and Sport Wales. A new Pathway has seen its first full cycle and with player numbers in our U23/U21 squads looking very encouraging, it is clear our transitional programmes are getting stronger all the time.

With the senior men and women now sitting in their highest-ranking positions for many years, they now look forward to trying to create more history in 2022 and 2023: targeting a best ever finish at the upcoming Commonwealth Games; attempting to secure A division places in the European qualifiers; and then the small matter of a men's World Cup to look forward to!

Thanks to all those who contribute to our programmes, no matter how big or small as it is all appreciated. Thanks to all our friends, family, and hockey family for your continued support. Enjoy our Performance and Pathway teams in 2022 as they take the stage once again!



## GB HOCKEY

The highlight in 2021 was undoubtedly the Tokyo Olympics. A wonderful achievement for Welsh Hockey to be represented equally with two players each on the men's and women's squads.

On the men's side, after some promising performances in the group stages, Great Britain were unlucky to lose a quarter final against a strong Indian side with the bit between their teeth, but it was brilliant to see both Jacob Draper and Rupert Shipperley put in consistent performances throughout and look very comfortable on the biggest stage in world hockey.

The women finished strong after negotiating the group stages well

but coming up short after a semi-final against the Netherlands. A nailbiter of a bronze medal match against India pleasingly resulted in Great Britain securing 3rd place and well-deserved medals for Sarah Jones and Leah Wilkinson, who both put in some memorable individual performances throughout the Olympics and played a full part in the team success.

As summer turned to autumn several of our players took part in the next cycle of GB talent confirmation. This saw Toby Reynolds-Cotterill added to the senior men's GB programme to continue our positive recent transition of senior players to

the GB environment, further highlighting the progress we are making at senior international level with our men and women.

Over the course of 2021 and early 2022 we have also seen the following players take part in Great Britain Elite Development Programme activity. Congratulations to them all...

Rhys Bradshaw

Rhys Payne

Fred Newbold

Izzie Howell

Millie Holme

Livvy Hoskins





## SENIOR MEN AND WOMEN

A lot of 2021 tournament experience for our senior men and women's teams can be summarised with the words 'COVID bubble'! It is hard to say if this helped or hindered or both in equal measure, but it is always a strength of our senior teams to be able to adapt to tricky and unforeseen circumstances, navigating around what Mark Mullineaux, our Head of Sport Science, describes as 'wild boars'. We look back on this period of competition as another one of progress and growth, with history being made along the way.

The men and women faced huge challenges at their respective European divisions. The men's was held in June with little match preparation available to those part-time and non-Pro-league nations. Difficult games with Germany, Netherlands, and Spain aside, the hearts-in-mouth last gasp win against France and a

spirited 3-3 draw with Russia ensured a 7th place finish and a favourable seeding position for the World Cup qualifiers which were hosted in Cardiff in October.

The women had to go to their Euros in Prague without Sarah Jones and Leah Wilkinson due to the proximity of the Tokyo Olympics. This is a huge amount of experience to go without, but they managed positive results against Russia and Lithuania to finish 2nd in their group, secure a position in the semi-finals as well as in the World Cup qualifiers in October. Unfortunately, in a game that could have gone either way, a narrow loss in the semi-final against France (1-2) was then further compounded by another loss in the bronze medal match against Poland and an eventual 4th place finish.

With a longer period of preparation available to both

teams, they looked forward to pitting their wits against other nations in the World Cup Qualifiers, with the bonus on the men's side of being the hosts with a partisan Cardiff support behind them. Due to world cup hosting nations, there were two World Cup Qualification spots available in the men's event but only one on the women's, which was being held in Pisa, Italy. Cardiff was transformed into a cauldron for the duration of the tournament which seemed to bring out the best in the men's team. They sailed past Italy in the opening match and on to a winner takes all semi-final against Ireland. The rest is indeed history as the team prevailed in a shoot-out and qualified for the first time to a men's World Cup, in January 2023. The post shoot-out video clips of the celebrations seemed to go viral for a while and I am sure will be enjoyed for years to come!





The women's event was equally as tense as our women first despatched the hosts Italy out of their own tournament with a 1-0 win in the quarter final and squeezed past Scotland in a shoot-out of their own in the semi-final. Their final was against recent Olympic team and runners-up of the last World Cup, Ireland, for a place in the 2022 edition. After three quarters the sides were locked at 1-1, but sadly a goal

11 minutes from time secured the win for Ireland and a place in the World Cup. Nevertheless, the performances in Pisa showed a massive progression for the group and a renewed confidence and belief to take forwards and whilst the final spoils were not enjoyed, the group can be very satisfied to have finished 2nd after being ranked 7th out of 8 teams at the start.

The successes across 2021 have seen the men rise from 18th to 15th in the world rankings and the women rise from 26th to 23rd. Congratulations and thank you so much to all the players, team managers, coaches, and performance support staff for all your contributions and for one hell of a ride yet again! We are all hoping for more success across 2022 and early 2023!

## MILESTONES

The following players achieved significant personal milestones across the period of reporting, so we wish to congratulate these...

### MEN



**1<sup>ST</sup>  
CAPS**

Toby Reynolds-Cotterill  
Fred Newbold  
Rhys Payne  
Jack Pritchard



**50  
CAPS**

Jacob Draper



**100  
CAPS**

Dan Kyriakides  
*(100 combined across  
Wales and GB)*  
Joe Naughalty  
Luke Hawker



**159  
CAPS**

**MOST CAPPED MALE PLAYER EVER...**

Lewis Prosser *(his 159th in 2021 broke the previous record held by Paul Edwards)*

### WOMEN



**1<sup>ST</sup>  
CAPS**

Millie Holme  
Livvy Hoskins  
Emily Drysdale



**100  
CAPS**

Xenna Hughes



## U23 MEN AND WOMEN

It had taken some time to restart meaningful activity for these groups post COVID restriction lifting, but what is to be noted is the depth of numbers now coming out of our NAG's programmes into the U23 group, which in turn will mean a steady transfer of players to the senior squads.

These groups are now led with care and attention to detail by Martin Schouten (Men) and Walid Abdo (Women). Highlights of their

short programme in 2021 were matches in Ireland on the women's side and some great battles on the men's side, firstly in Wrexham in Summer 2021 across 3 matches against Scotland and then a very encouraging performance in the Autumn against the touring Malaysia Development squad.

As we hit 2022, preparations look ahead to U21 European competitions in July for both genders, with the women having

the bonus of being invited to the Junior Women's World Cup in Potchefstroom, South Africa in April which will allow them to use this as preparation for the year ahead.

The men were due to round off 2021 with a European Indoor U21 competition in Portugal but COVID issues relating to travel and potential quarantine put paid to this.





## **PATHWAY**

The 2021/22 season has seen a unique delivery of our Pathway with us running one and a half cycles. On return from COVID, it was evident that our Pathway players were keen to reengage as soon as possible. In order to cater for this, we ran a 12-week block of sessions from April – July 2021, engaging over 100 players across Wales as well as seeing the return of our coaching workforce that made the sessions possible.

This cycle ran ahead of a busy new cycle of activity commencing from September 2021. The Pathway has seen a rebrand this year, making a transition from 360 Hockey Centres and 360 Aspire to Junior Dragon Centres, Dragon Development Centres and Regional Performance Centres. In addition to the rebrand of centres, we made changes to the roles of the Pathway coaches, making sure to engage the NAGs coaches at the Regional Performance Centres to ensure a level of consistency and visibility for the benefit of the coaches as well as players.

In total we have engaged 156 players in Junior Dragon Centres across 7 sites in Wales, 158 players in Dragon Development Centres running across 7 sites in Wales and 189 players in the Regional Performance Centres delivered in Cardiff, Swansea and Eirias Park.

It has been pleasing to engage 23% of the eligible Hockey Wales membership within our Pathway including 62% females and 38% males.



## NATIONAL AGE GROUPS

Like our Pathway, the National Age Group (NAG) squads were immersed straight into hockey activity following the lift of restrictions. We managed to open the summer of hockey with an Easter Camp in Swansea, getting the players and coaches back to where they know best, the hockey pitch.

As a result of the U18s missing out on their Europeans in 2020, a Home Nations competition was coordinated between Wales, England, Scotland, and Ireland, which enabled the group to compete as an U19 cohort. The Home Nations series kicked off in Wrexham, where we were hosts to Scotland, playing in two games for each squad across the weekend. As much as this was a fantastic return and opportunity for our players, this was the first spectated event that we hosted since the pandemic, providing friends and family with the opportunity to support their players whilst playing for the dragon.

As the summer of hockey continued, we saw our U16s and U18s set off to St Albans for the return of the Futures Cup, competing against squads from

across England's Performance Centres, and collectively competing as the Celtic Jaguars. Always a valuable experience for our squads and the progression within their game has been evident each year that they have attended. A very well-deserved reward for their outstanding performances this year, our U18s came away with a silver medal.

In a very quick turnaround of competition, to close the summer of international hockey our junior dragons got ready to get back competing at the UK School Games. The 2021 Games were hosted at Loughborough University from the 2nd to 5th September and Wales sent a boys and a girls team to compete against Scotland, Ulster and three English sides. It is always important for our players to get tournament experience and exposure, and the unique nature of the School Games being a multi-sports event brought an exciting and different feel. After a promising summer of development for our young international players, it was nice for our Hockey family to follow their exploits once again.

Very soon, after a busy summer season of hockey, our NAG

players then entered the next year of assessments for the upcoming 22/23 period and with hockey calendars already being extremely busy, we were happy to welcome the squads back into camp in October 2021 as well as January and February 2022. The latest camps have played a key role in the launch of the holistic programme which has functions of providing quality off pitch support and education for the players to ensure an all-round safe and thriving environment.

February half term camp saw the introduction of the Young People Resilience programme that will provide important support to all NAG players when dealing with their mental health and wellbeing and ensuring we are educating players, parents, and support staff on the key factors to exhibiting resilience when consumed in a busy environment including hockey, exam stress, social activities etc. This programme will continue to be embedded into the off-pitch support programme for players as part of our organisational commitment to prioritising mental health and wellbeing.



## PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

### SENIOR MEN

**Danny Newcombe**  
*Senior Men's Head Coach*

**Will Packer**  
*Senior Men's Programme Manager*

**Vacant**  
*Senior Men's Assistant Coach*

**Martin Schouten**  
*Senior Men's Assistant Coach and U23s Programme Head Coach*

**Gwyn Williams**  
*Senior Men's and U23s Support Coach*

**Sam Rowe**  
*Senior Men's /U23 Assistant Coach and Analyst*

**Tom Jenkins**  
*Senior Men's Physiotherapist*

**Keir Starley**  
*Senior Men GK Coach*

**Carmen Ansley**  
*U23 Men's Physiotherapist*

**Mark Mullineaux**  
*Head of Sports Science and Senior Men Strength and Conditioning Coach*

### SENIOR WOMEN

**Kevin Johnson**  
*Senior Women's Head Coach*

**Rebecca Daniels**  
*Senior Women's Programme Manager*

**Walid Abdo**  
*Senior Women's Assistant Coach and U23s Head Coach*

**Vacant**  
*Senior Women's Assistant Coach*

**Paul Edwards**  
*U23s Assistant Coach*

**Jonny Harper**  
*Hockey Wales Lead Physiotherapist and Senior Women's Physiotherapist*

**Theo Dowse**  
*Senior Women's Support Coach/Analyst*

**Ross Hall**  
*Senior Women's Psych Support*

**Liam Mickleburgh**  
*Senior Women's Strength and Conditioning Coach*

**Sam Milner**  
*U23 Womens Physiotherapist*

**Lyss Mildenstein**  
*U23 Women's Physiotherapist*

### NATIONAL AGE GROUP GIRLS

**Sharon Smith**  
*Manager*

**Elliot Foweraker**  
*U18s Head Coach and Programme Lead*

**Lauren Burrell**  
*U18s Assistant Coach*

**Adam Broomfield**  
*U18s PDC*

**Mark Ramage**  
*U16s Head Coach*

**Rhys Gwilliam**  
*U16s Assistant Coach*

**Lianne Preston**  
*U16s PDC*

**Sam Watts / Mike Wood**  
*Analyst*

**Kieran Tuck**  
*S&C*

### NATIONAL AGE GROUP BOYS

**Shelley Robinson**  
*Manager*

**Mike Williamson**  
*U18s Head Coach and Programme Lead*

**Luke Stone**  
*U18s Assistant Coach*

**Brett Madden**  
*U18s PDC*

**Lee Marshall**  
*U16s Head Coach*

**Mo Samak**  
*U16s Assistant Coach*

**Jasmininder Singh**  
*U16s PDC*

**Paul Dunleavy**  
*Analyst*

**Connor Hetherton**  
*S&C*

**Ella Jackson / Michelle Thomas**  
*GK Coaches*

**Carmen Ansley, Cora Hogan, Emma Lewis, Deb Mason, and Chelsie -Jane Mason**  
*Physios*

### DDC COACHES

**Nick Fackrell**  
*Cwmbran*

**Tom Wood and Beth Wood**  
*Brecon*

**Demi Hughes and Jasmininder Singh**  
*USW*

**Jack Rhodes, Will Raymond and India Davies**  
*Cardiff*

**Callum Pink, Harry York and Tesni Galvin**  
*Swansea*

**Lianne Preston**  
*Wrexham*

**Brett Madden and Richard Hackett**  
*Eirias*

### JDC COACHES

**Laurence Taylor**  
*Bangor*

**Tom Williamson**  
*Mold*

**Beth Wood**  
*Brecon*

**Ceryn Harris and Lewis Davison**  
*USW*

**Nick Fackrell and Lily Morgan**  
*Cwmbran*

**Lucy Keyworth and Jason Arnold**  
*Bridgend*

**Alison Jones and Yasmin Marshall**  
*Gowerton*

The background is a vibrant yellow with a fine halftone dot pattern. A white dashed line traces the path of a hockey puck across the rink. A solid white line outlines the rink's boundaries. A large white arc on the right side of the rink represents the goal crease, with a small white dot marking the center of the goal. A faint silhouette of a hockey player is visible in the background, positioned as if they have just shot the puck.

# THRIVING ENVIRONMENTS





## COACH DEVELOPMENT

During the last 12 months the 3-part time Hockey Wales Coach Developers have been working on several National Projects and Initiatives as well as supporting clubs in their respective regions and providing ongoing support for Performance Pathway coaches.

- Work is ongoing building a Welsh development curriculum for coaches. The first High Performance Certificate programme is being run and a new Introduction to Coaching resource has been developed.
- Female Coaches project – Hockey Wales Coach Developers are engaging in projects to support female coaches and to also research the disparity in numbers of female coaches, barriers to female coach engagement and how more female coaches can be engaged
- National Coaching Survey – 60 responses from across Wales, highlighting the need for a bespoke Club coach development scheme which was great news as this was something that we as a group of coach developers had already established as a key priority. The survey also indicated the need for a more designated coach development pathway with, various options for support

across our various platforms and this is something that the team are currently working on.

- Pilot Club Coach Developer scheme – this has been run over the last year and has involved appointed representatives from 16 clubs across Wales engaging with Hockey Wales Coach Developers to provide identified and targeted support for clubs to help recruit, retain and develop new and existing coaches. This group has met together several times to share practice, look at how support can be maximised and help shape the direction of Coach Development support moving ahead. Some great insight has come through the group and work has been done on action areas and successful projects introducing engaging new volunteers through online and practical sessions with follow on support for them and the running of additional Leadership Award in Hockey courses. The aim moving ahead is to make this role a continuing one and expand the group and create Coach Development contact points in as many clubs as possible across the country. This will allow opportunities for coaches to engage in more formal and informal development

opportunities with clubs having input to the direction of these opportunities.

- Performance Pathway Coach Support programme – Regular engagement with this group has continued and all have been given the opportunity to be a part of the first High Performance Certificate programme. In addition, these coaches have been supported on a regional basis with coaching observations and one to one Mentoring opportunities
- Hockey Wales Coach Developers have continued to link in with Great Britain Coach Developer group and are working on a joined project aligned to the Great Britain Talent System Framework, an introductory online session for Performance Pathway coaches and Club Coach Developers having been run. Now will be looking at specific areas of player and coach development from within the resource that can provide ongoing coach development opportunities
- Workforce Support – now looking at how support can be provided for Club Coach Developers, Hockey Wales Educator workforce and possibly for Hockey Young Ambassadors



## WALES HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Like many organisations coming out of Covid-19 has caused a few problems and challenges to overcome; namely people having found other priorities and choosing to either cut back or not return to umpiring/officiating once the sport started back. This has led to a good uptake for the level 1 courses which we have again been running online and have seen an uptake of clubs asking for assessments for existing part qualified umpires.

Our club developer course that we talked about at the end of last season is well on its way to being rolled out in time for the new season with this being about 80% completed. This should hopefully enable clubs to support their new umpires while undertaking training and preparing for their assessments.

Domestically our umpires are still doing very well on the NPUA, Luke Rees made it onto B panel, while

Jon McCall rejoined the NPUA at C Panel. Clare Barwood was promoted to A\* Panel and Christian Phillips Adams to A Panel. Steve Cox also celebrated his 450th NPUA game during the season – a real achievement.

On the international front it was very pleasing to see Clare Barwood's hard work and dedication was awarded with her achieving FIH Outdoor badge, being promoted to the outdoor International Panel. A few of our newer Umpires could not fulfill their first European appointments last year due to covid and it is pleasing to report that they have all got their chance again this summer.

Both Linda Treharne and Abby MacArthur were appointed to the European Indoor Championship in Hamburg, which is the top level European indoor event, and unfortunately for them was postponed due to Covid.

Abby made up for this by being appointed, along with Cathy Wright to the English Indoor Finals. Cathy was also appointed to the indoor World Cup in Belgium which was, unfortunately, also cancelled due to covid. There was better news for Chris Brewer who, at the third time of trying managed to get over to Holland where he was Technical Delegate at the Euro Hockey League Final 12 (Men) and Final 8 (Women).

Looking forward to the summer, a host of our umpires and officials have European appointments while Chris and Cathy have appointments at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

We would like to thank all our umpires and officials for the efforts they put in over the course of the season and wish them all the very best with their future appointments.





## FACILITIES

The 21/22 year was one of forward planning for Facilities. The Facilities Collaboration Group consisting of Sport Wales, FAW Trust, WRU and Hockey Wales reconvened following the COVID pandemic and have been working on allocating a new pot of funding to developments which will be realised in the 22/23 year.

This group work incredibly hard to consult with Local Authorities and Facility Owners to understand the local need and combine this with the strategic objectives of the Governing Bodies and Sport Wales. The intention is to cater for communities through the appropriate provision of artificial pitches in the right locations.

There were a few developments of note within 21/22 which some of our members may have already had the benefit of playing, coaching, umpiring, or spectating on.

St John Lloyd School in Llanelli was announced as one of the first Full-Size Gen2 pitches in Wales. This type of surface provides opportunities for community level tennis, netball, and hockey to take place on site. This was realised due to Facilities Collaboration Group funding and work from Carmarthenshire County Council. Hockey Wales are working closely with the council to develop hockey in the area and harness the opportunity for community participation within Llanelli and surrounding areas.

We are excited to see the recent replacement of one of the pitches at Swansea University to be brought up to spec with the other surface that was replaced a couple of years ago. This was installed using a turf from the Big Stadium Hockey project and was an example of great collaboration

between Swansea University, Swansea Council and Hockey Wales. This really has developed the provision on site at Swansea, a site which will continue to host Regional Performance Centres and Pathway activity throughout the coming years.

Sue Noake Leisure Centre is another venue that has recently opened its doors following a refurbishment. Following investment from the Facilities Collaboration Group Sue Noake Leisure Centre has become a recognised Hockey Hub within Caerphilly County Borough with their state-of-the-art blue pitch providing a genuinely thriving environment. Hockey Wales and Caerphilly Council continue to work extremely closely to drive primary school hockey in the area and there are exciting plans for a new junior club in the pipeline.

## EVENTS

### MEN'S WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS OCTOBER 2021



NUMBER OF DAYS

4



NUMBER OF NATIONS

8



NUMBER OF ATHLETES

160



NUMBER OF UMPIRES  
& OFFICIALS

16



MINUTES OF HOCKEY

840



NUMBER OF  
TICKETS SOLD

766



NUMBER OF SPECTATORS

1,517

**EuroHockey**

European Qualifier -

FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2023

Cardiff 2021



EVENT REACH  
INFORMATION  
UNKNOWN

The background of the page is a dark olive green with a halftone dot pattern. Overlaid on this is a large, white, stylized letter 'P' that represents a hockey rink. A dashed white line follows the outer perimeter of the 'P', mimicking the rink's boundary. In the upper-left portion of the 'P', there is a solid white dot, likely representing the center of the rink. The word 'PARTICIPATION' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters within a black rectangular box that is positioned over the upper-left part of the 'P'.

# PARTICIPATION

## **WALES MASTERS – MEN:**

### **1 APRIL 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022**

The 2021/22 season was like no other for our Mens Master's squads. A few tournaments were re-arranged for the summer in the hope they would beat covid, leading to a condensed and heavy programme but great excitement at the return to tournament play. Many players went into these events thinking they were still at the age and fitness they were in 2019(!) and without the normal pre-season training programme suffered consequential muscle and hamstring problems. However, all our age groups played international tournaments and the Dragons also attended several events.

Pride of place goes to the newly launched O75s who made their international debut in November, not as hoped with a 4 Nation event in Cardiff (scuppered by covid travel restrictions) but with two internationals against England – an occasion of special significance for the long-term future of Wales Masters hockey. A squad slightly weakened by injury gave an excellent account of themselves in an event featured on S4C, losing both games 2-1 and being unfortunate not to emerge with at least one draw. Welsh goals were scored by Martin Day (amazingly he also scored the first ever goals for Wales O60s and O70s) and Ian Phillips. The wealth of hockey for this age group was demonstrated by a weekend of friendlies v England in Dawlish, further matches v England and the North, and victory in the Wellingborough 7s.

With the World Cups and GB&I 4 Nations all cancelled, England

used their fantastic new World Cup venue in Nottingham to host 'friendly' internationals for all interested age groups from the GB&I nations. The gutsiest performance by far was by the O60s who, having lost 12-1 to an outstanding England side, learned the lessons and beat both Ireland and Scotland 2-1. They were closely followed by the O40s who lost 3-4 to Ireland, 0-3 to England and then beat Scotland 3-2. The O45s, despite a gritty effort against England in the first game, went down 8-1. A very disappointing performance against Ireland resulted in a 6-0 loss. Finally, with no respite, came the current European Champions Scotland and a much-improved showing resulted in a 3-0 loss despite going into the final quarter only 1-0 down.

Other results:

O35s: Wales 0 England 7, Wales 1 Scotland 4

O50s: Wales 1 England 3, Wales 2 Ireland 2, Wales 1 Scotland 6

O55s: Wales 1 England 3, Wales 1 Scotland 3

The Celtic Cup for O60s, 65s and 70s was held in Belfast although covid rules precluded France from travelling. The O70s continued an amazing winning run started by the O65s in 2016, followed by wins in 2017 and 2018 and continuing their winning streak as O70s in 2019 and 2021. Their success was a close thing though with a 1-0 win over Scotland following a 0-0 draw with Ireland.

The O60s came 2nd after a 2-2 draw with Scotland followed by a 0-0 draw with Ireland when a 1-0

win would have given Wales the title but the Irish post intervened twice when scoring seemed easier.

The O65s first game against Scotland was tightly fought, but the Scots ran out 2-0 winners. The second game against Ireland was a great improvement, but injuries to key players meant that Wales were unable to capitalise on some good play and the game ended in a goal-less draw.

The Welsh Dragons O70s competed in the first Thistles GB&I 4 Nations tournament in Dundee and the 60+ side played in the England LX tournament in Durham. Having won the Jacques Levy Tournament in Lille in 2018 and 2019, a Dragons 60+ squad containing O60, 65, 70 and 75 players (including 82-year-old GK Glyn Thomas) had high hopes of a hat-trick until 30 seconds before the end of the final when the Shamrocks equalised and won the resulting shoot out.

Whatever the results, the enduring message from the 2021 season was the joy of being back on the pitch, playing in tournaments whether international or friendly, and enjoying the camaraderie with friend and foe alike. We hope, but are not entirely confident amidst current uncertainties, that our World Cups in 2022 in Nottingham (O35/40s), Cape Town (O45/50/55s) and Tokyo (O60/65/70s) will go ahead.





## **WALES MASTERS – WOMEN: 1 APRIL 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022**

The Women's Masters season for 2021 got under way in late 2020 with managers and coaches continuing with trials and selection whilst working within COVID rules, in agreement with the other nations players were age trapped to the 2020 season, trials were set for O35s, O40s, O45s, O50s, O55s and O60s this was a difficult task as we had coaches and players following different COVID rules depending on where they lived in the UK, despite this, the desire to keep Hockey Masters going never wavered.

With squads selected at all age groups, training and warm up games commenced as the squads prepared for the International friendlies in Nottingham held from the 14th – 16th August 2021 due to the on-going restrictions Ireland were unable to attend the tournament which is the reason that this could not be played as a full International Four Nations tournament and was played as

International friendlies, despite this, the competition remained high and our players took to the field with the usual Welsh pride and passion, we came away with some wins and losses across all squads and feeling like we had a very successful tournament.

Due to on-going COVID restrictions especially around World travel there were no master's World Cup tournaments held in 2021 with both the Nottingham for the O35s - O40s and South Africa for the O45s - O60s being moved to 2022.

In late 2021 trials took place for the 2022 season, the attendance at trials was overwhelming with coaches and managers having an extremely hard job selecting a squad of 18 at most age groups, although trials took place for the O65s squad there were just not enough players to make that a viable squad for 2022 however it is predicted that 2023 will see the start of the women's O65s.

There are two tournaments in 2022 the Four Nations tournament for all age groups which will be held in Nottingham from the 17th – 19th June, World Cup for O35s & O40s will also be in Nottingham 12th – 21st August, World Cup for the O45s – O60s will be in Cape Town 1st – 10th October.

All age groups will be represented at the four Nations tournament and the World Cup for the O35s and O40s. Unfortunately, due to the pressures provided by COVID we have not been able to enter the World Cup in Cape Town at O45s and O50s, but Wales will still represent at O55s and O60s.

We continue to have a Masters coordinator and a head coach as well as managers and coaches for each squad, Masters is also supported by TO's, statisticians and a group of medical staff who travel to tournaments with the squads and we appreciate the support that is provided from within Hockey Wales.





## COMPETITIONS 2021/2022

### CLUB COMPETITIONS

Women's Indoor  
Postponed until June 2022  
Men's Indoor  
Postponed until June 2022  
Women's Championship  
Penarth  
Men's Championship  
Cardiff & Met  
Women's Trophy  
Penarth  
Men's Trophy  
Gwent  
Women's Challenge  
Carmarthen Athletic  
Men's Challenge  
Swansea  
Women's Masters  
Penarth  
Men's Masters  
Cardiff & Met

### YOUTH COMPETITIONS

U18 Girls – Swansea  
U18 Boys – Whitchurch  
U16 Girls – Swansea  
U16 Boys – Whitchurch  
U14 Girls – Penarth  
U14 Boys – Whitchurch  
U12 Girls – Whitchurch  
U12 Boys – Whitchurch

### EUROHOCKEY COMPETITIONS

2021 Outdoor Women's  
EuroHockey Club Challenge III,  
Croatia, Gwent HC  
Due to Covid-19, no other Welsh  
clubs competed in European  
Hockey competitions

### SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

U18 Schoolgirls  
Monmouth School for Girls  
U18 Schoolboys – Ysgol Glantaf  
U16 Schoolgirls  
Christ College Brecon  
U16 Schoolboys  
Christ College Brecon  
U14 Schoolgirls – Ysgol Glantaf  
U14 Schoolboys  
Caereinion High School  
U12 Schoolgirls Cup  
Howell's School  
U12 Schoolgirls Plate  
Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn  
U12 Schoolboys  
Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn  
U14 Schoolgirls '7s' North  
Ysgol Brynhyfryd  
U14 Schoolgirls '7s' South  
Christ College Brecon

## COMPETITIONS HEADLINE STATISTICS 2021/2022



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**25**



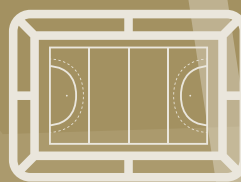
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**299**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**3,804**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**609**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**18,245**

## CLUB HEADLINE STATISTICS 2021/2022



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**14**



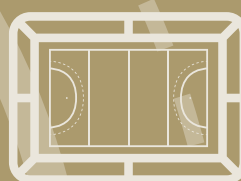
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**161**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**2,322**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**183**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**9,695**

## SCHOOL HEADLINE STATISTICS 2021/2022



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**11**



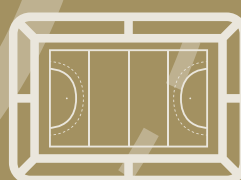
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**138**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**1,482**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**342**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**8,550**



# PARTNERSHIPS

## PARTNERS

We would like to thank our Partners, Suppliers and Sponsors for their support

### OFFICIAL PARTNERS



### OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS



### PLAYER SPONSORS

Please visit our website - [www.hockeywales.org.uk/performance](http://www.hockeywales.org.uk/performance)

### STAKEHOLDERS

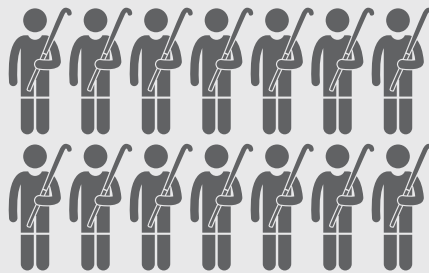


A big thank you to Irfon Bennett who continuously captures those special moments with his photography skills.

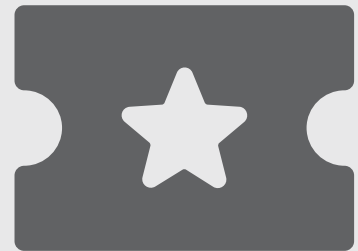


### SUPPORT

We have supported  
**CRAIG JONES,**  
**CARMARTHEN HOCKEY CLUB**  
with **GOALKEEPING KIT**



**255**  
**MEMBERS**



### MONTHLY DRAW

<b>48</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>
MONTHLY PRIZE DRAWS	INDIVIDUAL WINNERS	CLUB WINNERS

Friends of Welsh Hockey is a charity set up to support field hockey activities throughout Wales. Funds from the monthly draw account support projects run by schools, clubs and/or individuals to develop hockey. Friends of Welsh Hockey also provides financial assistance for young people to improve their hockey experiences.



Our Facebook page has  
**290 LIKES & 304 FOLLOWERS**  
**Friends of Welsh Hockey**



Our Twitter account has  
**325 FOLLOWERS**  
**@Friends of WH**



Our Instagram account has **296**  
**FOLLOWERS & 155 POSTS**  
**friends\_of\_wh**



# FINANCIALS



HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

# FINANCIALS 2021 – 2022



HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

FULL REPORT TO FOLLOW





HOCKEY WALES  
HOCI CYMRU

## THANK YOU

**Hockey Wales Annual Report 2021/22.**

**Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the report  
and to the hockey family for your continued support.**

For more information or to get involved go to:

**[www.hockeywales.org.uk](http://www.hockeywales.org.uk)**

 **@HockeyWales**

 **@hockey\_wales**

 **@HockeyWales**

Or email us at: **[info@hockeywales.org.uk](mailto:info@hockeywales.org.uk)**

**Hockey Wales**

**Sport Wales National Centre, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, CF11 9SW.**