

RHC INFORMATION SHEET



Welcome to Richmond Hockey Club Juniors! We are very much looking forward to coaching your child.

Here are a few things about RHC juniors that we think you might find useful.

Our ethos

We aim to help each of our junior members fulfil their maximum potential. This obviously means different things for different children and we encourage all abilities to participate in our Club. We are aiming both to produce elite hockey players and also to accommodate those who approach hockey as a social game.

From U9-U11, we are not results driven, preferring to concentrate on developing the children's core basic skills. From U12 upwards there is an increasing focus on match play and getting "Game Smart", while building on core skills.

Structure of the groups

We group the children by academic year (ie September to September). So, your children will be playing with kids who are in the same year as them at school. The groups are all streamed so that children are playing with kids of an equivalent ability within their age groups – this means that we can accommodate those who have been playing for a while as well as those who have just picked up the sport. From U13 upwards, the year groups are combined – U13/14, U15/16, since this is how the Leagues operate .

Matches

League matches start at U12 level. The younger age groups are involved with lots of mini festivals against other local clubs as well as the England Hockey run Mini Championships at U10 and U12 level.

County nominations

The best players in a year group from U12 upwards are nominated to attend county trials (or JDCs as they are now called). Richmond is unique in that it is able to nominate children to both Surrey and Middlesex and parents are left to decide which option suits them best, depending on where they live and the timing of the JDCs. The lead coach of each group will contact parents for whom this is an option.

Ownership of the pitches

You may not know this, but RHC does not own the pitches at our home ground. These are long term leased from The University of Westminster and we have to pay for hire of the pitches for all junior matches. Our Clubhouse is the one across the football pitches and our Club Room has recently been refurbished.

Personnel

Our coaches are a mixture of qualified part time hockey coaches, enthusiastic parent volunteers (many of the latter are also Level 1 qualified) and senior juniors. We rely very heavily on parents volunteering to enable the Junior Section to operate – both in terms of helping on Sundays and in doing the admin for the various teams we enter into festivals and leagues. Please do give of your time and get involved if you can! All RHC personnel have been CRB checked.

Subs

Subs are paid in September for the main season (September to April) and summer hockey is paid for separately by those who wish to participate. We encourage everyone to pay online where possible to reduce admin. Please speak to your child's squad leader to find out your unique e-payment reference.

Club Kit

This is provided by The Pro Shop and can either be purchased online through them or at their shop in Brentford (Commerce Road). Wendy runs the shop in Brentford and is fully adept at kitting out the kids! She will also personalise the kit with the kids' names if required.

The junior kit comprises a RHC polo shirt and hoodie, black skort for the girls, white shorts for the boys and RHC socks. Wendy also sells everything a hockey player could ever need including mouth guards, sticks, gloves, shin pads, astro shoes and bags! Once you are sure your child is keen to commit to hockey, we recommend that they wear proper astro shoes when playing and no child is able to train without a mouth guard and shin pads.

WHO TO CONTACT IN THE CLUB

Initial point of contact

If you are worried about anything (or have any positive comments to make!), your first point of contact should be the squad leader of your child's group. This is the person who manages the admin for the group and is the person who emails you chasing payment, asking for availability of your child etc!

Issues relating to Coaching

If you have any specific issues relating to coaching, please contact Ricky Juttla who is our Director of Junior Coaching.

Contact Details:

07960 485586

rickyj@richmondhockeyclub.com

Other contacts:

You can also contact Lucy Munro (Junior Secretary) with any concerns or questions you may have.

Contact details:

07941 266181

lucymunro@btconnect.com OR:

Mike Rose (Club Chair)

mike.rose@btinternet.com

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