



# **HOCI CYMRU**

Annual Report  
2023–2024





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# CHAIR AND CEO 12-MONTH REVIEW

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What an incredible year it's been! We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the clubs, volunteers, players, coaches, umpires, officials, and committee members who work tirelessly to make hockey possible year-round. Despite the challenges, your dedication has been nothing short of amazing, and we deeply appreciate your hard work and commitment to our beloved sport.

At the grassroots level, it's encouraging to see the number of adult hockey teams holding steady compared to last year. Hockey has demonstrated remarkable resilience in the post-Covid era, faring well against other team sports. Junior hockey remains robust, with clubs reporting healthy participation across all levels. We're also thrilled to see gender equality thriving in our sport, even amid concerns about the

rising popularity of girls' and women's football and cricket. Our stance remains firm and inclusive: as long as hockey continues to offer fantastic experiences nationwide, opportunities for growth and success will only increase.

This year, we witnessed tremendous excitement and support for the Welsh national teams, especially during the Easter period in 24. Back last August the women's team earned a bronze medal at the Euro Hockey Championship II in Prague, and the men's team achieved a stunning draw against Germany in the opening round of the Euro Hockey tournament, despite being the only fully amateur team in the competition. The collaboration between staff teams and players is inspiring, and we eagerly anticipate their future achievements.

Continuing the international theme, it has been a tremendous year for athletes representing Great Britain. Currently there are 10 athletes within the GB set up. 5 at senior level and 5 at Elite Development (EDP). It's fantastic to see Wales punching well above its weight and a huge congratulations to all involved. Hopefully we will have more good news to celebrate when the Olympic squads are announced in June.

At the club level, the indoor league saw outstanding efforts from Darren Morgan-Lock and volunteers, setting the stage for an even bigger and better competition next season. Cardiff & Met Men continue to excel, maintaining their premier league status, a significant achievement for the club and men's hockey.



**Bill Riley**  
Chair



May's finals day in Swansea showcased remarkable hockey talent, with seniors' finals day drawing a wide range of clubs and junior finals day highlighting the incredible resilience and talent of young players. The masters' club competition enjoyed the best weather, with smiling faces all around and many participants.

Also, on the club's front. A special mention to Jacob Draper, who became the first Welsh athlete to win EHL with his Dutch teammates. Not only did he win gold but put in a player of the match performance. Also an honourable mention to James Carson and Leah Wilkinson who also medalled at EHL

In August 2023, we launched a digital membership through Sport 80. Despite expected challenges, nearly 40% of

members signed up for auto-renewal, streamlining the process for the upcoming summer. This progress will be complemented by additional support options for clubs in the coming months to ease administrative burdens.

Masters' hockey continues to flourish at local, national, and international levels, with three teams recently achieving success at the European indoor tournament.

ΩWe also saw changes in the Hockey Wales Board, bidding farewell to Conrad Funnell, Derrick Heaton-Rue, Rebecca Knight, and Robert Croft. We thank them for their long service and contributions. We're delighted to welcome Anthony O'Regan and Debbie Wakeford, who joined us over the past year.

A massive thank you to the entire staff team, hockey makers, and everyone closely connected to Hockey Wales. Your leadership and dedication have been instrumental in our success. A happy retirement to Chris Brewer who left the organisation in July 23. Chris had spent 23 years with Hockey Wales, and whilst he is still active in a number of voluntary roles he is dearly missed by the staff.

Finally, a very big thank you to all the players, coaches, umpires, officials, and volunteers who make hockey so special. Your commitment and hard work keep our sport thriving. We hope you enjoy reading about the vital role you play in our great team sport of hockey. Thank you for everything you do!



**Paul Whapham**  
Chief Executive Officer

# HOCI CYMRU STAFF 2023-2024

## 2023

### CEO

Ria Burrage-Male (left 23.03.23)

PERFORMANCE	DEVELOPMENT	BUSINESS
Kevin Johnson	Gareth Evans (Left 31.07.23)	Chris Brewer (Left 31.07.23)
Steph Bullen (P/T)	Amanda Roberts	Jane Price
Ella Jackson	Sam Barrett (Left 20.04.23)	Gareth Kear (Left 31.03.23)
Walid Abdo (Left 31.03.23)	Chloe Jordan (Left 03.05.23)	
Tim Hoare (Left 31.03.23)	Katharine Craig (Left 21.05.23)	
Sydney Davies (P/T)	Alice Gregory	

## 2024

### CEO

Paul Whapham (13.03.23)

PERFORMANCE	DEVELOPMENT	BUSINESS
Kevin Johnson	Joe Gage (11.09.23)	Jane Price
Steph Bullen (P/T)	Amanda Roberts	
Ella Jackson	Harriet Barker (01.06.23)	
Sydney Davies (P/T)	Cerys Studt (22.01.24)	
	Chelsea Jenkins (22.01.24)	
	Alice Gregory	
	Beth Collier (P/T) (01.06.23)	

# ENGAGEMENT







## OVERVIEW

The past season has been a whirlwind of excitement, especially in the last six months. We've made significant strides in bolstering our community engagement and ensuring the vitality of our clubs. With the addition of a new Director of Development & Participation, we've taken proactive steps towards governance, sustainability, and recruitment within Hoci Cymru and its stakeholders.

Moreover, our team has expanded with the recruitment of three Hockey Development Officers, strategically placed in West Wales, East Wales, and North Wales. Their mission: to

amplify our presence in schools and clubs, igniting a passion for hockey in every corner of their respective regions and getting 'more sticks in hands'.

Under the guidance of our People Development & Competitions Events Manager, we've witnessed the fruition of over 25 competitions and events across the nation, engaging both schools and clubs alike. This concerted effort has not only enriched the hockey experience but has also fostered a sense of camaraderie and healthy competition within our community.

Furthermore, our Project Manager has spearheaded a successful Heritage Project, honouring the legacy of those who have proudly represented Wales internationally. From the 80s to the present, this initiative has enabled players to receive their well-deserved caps, preserving our rich hockey history for generations to come. Additionally, their efforts in revitalising the Young Ambassador programme have garnered admiration from European nations, setting a benchmark for youth development initiatives in the sport.





# HOCKEY WALES NATIONAL HERITAGE PROJECT

**Hoci Cymru would like to thank the National Heritage Fund for all their support and contributions to our Heritage Project, which has allowed us to bring our history back to life!**

## Athlete Records

Historically, records were never maintained to track those athletes who represented Wales and the outcomes of the games. Our amazing volunteers Phil Bailey and Steve Knight are in their 7th year of researching these records and we are extremely excited about their progress this last year. We now believe we are in a position where we only have gaps between 2002-2007 for the men, however, we still have a longer journey to go with the women. These gaps are being filled by our incredible Alumni who are collating their records and evidence and working with our historians to confirm their

records, thank you for your support so far and we cannot wait to complete these records so we can showcase this with the World.

## Caps Celebration Events

As we confirm player records and whether they played in a capped game, we can now start presenting Alumni with their first international cap for representing Wales. We welcomed 50 alumni to Sophia Gardens in August, where they finally received their first cap surrounded by friends, family, and teammates, sharing stories of their time playing for Wales and catching up with long-lost friends. We will be hosting our next caps event later this year, for any Alumni who have not yet received communications around this, [please get in touch via the form on the Hockey Heritage page on our website!](#)

## Clubs

As we enter the second year of the National Heritage Project we will begin to collate more of our club's history and stories, showcasing these on our platforms to raise awareness of the journey hockey has taken over the ages across Wales. We would therefore love to hear about your club's history! [Get in touch today via this form!](#)



Gwnaed yn bosibl gan

**Cronfa  
Treftadaeth**

Made possible with

**Heritage  
Fund**





## Digitisation

We will be working with The Hockey Museum and People's collection Wales to digitise all of the memorabilia we have in the Hoci Cymru office, to date we have begun preparing the items for digitisation and these will be accessible early in the new year for everyone to see, so keep an eye out on our socials for this!

## Schools

Thank you to all 26 teachers on the school's working group who have engaged in the development of the National Heritage Schools Cross Curricular Resources to date. We are excited to say the resources are nearing completion and will be released next year, for teachers and schools wishing to be the first to hear about these resources once complete, **pre-register now!**

## Other Information

As we re-engage with Alumni and their families, we have been able to collate new memorabilia and stories to capture our history and share as part of this project. One of these exciting moments came when a relative of Richard B Jones, a player in the Wales v Ireland game in 1895, came forward with an image of the original 1895 cap presented at the first-ever Welsh game to players (pictured).

**THE HOCKEY**  
**museum**

Casgliad y Werin Cymru  
People's Collection Wales

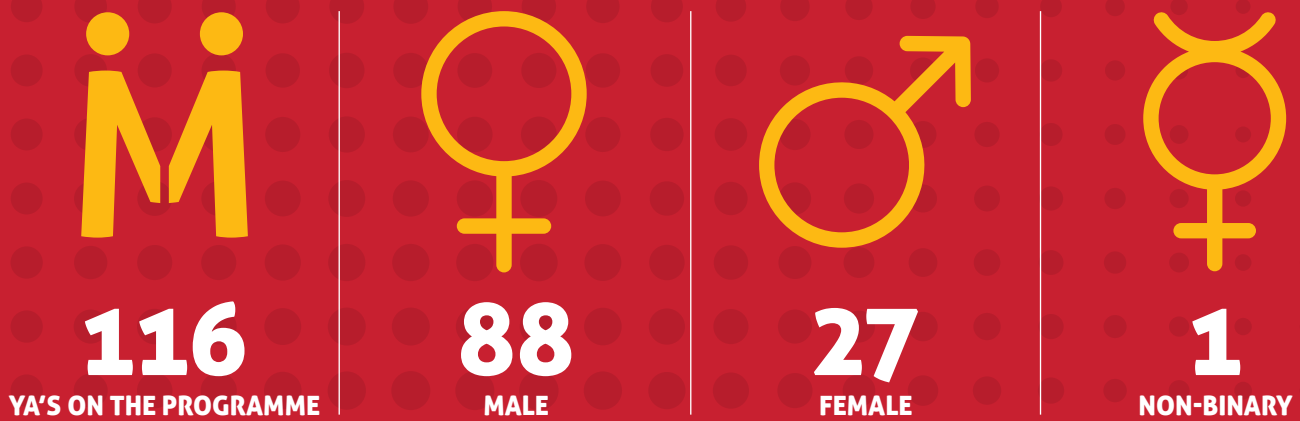




## Hockey YOUNG AMBASSADORS

This year saw the 12th year of the Hoci Cymru Young Ambassador Programme, a legacy programme that started off the back of the London 2012 Olympic Games. In total the programme has 116 YAs volunteering in a variety of roles such as coaching, umpiring, fundraising and planning club events all over Wales, ensuring hockey is a strong part of their local community.

### Number of Young Ambassadors:



### Number of Young Ambassadors at each level:





The theme for this year's programme was career and education, because of this we asked our YAs what industries excite them and where they might want to work in the future, we then used this information to provide monthly online webinars with industry experts in the fields they identified. This allowed the YAs to learn from individuals who worked in these areas and ask any questions they might have. The industries covered in this programme year include:

- EDI
- Events Management
- Broadcasting and Journalism
- Sports Science

As this programme year runs September to August, we still have the following sessions to take place:

- Law
- Sports Management
- Teaching
- Medicine

Amongst the webinars we also welcomed 31 YAs to Cardiff in February for the annual YA Conference where we looked at interview techniques, presentations and application writing before we delved into a dragon's den style session where the YAs got to work together in groups to develop an initiative to get sticks in hands across Wales.

To date, the YAs have contributed over 900 volunteering hours in their schools, clubs and at Hoci Cymru events, we would like to thank all the YA's, parents, clubs and schools who have supported the YA programme this year and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve next year!

## ENGAGEMENT

### Membership:



Female

**1525**

OVER 18'S PLAYERS

Male

**1086**

OVER 18'S PLAYERS



Female

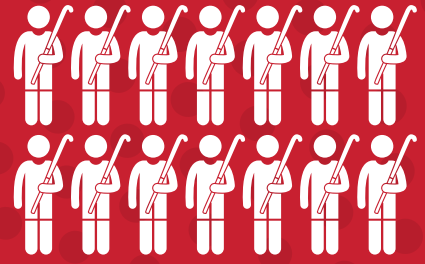
**23**

OVER 18'S COACHES

Male

**32**

OVER 18'S COACHES



Female

**164**

HOCKEY FAMILY

Male

**68**

HOCKEY FAMILY



Female

**2241**

JUNIOR PLAYERS

(29 OF WHICH ARE JUNIOR COACHES AND 2 ARE UMPIRES)

Male

**808**

JUNIOR PLAYERS



Female

**2**

JUNIOR COACHES



Female

**227**

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

Male

**147**

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS



Female

**22**

UMPIRES

Male

**46**

UMPIRES

## CLUB ANALYSIS

Our club membership has remained strong and consistent with previous years, from our junior participants to our over-18s in both male and female games. We are particularly thrilled to report successful

growth in our Hockey Family membership, especially among women. Additionally, we have seen an impressive increase in the number of coaches within our clubs. It's exciting to see more players aged 18

and over taking on coaching and umpiring roles throughout the season, showcasing their commitment and passion for the sport.





## FACILITIES

We have successfully contributed to site development through the Sport Wales Collaboration Fund, partnering with the RCT Council for the Hawthorn High School project. Our financial support of over £150,000 has been instrumental in moving this development forward, ensuring that the necessary infrastructure is in place to support the growth of sports in the region. This collaboration not only enhances the physical site but also instils a stronger relationship between the school and the local community, promoting greater engagement and participation in sports.

Additionally, we have provided £200,000 for the redevelopment of the artificial turf pitch at Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn in Bala in support of the school, Bala Hockey Club and other surrounding clubs. This significant investment will greatly enhance the hockey facilities in North Wales, offering improved training and playing conditions for athletes. The upgraded pitch is expected to attract more participants, boost local interest in hockey, and provide a top-tier venue for both school competitions

and community events. This redevelopment is a critical step in our mission to strengthen sports provision and ensure that young athletes have access to the best possible resources.

Furthermore, we consistently guide and direct clubs towards the Be Active Wales Fund and Crowdfunder Grant. These resources are vital in helping clubs improve their facility capabilities, allowing them to offer better training environments and attract more members. Additionally, these funds provide crucial support for upskilling through courses and acquiring more equipment for clubs and schools in need. By equipping coaches and volunteers with the necessary skills and resources, we aim to enhance the overall quality of Hockey programs across Wales.

Our commitment extends beyond immediate financial support. We are dedicated to maintaining a strong track record of successful applicants in next year's bids, ensuring that hockey facilities continue to become more accessible and of higher quality across Wales. By investing in these projects and supporting clubs

through available grants, we are working towards a future where sports infrastructure meets the growing demand and contributes to the health and well-being of communities throughout the country. Our efforts are not just about funding but about fostering a culture of active participation and excellence in sports.

### KEY STATS:

**OVER**  
**£350K**  
**INVESTED INTO HOCKEY**  
**ATP PITCHES THROUGH**  
**COLLABORATION GROUP**  
**FUNDING**

**2**  
**REDEVELOPED SITES**  
**TO STRENGTHEN**  
**HOCKEY IN THE**  
**SURROUNDING AREAS**



## SCHOOL ANALYSIS

During the school terms, we have witnessed a remarkable surge in hockey activities, thanks to the efforts of our newly appointed Hockey Development Officers in each region. Their dedication and strategic planning have significantly revitalised interest and participation in hockey across the country. Since their appointment, we have successfully hosted numerous hockey festivals throughout Wales. Notably, our recently rebranded festival was a tremendous success, attracting over 100 enthusiastic participants from five different primary schools. This event not only showcased the growing of the sport but also provided a platform for young talents to demonstrate their skills and passion for hockey.

In addition to organising festivals, we have established strong partnerships with local authorities and schools in regions such as Gwent, Neath, and Port Talbot. These collaborations have enabled us to offer extended hockey opportunities for young people, thereby significantly

enhancing our outreach and impact. Through these joint efforts, we have been able to introduce more structured and frequent hockey sessions, ensuring that the sport is accessible to a wider audience and fostering a community of young hockey enthusiasts. We are looking forward to growing these partnerships as well as activating more within each local authority across Wales next season.

Furthermore, we have launched a pilot of our innovative initiative, 'Switch the Pitch.' This program is designed to empower primary and secondary schools to confidently deliver hockey on multiple surfaces in various locations. By providing the necessary resources and training, 'Switch the Pitch' encourages schools to incorporate hockey into their physical education curriculum and extracurricular activities, regardless of their existing facilities. This initiative not only diversifies the playing environments but also ensures that students have the opportunity to play hockey

in both traditional and non-traditional settings, thereby broadening their experience and adaptability of the sport.

Overall, the impact of our Hockey Development Officers has been profound, leading to increased participation, improved skills, and a stronger hockey community across Wales. The continued success of our festivals, partnerships, and initiatives like 'Switch the Pitch' highlights our commitment to promoting hockey and providing young people with valuable opportunities to engage in this dynamic and enjoyable sport.

## KEY STATS:

5

FESTIVALS

OVER

500

PUPILS





## HOCKEY CAMPS

We have successfully re-established our Hockey Camps across Wales, delivering over nine camps since February 2024 in West, East, and North Wales. Participation in these camps has continually grown, and we are excited to expand this program during the summer months and into the next season. Our camps offer children the opportunity to engage in fun and dynamic hockey activities during the

holidays, and we look forward to welcoming even more participants.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the facilities that hosted our camps. A special thank you to Crymych Leisure Centre, Monmouth School for Girls, Christ College, Pwllheli HC, Brynteg Comprehensive School, and Dysynni HC for your invaluable support.

## KEY STATS:

**11**  
CAMPS

**120**  
CAMP ATTENDEES



# ACHIEVING POTENTIAL







## ACHIEVING POTENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

At the time of writing we are almost at the halfway point in our 4 year cycle and continue to try to make the required progress on our journey towards the Commonwealth Games and World Cup year of 2026. All our Performance teams play a key part in this process, with our Junior and Dreigiau International squads building a depth of numbers and experiences to support onward transition to the senior programmes and the senior programmes forming and reforming their plans and strategies and reviewing these against the competitive match opportunities that present themselves. It will not go unnoticed by even the most casual of observers that this process is undertaken against a current backdrop of funding reductions, considerable increases in required player contributions, less ability to resource a certain level of

Performance support to our squads and of course as an often-direct consequence of these challenges and more, a consistent turnover of players and staff into and out of our programmes. What I am most proud of though is the continuing approach in our Performance teams to see beyond the issues, use them positively as a way of strengthening our resolve and collective spirit and to leverage this towards demonstrating that wonderful characteristic in Welsh sport of fighting and challenging to achieve beyond our means and others' expectations when it really matters.

This last year was a great example of playing our full part in daring to believe that we can continue to achieve beyond our means on the continental and world stage. Our U18 teams pushed their opponents extremely hard in their home

Europeans in Swansea and showed their collective force in a number of their performances and whilst in some cases not always managing to secure the results they wanted or seize enough of the key moments, the players benefitted from the rich experiences they gained, with a number of them already transitioning into this year's Dreigiau or Senior squads.

The exploits of our Senior Men in Germany at the European Championships will live long in the memory and gave us lots to be proud of and whilst they will be disappointed to miss out on the top 6 and avoid having to re-qualify for the Championship division again, they remained highly competitive against a number of full time European Hockey nations. The epic 3-3 draw and legacy performance against recently crowned World Champions and hosts Germany in a packed and partisan full stadium again





proved our ability to compete with the very best at the top table and demonstrated that at our best we can be a match for most. The exposure earlier in the summer for a number of younger players to their first taste of senior International Hockey also ensures that succession planning is being carefully considered on an ongoing basis to cover any future departures to what has been a previously consistent and settled group of men. The team sadly bid farewell after their European campaign to popular manager Will Packer who will be sorely missed but they have a perfect replacement in the very experienced and equally likeable Gwyn Williams who recently and seamlessly picked up the baton.

The Senior Women were able to use the early summer of 2023 to transition a number of players from outside the squad into the main body of the senior group to replace those that moved on or retired. This saw 6 players get their 1st International caps during the great experience of a trip to Uruguay to play an invitational 3 nations against

them and Chile. This proved to be useful preparation as they managed to finish 3rd and claim a Bronze medal in European Championship II in Prague, something that has eluded the group at this level since 2009. The youthful nature of the squad is a pleasing nod to the good work carried out in our transitional programmes in recent years and therefore this level of engagement and opportunity is crucial to allow future senior cycles to at least maintain their position if not able to improve on it.

Whilst it was a non-U21 tournament year for our Dreigiau groups, they have been building capacity and experiences as they continue to develop and transition players into and through their respective programmes and undertaking the first year of a two-year cycle which culminates in the European U21 Championships in July 2024.

In the theme of continuing to overreach positively with our Hockey, on Olympic year I want to conclude by mentioning our group of Great Britain athletes, which are now 10 in number across the various

programmes, which is the highest representation I can ever remember us having in Hoci Cymru and we wish all those involved currently in the Senior programme the very best wishes as they wait to hear soon about Olympic selection for Paris 2024 which of course will be a wonderful event to showcase our great sport once again to the watching World.

All eyes now on Performance are fixed towards those aforementioned Olympics, and our Senior teams battling it out in their respective European Qualifiers in August, with our U21 squads in European competition to try and qualify for promotion in their divisions as well as Junior World Cup qualification. We also have a Senior Women/Dreigiau team in the Euro 5's as well as both our U16 representative teams from our Junior squads. It promises to be a busy and exciting summer with many memories made and hopefully many key moments taken!

**Kevin Johnson**  
Director of Performance





## GB HOCKEY

It is undoubtedly the most exciting time to be involved in a GB programme with the Paris Olympics a matter of months away as well as a home summer Pro-League series to look forward to. We were delighted to see the recent inclusion to the GB Men's squad of Gareth Furlong as he looks to make a late claim for Olympic selection and he is certainly well placed to impress after consistently delivering in a Wales shirt over a long period of time now and I'm sure all of the Welsh Hockey community wish all these athletes the very best in what is ahead of them and we hope to see as many as possible involved in Paris.

We are very pleased to have increased our numbers in the GB EDP programme which is a nod to the ongoing development and progress of our players and indicates a healthy current position as we try to sustain or improve on our future numbers making the transition into GB senior squads. So congratulations to Owen Sutton and Rebecca Daniel who join Fred Newbold, Millie Holme and Betsan Thomas in their respective programmes.

### **Great Britain Senior Men:**

Toby Reynolds-Cotterill  
Rupert Shipperley  
Jacob Draper  
Gareth Furlong

### **Great Britain Senior Women:**

Sarah Jones

### **Great Britain Elite Development Programme Men:**

Fred Newbold  
Owen Sutton

### **Great Britain Elite Development Programme Women:**

Millie Holme  
Betsan Thomas  
Rebecca Daniel



## 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**

Jonny Fleck  
Mike Wood  
Owen Sutton



**50**  
**CAPS**

Rhys Bradshaw



**100**  
**CAPS**

Ben Francis  
Rupert Shipperley

### WOMEN



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

Amy Cradden  
Anja Atkin  
Sophia Crawshay  
Lucie Daman  
Maisie Riley  
Betsan Thomas



**50**  
**CAPS**

Izzie Howell  
Izzy Webb



**150**  
**CAPS**

*(Wales and Great Britain)*

Sarah Jones



## PATHWAY

### County

The 2023/2024 season saw our rebranded Pathway run for its inaugural season. This pathway brought County Hockey back to the forefront and impressively for 23/24 we had 8 Counties across Wales with over 600 players, between 13-17 years old, nominated. Counties had an U15 girls, U17 girls and Boys sides represented.

This equated to 8 x U15 Girls (11 a side), 8 x U17 Girls teams (11 a side), 12 x Boys teams (7 a side). Counties trained regularly and competed in 3 Cluster matches against other counties whilst preparing for the County Championships which ran during the February half term.

U15 Girls had 16 matches over the county championships which equated to 560minutes of hockey

U17 Girls had 16 matches over the county championships which equated to 560minutes of hockey.

Boys – 34 matches over county championships which equated to 850minutes of hockey.

In total over the February half term nearly 2000 minutes of hockey was played, umpired and spectated.

Well done to all players and teams who participated and congratulations to the county champions of 2023/24.

#### U15 Girls

3rd – Gwent, 2nd – Eryri, 1st – South Coast

#### U17 Girls

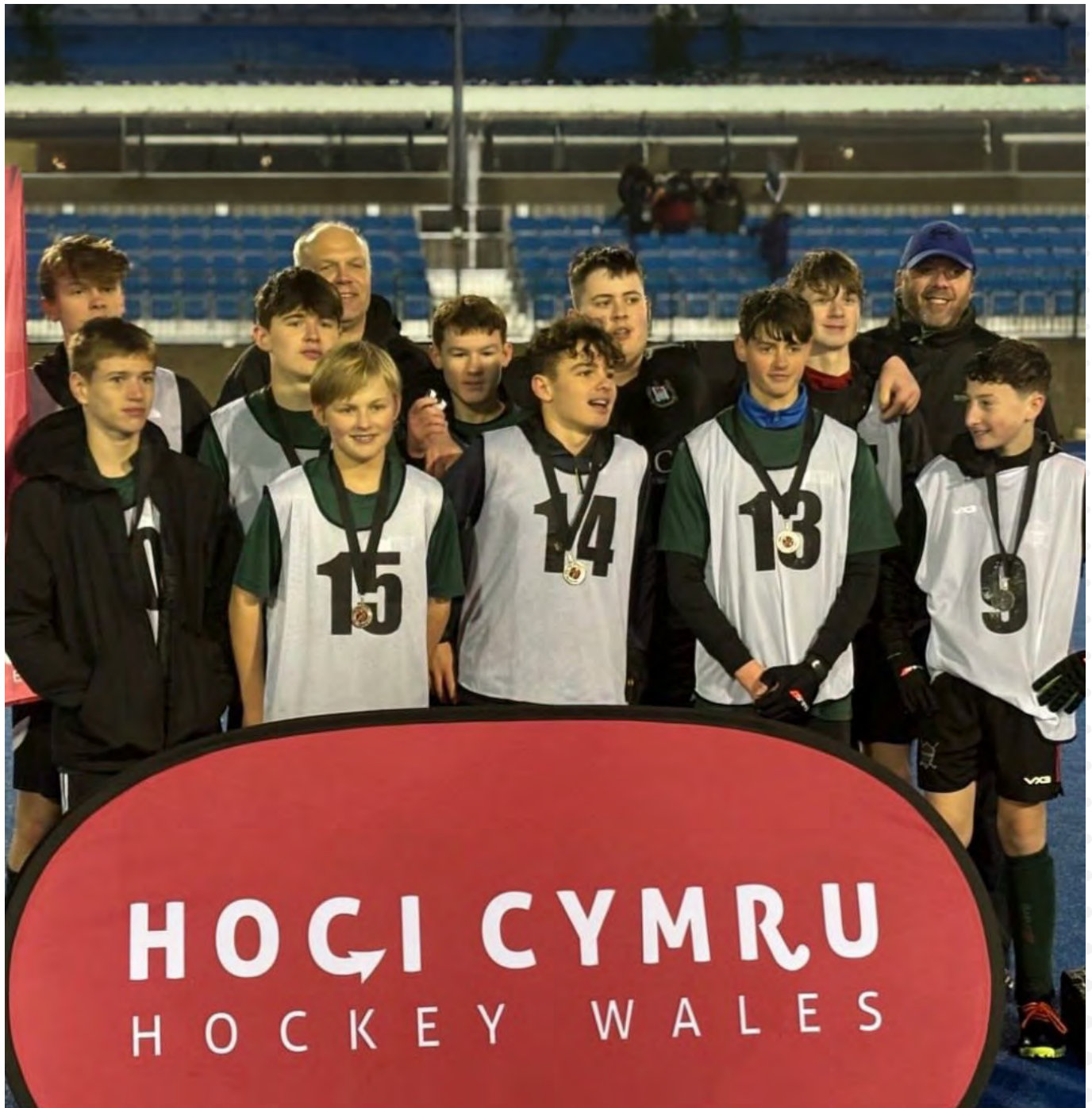
3rd – South Coast and Glamorgan Valleys, 2nd – Cardiff 1s, 1st – Eryri

#### U17 Boys

3rd – Cardiff 1, 2nd – South Coast 1s, 1st – North East 2

During the County season the county head coaches were also looking at players within their counties to nominate to the next level, as well as this during the County Festival, NAGS coaches were also present observing and selecting players for the next level, Regional.





## Regional

Our Regional Academies recently started with the first session at the end of April. This has seen 4 Regional centres, North, South West, South East 1 and South East 2 provide further technical and holistic development for approximately 200 junior athletes and 17 coaches/managers. The Regional Academies follow training day expectations of NAGS level. These are 6-hour full days which have both on and off pitch development.

These centres utilise our Regional Partnerships with Wrexham University, Swansea University and Cardiff Met University as well as Sport Wales support.

Excitingly for 2023/24, we will also be bringing players from the 4 centres together to create a Regional Representative Wales side to compete in the 2024 School Games, a multi-sport competition hosted at Loughborough University.

A big thank you to all pathway players, parents and coaches who have help steer and shape this new pathway season. After the conclusion of the pathway season a review period will take place for the 2023/2024 season.





## NATIONAL AGE GROUPS

### 2023 – Completion of the 2022/23 season

2023 was an exciting year for our U18 National Age Groups with Swansea hosting both the boys and girls EuroHockey Championship II competition. This was an incredible event hosted in partnership with Swansea University. The girls got a silver medal and competed against Turkey and Poland. Full details can be found here: [\*\*EuroHockey U18 Championship II-B 2023 Girls - EuroHockey\*\*](#)

The Boys just missed out on a medal and finished 4th. The Boys competed against, Italy, Switzerland, Lithuania and the Czech Republic. Full details can be found here: [\*\*EuroHockey U18 Championship II-B 2023 Boys - EuroHockey\*\*](#)

Following the Europeans our U18s also competed at the first England Hockey Talent Academy Festival. This provided them with a series of matches over the bank holiday weekend at Nottingham.

Finally, whilst the transition of programme began, the 2022/2023 season culminated in another 11-day Erasmus trip to Holland, this occurred during the October half term. 18 Boys got to experience the culture and hockey in Holland as well as train and spend time together both on and off the pitch.

This is an invaluable amount of time and not something we are often able to offer for our junior athletes, however, thanks to funding support from the Erasmus+ project it allowed the players to play hockey in some of the best Dutch clubs and even get to meet international hockey players and watch some

Hoofklasse matches including, Bloemendaal, Amsterdam, HGC, Kampong, Schaerweijde and Pinoke. They also competed against Rotterdam U18s, who are one of the best junior sides in Holland. Other fixtures included Qui Vive, Hilversum, Phoenix, Fletiomare and Thomas Zoetermeer. A thank you to all clubs who hosted our players and added to an incredible experience, also a thank you to Ton Langenhuijsen who helped arrange these fixtures and guide our players and staff whilst in Holland. The team presented Ton with a signed Wales shirt to show their gratitude and thanks.

Thank you to all programme staff who help drive and steer these programmes. With a number of staff moving on we would like to express our thanks to them and wish them good luck in their future endeavours.





## 2023/2024 NAGS U18

Inline with our new pathway, this allowed us to adapt and start our NAGS programme earlier. This saw a period of transition as we reviewed our NAGS staffing and appointed some new staff. Due to it being the first year and in order for eligible players to be seen, all previous RPC players were invited for assessment, after a period of assessment, 36 U18 Boys and 36 U18 Girls were selected as part of the NAGS 2023/24 programme. Newly for this season we also selected a number of NAG reserves.

Starting in 2023, we introduced NAGS Regional Training, this allowed coaches to have more regular contact time to develop players technically whilst minimising the time and travel for players, these were also the sessions which our NAG reserves could access. The regional sessions run in either North Wales or South Wales, approximately once a month. We also run whole squad activity during the school holidays. This allows more tactical and squad development. The February half term saw the first Anti-

doping introduction to start the conversation and educate our young athletes. During the half term both the Boys and Girls groups received a wellbeing workshop delivered by Lloyd Ashley, an ex-professional rugby player. He covered the topic of resilience and emphasised the importance of mental health and looking after/ checking in on each other.

Following this the groups had some more regional training before coming together again for an exciting Easter series. This was one of the first times that 4 of our performance programmes all played at home and against differing opposition. This created an excellent event which also launched our new match kit following our kit partnership with Kitlocker and Castore.

Our NAG U18 Girls played a tightly contested 3 matches series against Canada U18, this finished in a series draw after a drawn first game, narrow loss in the second and finally a narrow win in game 3.

### Under 18 Girls

Wales 2 -2 Canada

Wales 2-3 Canada

Wales 2-1 Canada

Our NAG U18 Boys had a tough opponent in a strong and physical Ulster U19 side. They lost out in all 3 matches, however they saw improvement from game to game and this stretch should set them up well for the rest of the summer.

### Under 18 boys

Wales 1 - 5 Ulster

Wales 1 - 4 Ulster

Wales 2 -4 Ulster

The 2023/24 programme will be another busy period for our junior athletes as they prepare for U16 5s EuroHockey Championship, a 4 nations series with Spain, Holland and Ireland as well as competing again at the EH TA Festival. This will stretch and develop all players within the programme with one eye on the European Championships in 2025.





## PERFORMANCE STAFF

### Senior Men

Danny Newcombe  
*Senior Men's Head Coach*

Gwyn Williams  
*Senior Men's  
Programme Manager*

Martin Schouten  
*Senior Men's Assistant Coach  
and Men's Dreigiau Head  
Coach*

Sam Rowe  
*Senior Men's Analyst and Men's  
Dreigiau Assistant Coach*

Reuben Elliott  
*Men's Dreigiau Support Staff*

Debbie Mason  
*Senior Men's Physiotherapist*

Mitchell Walsh  
*Senior Men's 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 Women's Dreigiau  
Head Coach*

Paul Edwards  
*Women's Dreigiau Support Staff*

Samantha Walker  
*Senior Women's Physiotherapist*

Rhianna Galvin  
*Senior Women's Performance  
Analyst*

Sam Thirlwell  
*Senior Women's Strength and  
Conditioning Coach*

Alyssa Mildenstein  
*Women's Dreigiau  
Physiotherapist*

Matthew Sears  
*Women's Dreigiau Support Staff*

### Performance Support

Henry Davies  
*Head of Strength and  
Conditioning*

Jonny Harper  
*Head of Medical Services*

Tom Millington  
*Senior Men and Women GK  
Coach*

# NATIONAL AGE GROUPS STAFF

## National Age Group Boys

Mark Ramage *Head Coach*  
 Shelley Robinson  
*Programme Manager*  
 Brett Madden *Assistant Coach*  
 Chris Davis *Assistant Coach*  
 Dave Sharp  
*Goalkeeper Coach and Analyst*  
 Connor Heatherton  
*Strength and Conditioning Coach*

## National Age Group Girls

Mo Samak *Head Coach*  
 Emily Tyler  
*Programme Manager*  
 Shenarda Dedic  
*Assistant Coach*  
 Adam Broomfield  
*Goalkeeper Coach and Analyst*  
 David Asprey  
*Strength and Conditioning Coach*  
 Carmen Ansley,  
 Chelsie-Jane Mason,  
 Cora Hogan, Ashleigh Abbott  
*Physio Pool*

## Regional Performance Centre Coaches

Brett Madden  
*North Head Coach*  
 Tom Williamson  
*North Head Coach*  
 Liam Bell *North Assistant Coach*  
 Rob Williams  
*North Assistant Coach*  
 Robert Webb  
*South West Head Coach*  
 Callum Chapman  
*South West Head Coach*  
 Lucy Wiseman  
*South West Assistant Coach*  
 Charlie Johnson  
*South West Assistant Coach*

James Bandurak  
*South East 1 Head Coach*  
 Jas Singh  
*South East 1 Assistant Coach*  
 George Marshall  
*South East 1 Assistant Coach*  
 Angus McDermid  
*South East 1&2 Coach*  
 David Robinson  
*South East 2 Head Coach*  
 George Riley  
*South East 2 Assistant Coach*  
 Ethan Broadbank  
*South East 2 Assistant Coach*  
 Angus McDermid  
*South East 1&2 Coach*

## County Coaches

Fleur Gallagher  
*Afan Nedd Tawe Boys HC*  
 Callum Chapman  
*Afan Nedd Tawe Boys HC*  
 Ffion Morgans  
*Afan Nedd Tawe U15 Girls HC*  
 Victoria Vaughan  
*Afan Nedd Tawe U17 Girls HC*  
 Robert Webb *Dyfed Boys HC*  
 Robert Codd *Dyfed Boys AC*  
 Charlotte Harris  
*Dyfed U15 Girls HC*  
 Siriol Richards  
*Dyfed U15 Girls AC*  
 Lucy Griffiths *Dyfed U17 Girls HC*  
 Sian Davies *Dyfed U17 Girls AC*  
 Thomas Miller  
*South Coast Boys HC*  
 Craig Llewellyn  
*South Coast Boys AC*  
 Graeme Jones  
*South Coast U15 Girls HC*  
 Jason Arnold  
*South Coast U15 Girls AC*  
 Graeme Jones  
*South Coast U17 Girls HC*

Jason Arnold  
*South Coast U17 Girls AC*  
 George Marshall  
*Cardiff Boys HC*  
 Jas Singh *Cardiff U15 Girls HC*  
 Nic Morgan *Cardiff U17 Girls HC*  
 George Riley *Gwent Boys HC*  
 George Riley *Gwent U15 Girls HC*  
 Juan Peralta *Gwent U15 Girls AC*  
 George Riley *Gwent U17 Girls HC*  
 Juan Peralta *Gwent U17 Girls AC*  
 Mark Zeigler  
*Glamorgan Valleys Boys HC*  
 Jess Owens  
*Glamorgan Valleys Boys AC*  
 Mark Zeigler  
*Glamorgan Valleys U15 Girls HC*  
 Jess Owens  
*Glamorgan Valleys U15 Girls AC*  
 Mark Zeigler  
*Glamorgan Valleys U17 Girls HC*  
 Jess Owens  
*Glamorgan Valleys U17 Girls AC*  
 Liam Bell *North East Boys HC*  
 Stephen Bullock  
*North East Boys AC*  
 Tom Williamson  
*North East U15 Girls HC*  
 Simon Samuels  
*North East U15 Girls AC*  
 Tom Williamson  
*North East U17 Girls HC*  
 Simon Samuels  
*North East U17 Girls AC*  
 Matt Wilkinson *Eryri Boys HC*  
 Lynda Bennett *Eryri U15 Girls HC*  
 Nathan Hatton *Eryri U15 Girls AC*  
 Marlon Allison / Janelle Lowe  
*Eryri U17 Girls HC*  
 Rhys Davies *Eryri U17 Girls AC*





# THRIVING ENVIRONMENTS





## WALES HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

The 2023/2024 season has been a successful season of appointments at EuroHockey and FIH level. Indoor saw Abby MacArthur appointed to the Women's Indoor Championship in Berlin in February, while Chris Brewer was appointed Technical Director at the men's outdoor European Championships in Monchengladbach the previous July. Kevin Roberts was appointed to the EHL in the KO16 round in Barcelona and was also selected by GB to go to the Sultan of Johor Cup in Malaysia. Domestically there has been more appointments in the Hoci

Cymru National Cup than ever before and appointments have also been provided at the new South Wales Indoor League. As well as delivering the online level one courses, this season has also seen the delivery of pre-season rules seminar for both the indoor and outdoor game and the development of a new technical officials' seminar.

The financial landscape is an ever changing and challenging one. A reduction in funding this season has resulted in the WHUA needed to look at different forms of revenue. Regrettably this has meant that

we have had to charge clubs for appointments.

The end of this season has seen the retirement of Cathy Wright and Chris Brewer from the FIH List. WHUA have celebrated their careers by presenting both Cathy and Chris with Life Membership to the Welsh Hockey Umpires Association.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who have umpired or officiated matches this season, your efforts are very much appreciated. WHUA would also like to thank all members of our committees for the work that they have done throughout the season.



# UMPIRES & OFFICIALS APPOINTMENTS

EUROHOCKEY APPOINTMENTS			
COMPETITION NAME	DATE	UMPIRE / OFFICIAL NAME	ROLE
Outdoor Men's and Women's EHL Final8 @ Amsterdam (NED)	6-10 Apr 2023	John Taylor	Technical Official
Outdoor Men's EuroHockey Club Trophy I @ Vienna (AUT)	7-10 Apr 2023	Luke Rees	National Umpire
Outdoor Men's EuroHockey Club Challenge I @ Sveti Ivan Zelina (CRO)	25-28 May 2023	Kevin Roberts	Appointed Umpire
Outdoor Women's EuroHockey Club Challenge II @ Vienna (AUT)	26-29 May 2023	Clare Barwood Chloe McCall	National Umpire
Outdoor Men's EuroHockey Boy's Championship @ Krefeld (GER)	8-16 Jul 2023	Karen Evans Kevin Roberts	Umpire Manager Appointed Umpire
Outdoor Women's EuroHockey Girl's Championship @ Krefeld (GER)	8-16 Jul 2023	Clare Barwood	National Umpire
Outdoor Men's EuroHockey Boy's Championship II-B @ Swansea (WAL)	9-15 Jul 2023	Mark Staunton Jonathan Gould	Umpire Manager National Umpire
Outdoor Women's EuroHockey Girl's Championship II-B @ Swansea (WAL)	9-15 Jul 2023	Mark Staunton Megan James	Umpire Manager National Umpire
Outdoor Women's EuroHockey Girl's Championship II-A @ Zagreb (CRO)	10-15 Jul 2023	Victoria Lester	Judge
Outdoor Women's EuroHockey Championship II	30-5 Aug 2023	Cathy Wright	National Umpire
Outdoor Men's EuroHockey Championship @ Mönchengladbach (GER)	18-27 Aug 2023	Chris Brewer	Technical Delegate
EuroHockey Championship 2023 Women @ Mönchengladbach, Germany	18-27 Aug 2023	Chris Brewer	Assistant Technical Delegate
Outdoor Men's EHL KO16 @ Barcelona (Spain)	6-8 Oct 2023	Kevin Roberts	Appointed Umpire
Indoor Women's EuroHockey Indoor Championship @ Berlin (GER)	8-11 Feb 2024	Victoria Lester Abby McOram	Judge Appointed Umpire
Indoor Men's EuroHockey Indoor Club Trophy @ Plzeň (CZE)	16-18 Feb 2024	Kevin Roberts	Appointed Umpire
Indoor Men's EuroHockey Club Challenge I @ Ferrara (ITA)	16-18 Feb 2024	Christian Phillips-Adams	National Umpire
Indoor Women's EuroHockey Indoor Club Trophy @ Skierniewice (POL)	23-25 Feb 2024	Clare Barwood	National Umpire



## FIH APPOINTMENTS

COMPETITION NAME	DATE	UMPIRE / OFFICIAL NAME	ROLE
2022-23 FIH Hockey Pro League (M & W) @ Various	28 Oct - 10 Ap 2023	Victoria Lester (Skinner-Allen)	Judge
EuroHockey5s Championship 2023 Women @ Walcz, Poland	28-1 Jul 2023	Clare Barwood	National Umpire
EuroHockey Championship II 2023 Women @ Prague, Czech Republic	30-5 Aug 2023	Cathy Wright	National Umpire
EuroHockey Championship 2023 Men @ Mönchengladbach, Germany	18-27 Aug 2023	Chris Brewer	Technical Delegate
EuroHockey Championship 2023 Women @ Mönchengladbach, Germany	18-27 Aug 2023	Chris Brewer	Assistant Technical Delegate
2023 4 Nations Junior Women's Invitational Tournament @ Düsseldorf	18-23 Aug 2023	Clare Barwood	Neutral Umpire
2023 Sultan of Johor Cup @ Johor, Malaysia	27-4 Nov 2023	Kevin Roberts	Umpire
2023-24 FIH Hockey Pro League (W) @ Various	6 Dec-29 Jun 2024	Clare Barwood	Umpire
EuroHockey Indoor Championship Women 2024 @ Berlin, Germany	8-11 Feb 2024	Abby McOram	Umpire



# PARTICIPATION





## WALES MASTERS MEN: 1 APRIL 2023 - 31 MARCH 2024

The year was one of mixed fortunes for the Men's Masters teams with results broadly disappointing – oh for some more proven goal scorers was a theme across many age groups – but much promise for the future. The outstanding performance of the year was the O55s Silver Medal at the inaugural World Indoor Championships (see below) backed up by some great results across the other age groups. We look forward to further success in this format and a cross-over to the outdoor squads as well and many thanks go to Rob Blacklidge for masterminding this new venture. The stand-out performance at the outdoor Europeans also came from the O55s who missed out on a possible Bronze to a single 4th quarter English goal.

Further demonstrating the growth and ambition of our squads have been the 3 international events held in Cardiff as set out below – international experience is vital and playing in Cardiff

before significant crowds demonstrates the health of Masters hockey. This is exemplified by the O75s who played in their first European Championships and hosted what we think was the first O75 4 Nations tournament in the UK. Our grateful thanks go to Hoci Cymru staff and Welsh umpires and officials for their support in staging these events.

### **Wales O45s v France, Cardiff – April 2023**

**O45s:** v France 3-2 and 3-1

### **Celtic Cup, St Germain-en-Laye, Paris – April 2023**

This was a new version of the Celtic Cup with France expanding it to 6 nations. The O60s were desperately unlucky not to come out on top after two very close matches with France where draws would have been fair results.

**O60s:** v Scotland 1-1, v France 1-2, v Belgium 1-0, Final v France 0-1

**O65s:** v Ireland 1-2, v France 1-1, 3/4th place v Spain 1-0

**O70s:** v Spain 1-2, v Scotland 0-3, 5/6th place v Ireland conceded

### **GB&I 4 Nations, Swansea – May 2023**

This was again an excellent tournament for the O60s who were closer to England than the score suggested in what was in effect a final. It also saw the first ever O75 category at a GB&I 4 Nations which will hopefully include Scotland and Ireland in future years.

**O60s:** v Ireland 2-0, v Scotland 2-0, v England 0-2, Placing 2nd

**O65s:** v Ireland 0-1, v Scotland 1-7, v England 0-4, Placing 4th

**O70s:** v Ireland 5-0, v Scotland 1-2, v England 1-4, Placing 3rd

**O75s:** v England 0-5, v England 0-3, Placing 2nd

### **GB&I 4 Nations, Belfast – May 2023**

**O40s:** v Scotland 3-5, v England 0-4, v Ireland 0-2, Placing 4th

**O50s:** v Scotland 0-3, v England 0-6, v Ireland 0-3, Placing 4th





## **GB&I 4 Nations, Southgate – June 2023**

**O35s:** v England 0-1, v Ireland 3-7, v Scotland 4-2, Placing 3rd

**O45s:** v England 1-10, v Ireland 0-4, v Scotland 1-2, Placing 4th

**O55s:** v England 1-2, v Ireland 3-2, v Scotland 0-3, Placing 3rd

## **European Championships, Valencia – June 2023**

**O65s:** Pool v Scotland 0-1, v Belgium 0-1, v Netherlands 0-1, v France 0-0

Crossover v Ireland 1-0, 5/6th place v Belgium 1-2, Placing 6th out of 10

**O70s:** Pool v Belgium 4-0, v Spain 1-1, v England 1-4, v France 2-0

Crossover v Ireland 7-0, 5/6th place v Germany 0-2, Placing 6th out of 9

**O75s:** Pool v Netherlands 0-3, v Belgium 0-0, v Germany 1-2, v England 0-7, Placing 5th out of 5

As current World Champions the 70s had a target on their back and a combination of injuries and extreme heat didn't help their cause. A draw against hosts Spain in the pool meant that a semi-final place would rest on goal difference and a positive 4-0 result for Wales against France at midday was surpassed by Spain in their subsequent game against Belgium at 4pm – a very much cooler time of day. Disappointing, but with an influx of 'young' players a strong defence of the World Cup in Cape Town beckons in October 2024.

## **European Championships, Nottingham – July 2023**

**O35s:** Pool v France 6-3, v England 0-2, v Spain 2-5, v Scotland 2-3, v Germany 2-2, 5/6th place v France 2-3, Placing 6th out of 6

**O40s:** Pool v France 3-2, v England 1-10, v Germany 3-5, v Scotland 1-1, Semi-final v Germany 2-5, 3/4th v France 1-7, Placing 6th out of 7

## **O45s:**

Pool v Germany 2-2, v Scotland 2-2, v Ireland 2-2, v Netherlands 1-8, v England 0-8, v France 2-2, 5/6th place v Ireland 2-6, Placing 6th out of 7

**O50s:** Pool v Netherlands 1-5, v France 1-3, v Scotland 3-3 Quarter final v England 2-7, Classification v France 1-6, 7/8th place v Italy 4-1, Placing 7th out of 8

## **European Championships, Valencia – June 2023**

**O55s:** Pool v Germany 2-3, v Scotland 1-0, v Ireland 1-0, v Spain 1-1, 3/4th place v England 0-1, Placing 4th out of 9

**O60s:** Pool v Scotland 1-4, v Netherlands 2-2, v Italy 0-0, v Ireland 3-0, 7/8th place v Spain 1-3, Placing 8th out of 10

## **Wales O60s v Netherlands, Cardiff – October 2023**

**O60s:** v Netherlands 0-3 and 2-3

## **O75s 4 Nations, Cardiff – March 2024**

**O75s:** v England 0-2, v Belgium 0-0, v Netherlands 0-2, Placing 3rd





### **World Masters Indoor, Nottingham – March 2024**

The first ever World Masters Indoor Cup was held in Nottingham over Easter for both Men and Women. This was an extraordinarily popular tournament much enjoyed by the players and spectators alike. For the Welsh men, it was a superb debut on the World stage.

Pride of place goes to the O55s who came away with the silver medal – only their fourth of any colour won by Wales Men at any World Cup. The O55s came second in their group following a 4–9 defeat to Germany and 2–0 and 8–4 victories over Belgium and Spain respectively. This was just a prelude! Having fallen 3–0 down to England midway through the second quarter in the semi-final, Wales fought

back a 4–3 win over the Pool A winners. A second miracle almost happened again in the final against the Netherlands. After an even more potentially confidence destroying start with the Netherlands 3–0 up after 4 minutes, Wales then showed remarkable spirit to fight back to 3–3 with their own burst of 3 goals in 6 minutes, but the Dutch edged ahead again meaning the score was 4–3 at the end of the second quarter. And, most unusually for an indoor match, that is how it remained with no goals in the final 20 minutes. However, disappointing as it might have been placed in the context of other results – the Netherlands had beaten Germany 7–4 in the other semi-final and Germany then beat England 11–4 in the 3/4th place play-off, this was a truly great performance by the Welsh O55s.

### **The squad was:**

*Ant Colclough (Captain), Jon Short (GK), Neil Baldwin, Andy Burrough, Mickey Colclough, Clive Colloff, Neil Farquharson, Enzo Favro, Ali Hall, Dave King, Wyn Sleeman*

Two other age groups also produced great performances to reach their semi-finals. The O60s drew 5–5 with Switzerland, beat the USA 5–4 and lost to the Netherlands 0–3. Germany proved too strong in the semi-final winning 5–1, as did England in the 3/4th place play-off, winning 6–1. A special mention should be made of Andy Rhys-Jones who scored 11 of Wales' 12 goals.



## PARTICIPATION



The O35s made an amazing recovery after losing their first game to Germany 1-21 to beat the USA 9-8 and Ghana 8-1 but losing 5-6 to Scotland. They then lost 4-8 to Scotland in their semi-final and drew 3-3 with the USA in the 3/4th place match before losing 0-2 in the shoot-out. Again, special mention of Ben Croxall (11) and Tim Jones (9) who scored two thirds of Wales goals between them.

Two close pool results not quite going Wales' way – 6-6 v Canada and 5-6 v Guyana, preceded by a 2-12 loss to England, saw the O45s go into the 5-8th place play-offs. Here they found the winning touch

to defeat Bangladesh 5-4 and Austria 7-5 to take 5th place with Dan Makaruk scoring 9 goals.

The O50s got off to a good start with a 7-2 win over the USA, but then 3-8 to the Netherlands and 3-7 to England. The first game in the 5-8th place play-offs saw a 4-7 defeat to Italy but Wales came back to beat the USA again 4-3 to take 7th place with captain Joergen Jaehnis scoring 9 goals.

So a great tournament overall for Wales with the bonus of a silver medal, new players joining who had not played outdoor for us, and the opportunity to play countries

we had never met before such as Bangladesh, Guyana and Ghana. The possibility of a European Cup in 2025 is something everyone involved in Nottingham will look forward to.

Whatever the results, the enduring message from the 2023/24 season was that we have a clear post-covid benchmark of where we currently stand and are working hard to put in place plans for future development, and continue to play in tournaments whether international or friendly and enjoying both the great competitiveness and camaraderie of Masters hockey.



## WALES WOMENS MASTERS REPORT 2023 – 2024 SEASON

Trials for the 2023 season started in Nov/Dec 2022 attendance at trials is getting larger year on year with some age groups nearly at the point of putting a second team into the spirit of the masters' tournaments which are run alongside all major competitions, the pool of players appears to be getting bigger year on year, due to players playing later in life to be able to play in Masters hockey and we are also seeing players coming back into the game across all age groups, but remarkably in the 65s bracket which allowed us to form our first 65s team for this season.

We continue to be supported by a large array of Coaches, Managers, Medics, Umpires and technical officials who

put a lot of self-funded time and effort into ensuring the success and progress of our Womens masters teams, with some travelling considerable distances to attend trails and training in Wales, the level of experience, skill and professionalism amongst this support group is top notch and Womens Masters Hockey would be nowhere without them.

The 2023 season saw the start of the women's age groups being split into separate dates and venues for all competitions, and such is the success of Masters hockey in Wales invites for new tournaments are flooding in such as our 35's to 45's being invited to play in a tournament run by Gibraltar Hockey and our older age groups invited to play in

a four nations tournament in Germany, We are also being invited to play in a lot of different tournaments across the UK as masters hockey at all levels of the game continues to grow with International teams invited into domestic tournaments to raise the profile of the tournament.

The GB&I (Home nations) tournament for the 35s – 45s age groups were held in Swansea, and we were well supported by Hockey Wales to organise and run the tournament which proved to be a great success, across the age groups there were some good wins and very close games.



## PARTICIPATION



The older age groups 50's – 65s travelled to Glasgow for their tournament where again there were plenty of wins some losses and very close games the weather in Glasgow was unseasonably hot which made playing conditions quite hard especially during the midday games, however the tournament was well organised and extra water breaks were factored into the games.

The European tournament for the 35s – 50s was held in Nottingham unfortunately the entries from other countries for the 40s group was very poor which led to us making the decision to withdraw that age group from the tournament due to lack of competition, the other age groups had a good tournament again with a mix of results with the 35s narrowly missing out on the medals.

The 55s – 65s travelled to Valencia for their European tournament which was held during a European wide heat wave making playing conditions very challenging all teams worked hard during the tournament with managers and medics managing the heat effects on players very well, the 55s finished 5th in their group with the 60s narrowly missed out on a Bronze medal, the 65s however in their first year together walked away with the Bronze medal beating Holland in a hard fought game.



## PARTICIPATION



## COMPETITIONS 2023/2024

### Club Competitions

Women's Indoor: Swansea  
 Men's Indoor: Cardiff & Met  
 Women's Championship: Swansea  
 Men's Championship Cardiff & Met  
 Women's Trophy: Bangor City  
 Men's Trophy: Cardiff University  
 Women's Challenge: Fishguard & Goodwick  
 Men's Challenge: Cardiff & Met  
 Women's Masters Championship: Penarth  
 Women's Masters Trophy: Wrexham  
 Men's Masters: Cardiff & Met

### Youth Competitions

U18 Girls: Swansea  
 U18 Boys: Swansea  
 U16 Girls: Penarth  
 U16 Boys: Northop Hall  
 U14 Girls: Whitchurch  
 U14 Boys: Whitchurch  
 U12 Girls: Whitchurch  
 U12 Boys: Whitchurch

### Eurohockey Competitions

EuroHockey Club Trophy I 2023  
 Men: Cardiff & Met, 1st place  
 EuroHockey Club Challenge II 2023  
 Women: Swansea, 1st place; Penarth 6th place  
 EuroHockey Club Trophy II 2023  
 Men: Swansea, 7th place  
 EuroHockey Indoor Club Challenge I Men 2024:  
 Cardiff & Met, 5th place  
 EuroHockey Indoor Club Trophy Women 2024: Penarth Ladies, 8th place

### Schools Competitions

U18 Schoolgirls: Ysgol Glantaf  
 U18 Schoolboys: Rydal Penrhos  
 U16 Schoolgirls: Cathedral School  
 U16 Schoolboys: Bishopston  
 U14 Schoolgirls: Howell's School  
 U14 Schoolboys: Ysgol Brynhyfryd  
 U12 Schoolgirls: Ysgol Botwnnog  
 U12 Schoolboys: Ysgol Brynhyfryd



## COMPETITION HEADLINE STATISTICS 2023/2024



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**27**



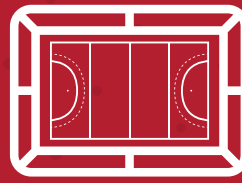
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**355**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**5,086**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**485**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**16,410**

## CLUB HEADLINE STATISTICS 2023/2024



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**19**



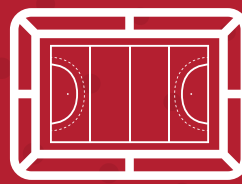
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**149**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**2,240**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**249**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**12,340**

## SCHOOL HEADLINE STATISTICS 2023/2024



TOTAL NO. OF  
COMPETITIONS  
COORDINATED

**8**



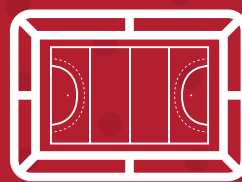
NO. OF TEAMS  
ENTERED

**206**



NO. OF PLAYERS  
ENGAGED

**2,846**



NO. OF FIXTURES  
GENERATED

**236**



TOTAL NO. OF  
MINUTES OF  
HOCKEY

**4,070**

# PARTNERSHIPS





## PARTNERS

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

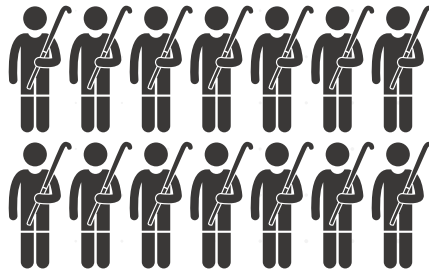


Our thanks once again to Irfon Bennett for capturing so many wonderful moments on camera

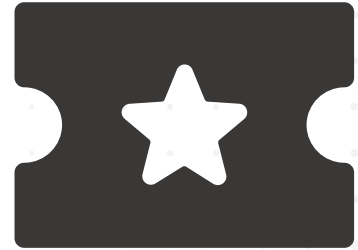


### SUPPORT

South Wales Indoor League



**252**  
**MEMBERS**



### MONTHLY DRAW

**48** **33** **15**  
MONTHLY PRIZE INDIVIDUAL CLUB  
DRAWS WINNERS WINNERS

Friends of Welsh Hockey are supported as a charity  
with the following funds:

**Dadds Higgins Fund**

**Peter English Fund for Young Ambassadors**

**Alan Carter Fund for Umpires & Officials**



Our Facebook page has  
**781 LIKES & 800 FOLLOWERS**  
**Friends of Welsh Hockey**



Our X account has  
**344 followers**  
**@Friends of WH**



Our Instagram account has  
**380 followers & 277 POSTS**  
**friends\_of\_wh**





## THANK YOU

### **Hoci Cymru Annual Report 2023/24**

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

 @Hoci\_Cymru

 Hoci Cymru

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

### **Hoci Cymru**

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