



## Welcome to Waitakere Hockey Club February Newsletter

At the last Club AGM held in November, one of the valuable suggestions raised was publishing a Club newsletter to keep members updated of the happenings for our club so your committee are delighted to bring you our first Club News which we hope to publish monthly during the winter season. We hope you enjoy the information brought to you in this first issue.

With this year's season nearly underway, we know playing hockey is the fun part but without our community coaches, managers and umpires at all grade levels, playing simply wouldn't be possible. If you are interested in supporting our players in these roles, please contact the committee by email to [waitakerehockey@gmail.com](mailto:waitakerehockey@gmail.com) or register your interest [here](#)

### PRESIDENTS UPDATE



#### David Liu – President

With it being near the end of February we are not too far away from the start of the 2021 winter hockey season.

I would like to thank everyone again for their patience and support, 2020 was a tough year with so much uncertainty but your continued support helped us get through it. Despite our current 3 day period at the time of publishing, I hope 2021 will bring us a more stable year without serious disruptions and we can continue to enjoy the sport we love like previous years.

In future editions of this newsletter I will use this space as an opportunity to give you a general update of what's going on at the club and also what's happening around the Auckland Hockey community.

In the meantime I wish everyone the best for the upcoming trials and team selections, look forward to seeing you out there on the turf.

### SENIOR & YOUTH UPDATE



#### Phill Kendall – Senior Club Captain

Hello everyone and welcome to 2021 and what is hopefully going to be a fantastic year ahead for Waitakere Hockey – both on and off the field. First, let me introduce myself. My name is Phil Kendall, Senior Club Captain for “your” club. Having recently returned to hockey 3 years ago after a 15-year break from the game I have found my home at Waitakere Hockey – somewhere where I have been able to rekindle my love for the sport while making many wonderful friends along the way. It is also



somewhere I felt worth investing my time into on a personal level. This is a club like no other I've seen where enjoyment is just as important as that winning feeling.

With senior and youth trials just around the corner and the winter season commencing in just over a month I'm sure you're all looking forward to getting back into Waitakere colours, getting back onto the turf and giving your all to team and club. I wish you all the very best for the winter season ahead and look forward to watching as many of your games as possible (usually with camera in hand). If you see me around, please feel free to come and have a chat – I'm here to help you.



Good luck – and remember to Play Hard, but Play Fair.

**Senior Trials & Pre-season sessions start this week – see Upcoming Events for more info.**

*Right: Register for Winter Trials with our QR Code or visit [www.waitakerehockey.co.nz/register](http://www.waitakerehockey.co.nz/register)*

## JUNIORS UPDATE



### Liz Richardson – Junior Club Captain

Hi Everyone, I am Liz Richardson and I am looking forward to being your Junior Club Captain for this season. I have been a member of the club for the last 5 years, playing for the Division 2, 3 and 4 sides and have had a few stints on the committee. I have coached junior teams for a couple of seasons of winter and summer hockey, and have gotten to know other parents and kids in the club through the junior teams that my kids have played in.



The juniors are the future of our club and we are very lucky to be able to provide a coaching environment and team structure where all of our junior players can develop their skills and build confidence in their play. There are some great life lessons in team sports and Waitakere has the sort of positive, supportive culture that really promotes these. I particularly enjoy being part of the junior club because of how much we see the kids grow and improve in their own ability and in their team play over the course of each season.

I am really looking forward to another successful season and getting to know more of our junior club members and supporters.

Term 4 2020 saw record numbers of Juniors 'Giving Hockey a Go' at our Junior Summer Hockey Tournament - 23 teams and over 160 children from our local schools converged on Waitakere Hockey Turf to find out if Hockey was their code of choice.

As well as officiating the games our Youth Umpires also ran two skills sessions aimed at teaching the basics of the games – stick down, trap, hit, tackle. Plenty of fun was had, some *interesting* Stick Skills were displayed and there were tons of smiling faces.

In Term 1 we do it all over again with a gentle push to Register for Winter. This term we have 21 registered teams from Tirimoana, Summerland, Oratia, Liston College, AGC Sunderland along with our own club teams. Our six week competition is due to kick off on the 15<sup>th</sup> February and is sure to be plenty of fun.

Huge thanks to Kelly Harold and Ben Wu for organising this great opportunity for our children and in turn increasing Hockey's visibility in our community.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Join the Club Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WaitakereHockey> and the Club website <https://waitakerehockey.co.nz> to keep up to date

- **Junior Summer Hockey** – Waitakere Hockey Turf 4pm onwards - recommencing Monday 22 February
- **Summer Hockey End of Season Celebration** – Waitakere Hockey Turf 6.30pm onwards – Thursday 18 February – BBQ & BLTs (\$2 sausages and \$5 BLTs)
- **Pre-season Fitness Training** – Henderson Park 7pm-8pm - Wednesday 24 February (gold coin donation)
- **Pre-season Hockey Skills Training** – Waitakere Hockey Turf 7-8pm - Wednesday 3 March & Wednesday 10 March (gold coin donation)
- **Senior Winter Trials** – Waitakere Hockey Turf from 9am – Saturday 20 February & Sunday 28 February
- **Youth Trials** – Waitakere Hockey Turf – 9am to 12pm – Saturday 6 March

A huge thank you goes out to all of our volunteers and sponsors who make our events possible. As always, we value your commitment to the success of hockey in West Auckland and welcome your input. If you have any questions or suggestions around the season or club, please don't hesitate to contact the Club Committee through our Facebook page or by emailing [waitakerehockey@gmail.com](mailto:waitakerehockey@gmail.com)

### 2021 Waitakere Hockey Club Committee

David Liu - President  
Katie Fairweather - Secretary  
Kelly Harold – Treasurer  
Phil Kendall – Senior & Youth Club Captain  
Liz Richardson – Junior Club Captain  
Kate Emberson – Executive Member  
Gemma Sloane – Executive Member  
Monica Dunn – Executive Member  
Hilary Jenkins – Executive Member



## OUR FANTASTIC SPONSORS



### WAITAKERE HOCKEY CLUB

22 Smythe Road, Henderson, Auckland

[waitakerehockey@gmail.com](mailto:waitakerehockey@gmail.com)

[www.waitakerehockey.co.nz](http://www.waitakerehockey.co.nz)