CAMBERWELL HOCKEY CLUB

93nd ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



Boroondara City of Harmony

Sports Club Accreditation Program

GOLD 2023 2024



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

727	HV Registered Players
265	Female
460	Male
2	Non-binary
44	Winter teams
16	Juniors (including 2 x U8 and 3 x U10)
7	Senior Men
8	Senior Women
13	Masters (Men & Women)
660	Games
340	Wins (52%)
82	Draws (12%)
233	Losses (35%)
1407	Goals for (2.1 / game)
75	MPE Highest number of goals (including finals)
1139	Goals against (1.7 / game)
6	U16B Pennant with the lowest goals conceded in home and away season
8	Minor Premierships - WPLR, MPLR, WPA, WPB, MPE, M45BSE White, M50A, M60A
22	Teams in finals (56%) - not including U8 and U10
13	Teams in Grand Finals (33%) - 2 Juniors, 4 Women's, 3 Men's, 4 Men's Masters
5	Premierships (13%) - WPLR, WPB, MPE, M45BSE White, M50A
16	Years since Women's Seconds won a Premiership
34	Australian representatives
8	HC Melbourne representatives
78	Representatives in Victorian teams
23.4	WPL average age
23.9	MPL average age
40	Highest number of players through a team (W Metro 1)
79	Oldest male player
69	Oldest female player
17	Age of youngest player in MPL
16	Age of youngest player in WPL



Simon Winter
President

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am not sure at what age it was that it started to dawn on me that my life was different to the next person. I realised that even my brothers and sisters were leading different lives, despite living in the same house, having the same education, parents, house rules, family values and genetic source.

I wandered through early life, with very little thought of where I was going. I just made choices, as the thought came to me and being "shaped" buy it. I doubt I am on my own on this, as we can all reflect on who we are where we came from. The influence of our childhood, families, early friends and the places that we frequented, all shaped who we are becoming.

Like many reading this, hockey, was woven into my story from a young age. I was initially forced to go, but I loved it and no further pushing was needed. It became important and a great source of competitive focus, friends, great times and happiness.

My two younger brothers were also introduced hockey and both much better at it than me. Andy was a "one man mosh pit" and threw himself in with outrageous courage and could really play. Playing on grass made it possible to survive if the sticks didn't get you. Matthew had grace, balance and skill that saw him selected in the South Australian state teams every year from the age of 9 through to 21.

My sisters played netball and both tenacious. Paula, seemed to often get called for "intimidation." I thought the only rule was "contact", but she bought something more to her game. She also played the flute, a choice that she turned into a wonderful career. Megan, the youngest was also a skilled netballer, but being 6 years younger than me, I probably thought I was too important and busy to go and watch. Sorry Meg. We were all the same, but the experiences shaped us differently.

My dad used to say 'Life will shine you up, or wear you down, depending on what you are made of."

The point of this saying is obvious, but the shaping process can happen in so many ways and it just seems to happen based on the choices made and interactions you have. In my case, like many others, it is your friends, the places you visit, the luck, or lack of, that impacts.

All of us have similar, but different and unique backgrounds that have led us to our time at the Camberwell Hockey Club. When we come together, we bring ourselves, as a unique piece to be added to the Camberwell Hockey Club puzzle. How do all these individual pieces fit together?

Maybe some do not and they move on, sadly. The vast majority do "fit right in" and some take on the "vibe of the thing"



President's Report Continued...



and start to fit over time. There is no one "shape" that anyone needs to be.

In the past decade, we have been learning how to make it easier and more welcoming for greater diversity of pieces to fit more easily.

At my age and demographic (old, grey haired, white, privileged male) the learnings have required me to listen and understand the views of those around me, mostly younger people's. I must say that this has pushed my thinking more toward the idea that we need to change as much as those who join us. I have enjoyed having my thinking challenged. This new "shaping" of who I am and who we are, as a collective is positive and I am grateful to those around me for their influence.

My mum once told me that her dad, who had been a butcher, mechanic, and farmer over his life, had the same axe for over 50 years. It had 4 new heads and 6 new handles, but it was the same axe.

If we could see a time lapse of the people coming and going from the club, we would see that the "club" is the collective gathered at any one point in time. The people may change, but the vibe and the life of the club, continues to thrive.

The simple process of new people walking in the door and old ones leaving, is common throughout every organisation, but the ones that thrive are those that keep the tone of the club stable and well understood. How does it happen?

When you first arrive, no one tells you how to behave, there is no instruction manual thrust into new hands. Naturally, we do have policies and procedures in the background, but those who volunteer spread the word. Our volunteers pick up on the tone, embrace it, run with it and it galvanises us.

There is a shared sense of belonging, pride and a "tone of expectation." Should something happen and a disturbance is caused, it is called out and we address it.

We have leaders in every corner of the club, every team, every committee and every friendship group. We have outstanding leadership within our younger ranks and it indicates a strong future. In a community club setting, leaders are not the "boss" they are influencers, who understand the "tone of expectation" and share it. This is a true strength within our club and we are very fortunate.

We are challenged every year; the replenishment of members is easily the most important task. This starts with our Hook in2 Hockey junior program and is the trickle, that becomes a river of players over time. I urge everyone to help a young person to start playing this whole of life game. The promise of belonging to a club like Camberwell, will be lost on them initially, but one day, it will be the gift that keeps on giving. If you are now 20 plus and started in Hook in2 Hockey (or whatever it was called then), you will know what I mean. How has the club shaped you?

Our youngest players, Toby, Sophia and Jeremy all turned four this year. Our oldest, John, turns 80 soon. What a wonderful hockey journey, John is having and what potential excitement lies in front of Toby, Sophia and Jeremy. We wish them all well.

This year, for the first time in living memory, our U8s played competitive games during winter. There was no official scoring, but everyone knows who wins! 35 girls and boys made up 5 teams (U8s and U10s) and played quarter field and half field games. In addition to being the cutest hockey you have ever seen, the hardy parents rugged up on the sidelines in numbers to support. On cold and rainy mornings puffer jackets and hoodies were accepted as part of the uniform. The last morning of competition was the Senior's Grand Final Day, which you will recall, was rain, in biblical proportions. A true test of both

player and parent resilience. Thank you to our wonderful coaches, umpires and team managers who guided our youngest through this experience. Thank you to the parents for persisting, I trust it leads your child to a happy hockey journey.

Our Annual Report is a source of great pride for the club. Great diligence and professionalism capture the key events of the year. Special thanks to Neil Pratt for his wonderful contribution within this production.

I also offer sincere thanks to the board of the Camberwell Hockey Club and Narelle Richardson, our Club Administrator. The countless hours and behind the scenes work is extraordinary. Equally, the Committees of each Section and the Comms and Inclusion & Wellbeing Committees add so much to our off-field programs. These "teams" make a significant contribution.

We recently held a Volunteer's Night and thanked the 200 people for the amazing efforts over the year. Our team managers and coaches, that number around 100, make "game day" possible. So many tasks are handled by this valuable group.

We also hold great appreciation for the club sponsors and financial support offered by many members. All this happens in the background, but it is vital to underpin our efforts.

Every experience, every acquaintance shapes us all, no matter your age. When you join our club, play or volunteer, you contribute. Our shared goal is simple, we seek a better version of ourselves, a better version of our team and better version of our club.

Go Wellers!

Simon Winter
President

PS: One of my favourite games of the year. The Metro 2 Men's Elimination Final v Old Xavier, the more fancied opponent. Our boys aged between 16 and 52 were physically hammered early, got on top and our youth took over, winning 6-2. You can see the excitement and passion on their faces. A great finals win!









TWO SPECIAL LIFE MEMBERS

PAUL Dicko DIXON

Paul Dixon is a Camberwell Hockey Club treasure and much-loved life member of our club. Paul 's mum bought him to our gates in 1981 as a keen 10yo cricketer, who needed a winter sport. He has never left and apart from the odd injury lay off and the covid years, has played nearly every season for the past 44 years.

Paul started playing seniors at age 12, as a fill in. A rough calculation puts his senior games at +/- 600. A sneaky fact, is that he also played under his brother's name, Craig Dixon and doubled up each week for many years. I have not tried to verify this with Peter Ridland, as it maintains Peter's "plausible deniability" with HV. It may well be that Paul has pulled on the Tangerine closer to 1000 times in seniors & masters.



Paul's great contribution to our hockey club has been through his junior and senior coaching, over the decades. When the coach pulled out mid-way through the season, in 1985, Paul started coaching his own U16 team and has hardly taken a break. The club subsequently named the "Paul Dixon Shield" to honour the contribution to junior coaching each year. Paul was made a life member in 2018.

Paul has coached entire families in his time and mentioned Christie, Millie, Tessa, Charlie and John Faulks as one "full family set" among many families he has coached! We cannot count the number of times Paul has stepped in to umpire, play or coach at short notice. The personal connections provide Paul with the joy of belonging to the Camberwell Hockey Club. We have been blessed to have him as a "Weller".

Simon Winter
President



SALLY WANSBROUGH

Sal heralds from a big "Weller" hockey playing family. Despite the long family history, Sal did not start playing hockey until she was 16. The switch was made from netball and Sally found her place in the Camberwell Women's Seconds.

From there on, Sally was an entrenched member of a cohort that won multiple premierships. While the WPL and MPL teams of the day were winning flags in the late 1980's and 1990's the Women's Seconds were winning them hand over fist.



Her tenure within the club has been marked by various leadership roles, each underscored by her unwavering dedication and tireless efforts. Sally was Secretary of the Women's Club for four years from 1988 to 1991 and President 1992 to 1993 where her visionary leadership steered the division to new heights, fostering a culture of excellence and inclusivity. She coached Junior teams for six years as Max, Ollie and Issy started their journey. As a coach, she has not only mentored generations of athletes within our club but also coached Juniors from 2000 to 2005, instilling in them the values of teamwork, discipline, and perseverance.

In recognition of her invaluable contributions, Sally was honored with a Life Membership in 2013, a testament to her enduring legacy within the club. Throughout the years, she has remained an active and integral member, serving on the Women's Committee from 2013 to 2019, where her insights and expertise have helped shape the direction and current success of women's hockey.

Sally eventually reached Masters and the winning continued. I personally watched about 10 winter and summer flags back to back! Sally has played Victorian Masters for two decades and was selected in the Australia A team for South Africa in 2021 before COVID-19 closed it all down.

Sally has been playing summer hockey with Richard, her husband, who started playing in later years. Her most recent hockey experience was as this year's MPA Coach, taking the team to a Grand Final; a testament to her expertise and leadership in the sport. Her son, Ollie was part of this team and the mother / son combo bought them both very happy times.

Simon Winter and Sara Conyers



INCLUSION AND WELLNESS

The Inclusion & Wellness Committee worked closely to put together five main events for the year including Women & Girls Round, Pride Round, Indigenous Round, Mental Health Round, and Men & Boys Health Round.

Women & Girls Round supports the Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) which is facilitated by Hockey Victoria. This includes buying pink socks, with $3 per pair being donated to BCNA. Hockey Victoria and BCNA also team up to host a yearly breakfast with fundraising money collected from ticket sales and a raffle, with two Camberwell Hockey Club tables in attendance.

In addition to this, our Committee identified the need to shine a spotlight on gender-based violence this year, teaming up with Impact for Women. We hosted their Founder, Kathy Kaplan OAM, to deliver a talk Malevolence: Male Violence Against Women: A problem we CAN solve. This year included the return of a bake sale held during the Premier League games against Doncaster organised by Laura Barden, and a raffle led by Keeley Pledge. As a Club we raised $1,210 for women and children fleeing domestic violence. Thank-you to Keeley Pledge who led the organisation of the round including set up of pink decorations, pink socks for home teams, and liaising with our volunteers.

Pride Round is always something to look forward to, filled with rainbows and fun, with this year being no exception! Louis Jannsen led the round, liaising with teams to wear rainbow socks, rainbow ribbon and even take home rainbow bows which could be kept on hockey bags or work lanyards and beads for shoelaces. For the second year in a row, our members were invited to join us between trainings for a welcoming and informative presentation by member and Pride in Sport Relationship Manager Tom Winter. Tom kindly presented for us twice to include as many members as possible who train on different nights. His presentation was emotive, relevant and allowed viewers to reflect on their personal experience, offering ways any of us could take further steps to be more inclusive.

Indigenous Round saw our club come together for a wet and windy Premier League day to enjoy and reflect during a Welcome to Country held inside by Colin Hunter Jr Jr. Our Indigenous shirts were worn with pride for all Seniors home teams across the weekend thanks to our volunteers to arranged prompt washing to ready them for the next team. Teams were encouraged to start the match with their own Acknowledgement of Country prior to the coin toss. To extend our community reach, our members generously donated 3 large boxes worth of books which were donated to the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, organised by Lena Perriman.



Mental Health Round is not formally held by Hockey Victoria, but thanks to the legacy of Yasmin Wilson, a former CHC member who tragically died by suicide in 2019, and her teammates, we held our own. Previous years have included wearing yellow socks and ribbons for Women's Pennant E. Lucy Gallagher, one of Yasmin's teammates has been leading this round since its inception. This year Yasmin's legacy grew to including all home teams wearing yellow socks, encouraging our members and spectators to spark a discussion and lean into asking 'RUOK?', a question that could save a life. Additionally, this year we were blessed with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (renowned psychologist, author and friend of the club) hosting three very special members in a panel discussion: Rachael Lynch OAM (former Hockeyroo, current CHC WPL goalkeeper and nurse), Dr Elisa 'Lee' Rough (CHC player, mum, paediatrician) and Dr Rebecca Goodman (CHC Mum, GP). This panel discussion was held for Juniors and their families to understand more about mental health, and how to support someone when they are struggling, whether it be at hockey, at school or their child. Thanks to Headspace, we had a number of free resources available, with many still upstairs in the clubrooms.

Men & Boys Health Round supports Movember at a Hockey Victoria level, including raising funds and awareness for prostate cancer and mental health. This includes buying blue socks, with $3 per pair being donated to Movember. An annual lunch hosted by Hockey Victoria fundraises money collected from ticket sales and a raffle, with two Camberwell HC tables in attendance.

Men & Boys Health Round was led by Roman Sowada who liaised with our home teams to wear blue socks for the final two weeks of the home and away season. This year thanks to Nick Swanton, we had Bree van Ryswyk, a psychologist with St Kilda Football Club, visit the Club to deliver the 'Tackle Your Feelings' program. The program is designed to relate sporting content (normally AFL) into understanding mental health and mental ill health. CHC was the first ever hockey club to host the program, and thanks to Nick, Bree was able to adapt some of the AFL analogies to hockey. Overall, the program was interactive, thought provoking and really enjoyable for attendees.



Outside of our five main rounds during the season we also...

- Entered Camberwell HC teams into the Stand Out Cup for the first time. The day was hot and sunny, and our very own Louis Jannsen was invited to speak.
- Have Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trained members who are available to have conversations with members year-round. We are planning to re-run MHFA training early in 2025 thanks to Dr Michael Carr-Gregg which will facilitate an update of previously trained members as well as expanding those who are available to help at the club.

We are all members of an amazing club. Our social agenda really sets us apart from many other community sporting clubs, something we should all be proud of contributing to. I would like to give a big thank you to our amazing I&W Committee for their efforts putting together the rounds and promoting an inclusive environment in 2024. Our committee members included: Sam Balson,

Ben Cochrane Davies, Lucy Gallagher, Louis Jannsen, Henry Lourey, Lucia D'Onofrio, Lena Perriman, Ruby Phillips, Keeley Pledge and Roman Sowada. Thank you also to all other members who contributed ideas, donations or assistance with setting up or packing down events. We couldn't run these events without all of our volunteers! If you would like to join the committee for 2025, please feel free to get in touch with me!

Milly Bell (she/ her)

Board Member, Chair of the Inclusion & Wellness Committee

BOROONDARA

CAMBERWELL HOCKEY CLUB
A GOLD ACCREDITED SPORTING CLUB

In 2023 the City of Boroondara introduced a Sports Club Accreditation Program. It was developed in response to the Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy to recognise levels of achievement for clubs who work towards improving their delivery to the community.

The program provides the City of Boroondara an opportunity to recognise the importance of sporting clubs, the great work they do and connections they provide within the Boroondara community. Involvement in the program is voluntary.

The Accreditation Program sets a baseline of standards for all sport and recreation clubs to pursue, with ratings of gold, silver and bronze used to identify the level of achievement. Bronze level accreditation focuses on club operations and documentation required under the clubs' agreement with Council. Silver level accreditation focuses on the development of inclusive, capacity building and safe environment policies and actions. Gold level accreditation focuses on the implementation of these policies and actions. By implementing inclusive policies, procedures and actions and providing a safe environment everyone at the club benefits, including players, spectators and volunteers.

Only two clubs in Boroondara achieved the Gold Level of Accreditation – the Burwood Cricket Club and the Camberwell Hockey Club.

Once a club achieves a level of accreditation their accreditation status is valid for two years. We will be undertaking a process of reapplying for this accreditation for 2025/2026.

Britt Simmons

CITY OF BOROONDARA 2024 SPORTS AWARDS

The Camberwell Hockey Club is a strong supporter of the Boroondara Sports Awards that recognise excellence in a range of categories. Each year we nominate deserving members to respective categories. In 2024, this included Beth Lyon, Charlotte Hodgson and Sally Wansbrough.

Young Club Person of the Year

Beth Lyon

Beth Lyon has immersed herself in the club over many areas, in particularly the development of Under 14 and Under 16 Girls, as coach in 2022, 2023 and 2024 seasons. Beth's caring nature is a wonderful asset in nurturing young girls and has personally assisted them with challenges both on and off the field. Beth's nature endeared her to the girls and their parents. Beth's interest in the mental health of those around her has seen her involved in the Mental Heath First Aid Group at the club as well as the Wellness & Inclusion Committee organising events such as Women's & Girls Round and Indigenous Round. Beth is a young leader at the Camberwell Hockey Club, helping to coach the Women's Premier League Reserves team to a premiership in 2024, and has created a wonderful link between younger and older women at the club.

Community Athlete of the Year

Charlotte Hodgson

Although only 20 years of age, Charlotte Hodgson already has a large number of open age achievements in her chosen sport of hockey. In 2023, Charlotte debuted in the Hockey Club Melbourne Women's team (Victorian State team) to play in the national competition. She was also an important member of the Women's Premier League premiership team of 2023; this team's first premiership since 2002. Charlotte added to this success by captaining the 2024 Victorian Under 21 team in the National Championships, having been a member of the team in 2022 and 2023. Charlotte was selected in the Australian Women's U21 Jillaroos Squad and awarded a 2023 Victorian Institute of Sport Scholarship. Despite Charlotte's commitment to hockey, she was awarded School Honours in swimming, athletics and hockey and DUX in Year 11 at Wesley. Charlotte is developing her leadership skills through coaching juniors in swimming and hockey. The Camberwell Hockey Club is proud to have such an outstanding athlete and young person at our club.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Sally Wansbrough

Sally is a Life Member of the Camberwell Hockey Club. You can read more about Sally's contribution to the Club on page six of this report.



HOME IS WHERE THE HOCKEY IS

Some parents are very good at creating order from potential chaos. They are disciplined, organised and hell bent on making use of all the time available.

One such Camberwell Hockey Club family are the Cronin's. Trish and Steve have three sons; Callum (U16), Quinn (U14) and Dylan (U12). All five Cronin's play hockey for the club! This is a special achievement.

I have three sons but only managed to get one, Tom, to play hockey. The other two (I forget their names), played soccer and footy. Typically, Saturday morning for school was three different sports; basketball, rugby and soccer. Saturday arvo was three different sports too, three different venues; hockey, footy, soccer. So many uniform changes, equipment and a timetable requiring split second precision. I am sure many readers are saying "I hear you!"

The Cronin family have taken this to a new level, but have channelled all the boys into one sport, one club. Mind you, when I asked Dylan why he plays hockey, he said "cos my brothers were doing it." Not offered any other options, Dylan?

The typical week in winter season sees Steve play Monday Men's Masters, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays are junior training, three different age groups, one each night. Trish plays Wednesday Women's Masters. This accounts for why Steve gives a polite, but short response to anyone who asks him to fill in on Wednesdays. Friday night U16 and U14 teams play and Saturday mornings the U12s play. Sunday is free. Trish and Steve are at the club between four and six times a week each, playing, picking up or dropping off and watching.

The boys also pack in hobbies such as jiu jitsu, guitar, french horn, drumming (hopefully out somewhere!), Scouts, Cubs, Venturers and naturally D&D! The Cronin's have a dog, just to fill the spare time.

Some reading this are saying "so we are not the only ones!" others are screaming "WHY?" The Cronin's all agree that hockey and the club offer so much more than just a game. "Being part of a team, the larger club, seeing friends and getting exercise just chasing a ball around" is also part of the experience.

Quinn, is a goal keeper, and says that "having the ball hit at my face" is also something he enjoys. You might be on your own there, Quinn. Quinn also wanted to mention the great support for GKs at the club.

As the oldest, Callum was "forced" to go to Hook in2 Hockey, so was Quinn and Dylan, well, resistance was futile! They have all come through that initial "push" with no regrets.

Steve has been apart of two premierships at Camberwell in 2015 and 2019 with the Men's Masters 45s. Trish has a few as well, but her most memorable was in 2023, debuting as a goal keeper and winning in one on ones! I was at that game and it was a triumph! The boys are yet to win a flag, but Callum has two runners up medals from 2023 and 2024.

Steve and Trish also play Summer Masters in the same team and are joined by many husband-and-wife combos. I guess if they are having a night out together, it might as well be to play hockey!

It is the Cronin family and others like them that underpin our club. Trish, Steve, Callum, Quinn and Dylan have embraced the sport and the club, as a part of their family life. They can celebrate each other's wins and support each other after the losses because they all do it together.

Home is where the hockey is.

Simon Winter





JUNIOR SECTION

Winter Competition

This year the Camberwell HC Junior Section fielded seventeen winter teams across six age groups: six U8/U10 teams playing quarter/half field, four U12 teams, three U14 teams, three U16 teams and for the second time an U18 team. Four teams were girls only and twelve teams were mixed. The total number of participants was 196, five less players than last year. Girls were numbered at 60, representing 32% of the total playing group.

Out of the eleven teams that competed on a full pitch, two of them reached the finals: U16 Boys Pennant SE and U16 Mixed District East. Both of these teams performed exceptionally well, making it to their respective Grand Finals. Congratulations to all teams for their fantastic seasons!

Progression from Juniors to Seniors is a big step for any of our players, and this is a process that we take very seriously and work with the Men's and Women's Sections to introduce the Juniors to players in the Seniors teams. This can be in the form of training with them which often leads to them playing a game or two, or even a pizza night where they can all talk about moving up and who they might be playing with. Of the forty-six U16 players, approximately half have now transitioned from the Junior program and have been introduced to the respective Men's and Women's Sections.

In 2024, we continued the U18 Mixed District team which is primarily designed to cater to Year 12 students who wanted to balance their studies but also enjoy playing hockey in a more relaxed setting. The goal was to provide a casual and enjoyable experience for these students, giving them the opportunity to participate in a fun game of hockey on Fridays.

This season, six players were honoured with the CHC medallion for their remarkable six-year participation in the U12, U14, and U16 competitions. Both the girls and boys, along with their families, should feel immensely proud of this achievement. Additionally, fifteen U16 players were acknowledged as "Leavers" of the Junior Section, marking the conclusion of their journey with the Juniors.

The commitment of providing two coaches for every team was maintained with both the Women's and Men's Sections providing many of those coaches in either lead or development roles. I am always amazed and very proud of the sheer number of very talented and experienced coaches who make themselves available for our Junior teams, many are parents and many are current players at CHC. It is through this structure that we are able to run a very thorough selection process and then pursue our overall goal of creating an environment in which every girl and boy develops their knowledge and skill of the great game of hockey as well as developing lifelong friendships at the club.

We are extremely fortunate to have talented and committed members of the Junior Committee, Age Group Coordinators, Team Managers and Coaches who make it all happen and we thank each and every one of you for your commitment and contribution.

Hookin-2-Hockey

In Term 1, our Hookin-2-Hockey Program was once again successfully conducted with an approximate attendance of 45 kids. As for Term 4, registration are open as we publish this report. Similar to previous years, Camberwell's new facilities have fostered a highly positive social environment for children, parents, and families. This year, we are incredibly fortunate to have Hamish Ridland as the leader of the Hookin-2-Hockey Program. We extend our congratulations to Hamish, the team of coaches, and the umpires for delivering such a high-quality program.

Indoor Hockey

Following successful years, the Club has once again committed to participating in the indoor hockey program with the same level of structure and support provided to the winter program. We have entered seven teams this year:

- U12 Mixed Shield,
- U12 Girls Shield,
- U14 Mixed Shield,
- U14 Girls Shield,
- U14 Mixed Pennant,
- U16 Mixed Shield,
- U18 Mixed Shield.

We look forward to further achievements in Term 4 2024.

Junior State Championships ('Hotshots')

The Junior State Championships offer Camberwell HC players a chance to join the Eastern Hotshots team, which includes players from Waverley, Knox, and ECHO. Over three days, they compete against teams from other zones within the State. JSC is an excellent chance for our young players to participate in a well-organised and highly competitive tournament.

This year the JSC were conducted in July (U12 – U16) in Shepperton and Bendigo. Early starts did mean icy hockey fields!!!

Camberwell HC Juniors had great success this year in being selected:

- U12s: three girls and one boy being selected in the respective teams, with the girls finishing fifth while the boys won silver!
- U14s: six girls and seven boys selected to represent Hotshots with both teams finishing in fifth.
- U16s: five girls and six boys were selected in the U16 teams, with the girls winning the bronze medal and the boys in seventh place.

These were outstanding results and a credit to Alex Wong (Zone Co-ordinator for HV) and the Coaches and Team Managers from Camberwell HC that committed to the various teams.

We also have five boys and one girl playing in the U18 Championships in September 2024.

Umpiring

At CHC, the Junior Umpiring Program plays a pivotal role in enriching the overall hockey experience for our young players. It is structured into three levels: Level 1, Community, and Beginner Umpires, offering pathways for skill development and growth. During the 2024 winter season, we were proud to have 13 returning umpires and welcomed seven new additions. The support of parents and coaches, who stepped in to umpire throughout the season, was invaluable. Their collective efforts are crucial to ensuring we meet our commitment of providing umpires across all levels of competition.

The success of the program has led to a growing need for more experienced umpires, a challenge that we must address in collaboration with HV. Our program is widely respected by other clubs, and we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations and sincere thanks to Melissa Norquay for her exceptional management of the entire Junior Umpiring Program.

People

At our Presentation Day in September, we recognised a few of our Wellers for their incredible contribution to the Junior Section. Congratulations and thank-you to:

- Lachlan Dreher Award for field endeavor, performance and support for the development of goal keepers across the Club: Tom Dyall
- Jim Unkles Award for the Junior player who has made the greatest contribution to umpiring in 2024: Alex Norquay
- Paul Dixon Award for outstanding contribution in the development, encouragement and assistance of young hockey players: Jamie Watson



- Andy Philpott Award for the U16 Boy who has displayed overall excellence and Club involvement: Alex Norquay
- Karen Russ Award for the U16 Girl who has displayed overall excellence and Club involvement: Gracie Reitz
- Carol Swann Award for the person considered by the Committee to have continued, most significantly, to Carol's example of Club citizenship: Bronwen Kohne

The CHC Junior program has flourished and expanded over the years, evolving into a well-structured system with efficient processes that consistently deliver results. However, the ongoing success of this extensive program relies on the dedication, skill, and passion of many individuals. It would be impossible to recognise everyone, but the Club is immensely grateful to the Junior Committee, Age



Junior Section Continued...

Group Coordinators, Coaches, Team Managers, and numerous volunteers whose hard work keeps everything running smoothly.

We also acknowledge the tremendous backing from the Board, Women's and Men's Sections, as well as administrative support. Our motto, "great people, great club," truly reflects the spirit and high standards that define us. We are thankful for everyone's efforts in creating a positive, fun-filled environment for our young players.

See you on or at the field soon.

Marcus Edwards
Chair - Junior Section






LET THE GAMES BEGIN

HOOKIN-2-HOCKEY

As in previous years, Camberwell have run the Hookin-2-Hockey Program in Term 1 and Term 4.

The numbers have been rebuilding since COVID-19 and we saw 55 young children aged between four and ten start their hockey journey with us this year.

This year, Term 2 and Term 3 were added to the program with a venue-based games competition. Our venue was Hawthorn and 35 of our U10s and U8s played each week during term in games against Hawthorn, TEM, Powerhouse and MCC. The games were played on 1/8th field for U8s and 1/4 field for U10s. There were a lot of learnings from this competition and parents have been wonderful in providing feedback for the future.

Seven children were placed in each of our five teams, with great support from parents, despite some pretty cold and wet Melbourne weather. The concept did not include keeping score, ladders or finals, but ask any of the children and they can tell you who won! Thank you to the small army of coaches and umpires in supporting these first steps for our budding champions.

Simon Winter


L-R: Mia, Sophie, Matteo Bozzone (coach), Max, Eyal, Charlie & Charlotte


L-R: Tom Kohne (coach), James, Will, Edward, Issac, Micha, Kai Fernando (coach)


L-R: Ryan Ellis (coach), Hazel, Lizzy, Abby, George, Sophie, Ava, Sebastian, Micah, Yonti, Erin Ellis (coach)

THE REMARKABLE MICHAEL CRAIG

7/2/1931 – 21/11/2023

Michael Craig packed a lot into his 92 years. For 82 of them he had a very close relationship with the Camberwell Hockey Club. His legacy endures through his standards, teachings and theories passed on to those fortunate to follow on his path.

Mike Craig was a Life Member of Camberwell Hockey Club, Life Member of Hockey Victoria and Life Member of Hockey Australia. Mike's hockey life was one of extraordinary success and giving.

Mike was introduced to hockey whilst at Trinity Grammar School in Kew. The then CHC goalie was Laurie Provan, a teacher at the school. At lunchtime Laurie practised his hockey and was soon joined by a number of students, including Mike, brandishing pickets torn from the sportsground fence! Laurie introduced Mike to CHC in 1942 and in 1948 he gained a regular place in the A-Grade team. Mike played in seven A-Grade premierships for CHC. He played in almost all positions and was often the season leading goal scorer. Mike was selected as Captain of the CHC Team of the Century in 2000. His selected position was Centre Forward.

Mike's hockey was recognised by many State and Australian honours. He played State U21 from 1948 to 1951 inclusive. He was Captain in 1950. He played State Seniors between 1952 and 1962 inclusive and was State Captain in 1957, and 1959 to 1962. He represented Australia in 1960 and was Captain of the Australian Hockey Team at the Rome Olympics.

Amongst many accolades Mike received was the naming of the hockey pitch at Trinity Grammar School in Mike's honour in 2024.

After his playing career, he coached and wrote about hockey. In 1961 he and his recently married wife Helen embarked on a six-week tour of Japan at the invitation of the Manager of the Japanese team at the Rome Olympics. Mike and Helen loved Japan and toured there a number of times. In 1982 Mike wrote "A History of the Camberwell Hockey Club 1932 – 1982" and invaluable piece of recording of the club's birth and its path to be one the leading hockey clubs in Australia.

Mike was a dynamic, skilful, hardworking player who was always looking for ways to improve. A lucid, thoughtful hockey brain. The Camberwell Hockey Club are indeed honoured that he was a "Weller".

Simon Winter
President













SUMMER MASTERS

Thirteen Camberwell teams competed on Monday nights for the Camberwell Hockey Club Summer Masters Cup and 'The Ron Yeates Shield' at Matlock Reserve

The summer season continued the concept of having all games at Matlock and playing six 40-minute games in a four-hour period. It proved to be a huge success with all players at the one venue enjoying the clubroom facilities, BBQ and refreshments all night. This ensures that a most important part of our summer competition, the social aspect, has players and spectators encouraged to gather for post-match refreshments. We again conducted our competition as an intra-club competition whilst still maintaining the insurance coverage as registered members of HV. We had 200 players participating: a mixture of our regular men's winter players, 'summer only' masters, club friends, women's masters players and new masters.

Our summer sponsorship is unique, with each team having an individual sponsor drawn from local and/or member's businesses. Our sponsors contribute towards team shirts and the operation of the overall competition. We thank them for their continued support and also to Fashion Club Wear (Andrew Minter) for providing our summer team shirts.

Congratulations to 'Watson Young Architects' on their success in winning the Summer Masters Cup. In addition, they were also awarded the 'Ron Yeates Shield' as best performing team of the season. Team members also received a medallion to commemorate their win.



Highlights of Our Summer Season

- 13 teams - 200+ players ... playing all six games each Monday at Matlock. It was great to see the whole Master's section (Men's and Women's) at one location.
- Largest summer competition in Victoria.
- Closeness of the competition – we endeavour to have all teams equally balanced.
- Excellent spirit of competition and high standard of games.
- Continued the 35 year old 'future masters' group in the competition.
- Successful Wine Raffle raising $3,020 to support the Junior's Section and player development. Many thanks to players who donated a bottle of wine and also to Neil Pratt for printing the raffle tickets.
- Our continuing relationships with our sponsors from the previous season
- The Summer season doesn't run by itself, and the Masters Sub Committee would like to acknowledge and thank on behalf of all players, the fantastic efforts of the following who made the season run so smoothly.
- Canteen staff Lauren Hendry and Stewart Fitz for coordinating the bar and BBQ each week.
- Thanks to our team captains / coaches and managers
- A particular feature of our summer competitions has been the use of junior and young players from the club as umpires to officiate matches. This has been highly successful and has led to further umpire development. Thank you to all our summer season's umpires, in particular Cal Taylor for organising the umpire's roster.

Paul Simmenauer
Secretary - Men's Masters Section

A CULTURAL REVOLUTION

SARA CONYERS

After 12 years on the Women's Section Committee and the last five as Chair, Sara Conyers is taking a step back. Albeit just a small step! While not riding off into the sunset, we take this moment, however, to thank her for the contribution to date.

Sara will be adamant that the credit of any achievement needs to be shared with the dedicated members of each of the committees she has been a part of. This is true, the greatest achievements are collaborative efforts in a community-based club, whether they be on field or off. What you will read below will leave no doubt, however, that Sara's "all in" approach, her leadership, communication, creativity and above all else, her sense of inclusion leaves, her contribution standing tall, at the Camberwell Hockey Club.

In 2002, Sara joined Camberwell Hockey Club, which was curious given she was more of an accomplished tennis player (junior state player), skier, track athlete and gymnast. Hockey was well down the list on her sporting bio at school. It was time for a team sport and the social aspects that it brings. As is quite common at Camberwell, Sara's first coach was Paul Dixon. Paul summed her up and told her to "play up front and stand on the post", this resulted in a first game hattrick. A great start.



The first year came… and Sara went… overseas for three years, but came back to have another go. Sara started coaching U13s in 2010 and continued coaching Juniors until 2013, winning the Junior Section's Paul Dixon Award twice. During this time, Stu Perriman was also coaching Juniors and a lifetime of collaboration seemed inevitable. As they say in the classics… the rest is history.

The Perriman family were descending on Camberwell in number, with Geoff, Claire, Jane and Lena joining Stu, making them one of the big Camberwell families.

Sara joined the Women's Committee in 2014, in 2015 she began coaching Hookin-2-Hockey spanning four years and added Social & Fundraising Coordinator to her list in the same year. Sara became a Board Observer in 2016, and served on the Women's & Girls' Subcommittee. Sara joined the Board in 2017, started leading the Comms Group in 2018, became Women's Chair in 2019, had twins in 2019, COVID raged in 2020 and 2021, then Louis arrived in 2022.

Sara was acknowledged in 2016 and 2018 as Club Person of the Year. None of her roles were one or two years, but four, five or more years, all overlapping. Take a moment to let that sink in.

When it comes to on field success, Sara had to wait until 2023 to be a member of the Women's Masters 35B+ Grand Final win. This was her first at Camberwell after falling just short numerous times in WPA and WPB. If you do not win premierships at Camberwell, you get to watch a lot of other "Wellers" win them.

In the role of Women's Chair, Sara has been focussed on building the section. I detailed the growth in the Women's Section in last year's Annual Report: see the "Rise and Rise of Camberwell Women". The work to achieve this was done by a group of talented, committed people and very well led. They established their goals, the methodology and set about the task in unwavering manner. This unified Committee made it possible for Sara to temporarily step out, twice, while she and Stu's little family were arriving. The Section and family did not appear to miss a beat.

Nothing is simple, or goes exactly to plan, but the goal of a "cultural revolution" was achieved by taking a "whole of Section" approach. It was an "engagement strategy". Talking to everyone, listening to everything, understanding the reason people joined the club and what they wanted from it. The result was to focus on connecting, being positive and inclusive. The transition of girls into Seniors was an important plank in the retention women and growth of the Section.



Members needed to feel safe in expressing an opinion, the teams needed to be connected and feel like a club, rather than individual teams, Sara will say. Sara's Committee took on feedback, sought the "buy in" of coaches and reduced the focus on winning, over inclusion.

The results have been nothing short of spectacular. The Women's Section has gone from five to eight teams and Women's Masters from one to three. After falling back in 2024 to two teams, Sara feels they will get back to three teams in 2025.

The on-field results continued this year following a wonderful year in 2023. The top seven teams made finals, with two winning premiership flags. Both WPLR and WPB lost Grand Finals last year, but turned it around this time. In the past two years the top five teams (WPL, WPLR, WPA, WPB, WPC) have won premierships and all have been very competitive each year. The Women's Masters 35B also won in 2023.

Sara has also guided the Club's communications since 2018. This period included the COVID-19 years of 2020-2021. During that time, our comms became the face of our club. They were prolific in output and had wonderful content. Again, a dedicated, creative team kept the club members connected. The 25+ podcasts, mental health content, throwback Thursday, countless stories of era's past, club personalities, social media updates, to name a few. It took a huge effort to produce all this and leadership was key. One life member commented at the end of 2021, that he thought the past two years were the best the club had ever had. With no games played, the comment clearly related to the communications and the role this group had in connecting us. High praise indeed.

Sara is staying with the Comms Group, as she steps back from the Women's Chair. She will no doubt focus on Zoe, Violet, Louis and maybe even Stu, a little more.

Sara has a great sense of pride in seeing the impact she and her Women's Committee and Comms Group have had on our club. She is a classic example of giving more than you get, but Sara begs to differ and feels rewarded by her experiences.

We as members and beneficiaries of this impact, look in wonder at her commitment and skill. We are indeed grateful that Sara chose hockey and our club, as a part of her sporting and community service journey. We offer our sincere thanks.

(Thank-you to Stu Perriman for the details and photos provided)

Simon Winter




CAMBERWELL
HOCKEY CLUB

Hockey
VICTORIA
PREMIERS




CAMBERWELL
HOCKEY CLUB









CAMBERWELL
HOCKEY CLUB













CHC 2024 PRESENTATION NIGHT















WOMEN'S SECTION

The Camberwell Women's Section has had another exceptional season, showcasing the talent and dedication of its players and coaching staff. Out of eight Senior teams and two Masters teams, an impressive eight have successfully reached the finals, demonstrating our depth and strength.

This remarkable achievement reflects not only the hard work put in by the players but also the strategic planning and support from the coaching and support team. Overall, four teams made it to the Grand Final, setting the stage for an exciting conclusion to the season.

The pinnacle of success for the season saw two teams crowned Premiers: Premier League Reserves (WPLR) ending a 16-year drought and the Pennant B team (WPB). Furthermore, three teams distinguished themselves as Minor Premiers: WPLR, WPA, and WPB. Incredible achievements and shows that the Women's Section is undoubtedly a force to be reckoned with and sets a high standard for future seasons.

This would not be possible without the unwavering support of our invaluable volunteers. With eight dedicated Committee members, nine Head Coaches, and seven Assistant Coaches, the leadership and guidance provided have been instrumental in navigating the challenges of the season. Additionally, the hard work of our twelve Team Managers and support staff has ensured that everything runs smoothly, allowing our players to focus on their performance. Their commitment, time, and passion have created a vibrant and supportive environment that empowers our players to thrive. Thank-you for all your efforts that have played a crucial role in achieving this remarkable season.



Special thank you to David Wansbrough and Geoff Perriman who will be stepping back from their roles as WPL Head Coaches. What an incredible job you have both done getting the squad to where it is today, with some amazing memories and celebrations created along the way. I know we are all so grateful for the time and effort you have put in not only to WPL but the overall success of the Women's Section. Thank-you.

As I reflect on my time as Chair of the Women's Section, I want to thank everyone for their ongoing support over the past six years; the Board, our Women's Committee (Suz Cannell, Pip Mann, Krissy Bates, Kathryn Lane, Emmy Nottle, Lucy Gallagher, Ruby Phillips and Jane Perriman) and countless others who have supported and advised over the years. It has been an incredible journey filled with growth, development, and triumphs that I will cherish forever. Witnessing our Section and Club evolve and dominate in the competitive landscape has been a rewarding experience and I feel confident stepping back with the Section in such capable hands with great culture, development and engagement. While 2024 will mark my final year in this role, I am filled with pride for what we have accomplished together. The camaraderie, resilience, and passion within our community have made every moment unforgettable. I look forward to seeing the continued success of this amazing group in the years to come!

Sara Conyers

Women's Premier League

2024 was another fantastic year for the Camberwell Women's Premier League team.

Whilst the ultimate objective of a back-to-back premiership flag wasn't achieved so much else was. We played some exceptional hockey and despite a slow start we finished the season better than anyone. After the departure of some global stars our new additions were tough competitors in Renae and Hannah and with the development of talented youngsters Bailey, Jade, Meg and Cande the squad had strong expectations for season 2024. With a core group of experienced leaders in Liv, Lynchy, Laura, Laney and the return of Sophie Taylor we were confident of testing the best. After another outstanding season from Captain



Krissy, who won the League's Best and Fairest two years running, and Charlotte Hodgson, in great form as she emerged as a dominant midfielder, we came into finals with high hopes. Our best win of the season against eventual premiers Hawthorn away gave us extra belief. Unfortunately, in the Semi Final against Essendon, whilst we played some strong hockey, we weren't able to nail the key moments and fell short. A devastating loss that will sting for a long time but also a strong reminder that we want to go one better next time.

Lots to build on and a reminder that premierships are very tough to win. Hopefully the squad is motivated for next year to keep improving and get back on top.

As I sign off from a memorable four years, I would like to thank the entire Club for its support but specifically mention our superb coaching and support crew of Geoff Perriman, Pip Mann, Tynan Whight, Roy Carey, Grace Corcoran and Nathan Ebenezer. Terry Ryan, as Team Manager of course, is so loved by everyone and had another strong year. To Sara Conyers (as Chair), Suz Canell (as Chair of Selectors) and Simon Winter (as Club President), you have all been exceptional support and a large reason for the reemergence of the team and the Women's Section as a powerhouse. Congrats to Narelle and Beth for getting our WPLR team a flag after so many close attempts and thank-you for your support to the WPL team.

Lastly, to all the WPL players who have come through the squad. You have been amazing on and off the field and made my time so enjoyable and rewarding.

And don't worry - I will still take a keen interest in the next stage of success for this special team.

David Wansbrough

Women's Premier League Reserve

2024 Premiers - what a season!

Both on and off the pitch the team went from strength to strength, finishing up the regular season as Minor Premiers with 14 wins, 3 draws and a loss. Winning the first final saw us up against Waverley in the Grand Final, coming away 6-3 winners after shootouts. The team played a beautiful brand of hockey:





Our forwards of Ash, Chloe, Lucy, SMorley (Sarah) and Summer, put pressure on the opposition time and again through their speed, attack and formidable press.

Our mids - Alice, Claire, Claudia and Lauren whose intense work rate was undeniable, continually breaking through lines and shutting down the opposition's midfield.

Our defence - Caitlin, Char, Ruby P, Ruby W, Soph and Teagan such a calm, smart unit, repelling the opposition and delivering pin point passes time and again to our players.

A thank-you to the other 17 players who played throughout the season contributing to our win. Also to Beth who answered the call for an Assistant Coach in preseason – thank-you. You've brought another level to the coaching of WPLR this year and it was an honour coaching with you.

An amazing effort by an amazing team.

Narelle Richardson

Women's Pennant A



Coming off a Grand Final win in 2023, WPA were firing and ready to go from the get go! With new coaches, Bridget Pledge and Matt Bellin, new manager in injured Lena Perriman, an injection of new faces, with lots of familiar faces, the squad hit the home and away season firing.

The team's ability to adapt each week saw them walk away Minor Premiers, not dropping a single point all season! Playing with a sense of confidence and fantastic team game each week saw us set the benchmark for the Women's Pennant A competition in 2024.

Finals brought along new challenges in old rivals and unfortunately Hawthorn got one back on us for last year and we missed the cherry on top of an impeccable season. Despite the Grand Final loss, the team walked away with heads held high and a reinvigorated spirit to come back stronger in 2025.

Bridget O'Shea

Women's Pennant B

An incredible year of change that was capped off in the most spectacular way possible! Having been involved with WPB from previous years, Sam and I were very familiar with the talent in the team but were realistic in the challenges that still awaited us



in our first season coaching the team. After the initial weeks it was obvious to all that this squad had the ability to go all the way after what felt like sleep walking through our first few matchups.

But premiership aside, the best part of the year was witnessing the gelling of the squad on and off the field. The results were evident too with the team scoring 70 goals, 41 of which were assisted by teammates and only let in 10 through 20 games. Whilst none of our players lead the competition in goal scoring, we had four in the top 10 which exemplifies the sharing and depth that this team displayed in 2024. On the defensive end, the crew did an incredible job keeping the ball out of the back of the net and on numerous occasions it never even made it into our defensive circle.

A premiership clinching goal in the final two seconds of the Grand Final exemplifies the high-flying excitement that was WPB this year. A year filled with development, fun, learning and winning. A final tribute to the numerous WPC players that doubled up throughout the year. Players without which, the season would not have been possible.

Ollie Bell

Women's Pennant C

Coming off a premiership year in 2023, WPC were keen to back up the success. Some new faces to the Club and to the team were immediately welcomed and we started the season strong. The WPC grade felt like more of a challenge this year with some new up and coming teams, but Camberwell was ready for it.

Some early season highlights included a seven goal second half for an 8-0 win against Greensborough, and an incredibly resilient last second draw against Brunswick with depleted bench after injuries. A big mid-season game against fellow ladder leaders in Waverley was a major highlight, playing one of our best games ever for a 1-1 draw in a finals preview.

Women's Section Continued...



A year categorised by a solid defence and team goals, we finished with the lowest goals against us with only 10, and 16 different goal scorers. Lauren Davis (Woodsy) topping WPC's goal scoring leaderboard to cap off a great year. A great finals run to finish Runners Up in shootouts after reaching our third Grand Final in a row. WPC always combines fun, positivity and success perfectly on the hockey field to create a team and culture CHC can always be proud of.

Sam Balson

Women's Pennant D

After winning promotion last year from WPE, this team was ready to test how we fared against a higher level of competition in WPD. We started out very strong establishing the best defensive record in the league and only having dropped points in two games prior to Round 13.

Unfortunately, this year, our fairytale venture into WPD would not finish in glory as we ended up losing in the Preliminary Final to eventual premiers MCC in a shootout. We utilised 32 players this year, each one seamlessly slotting in and playing our structure; a testament to this group's ability to adapt and welcome new players and playing styles.

A few late key player unavailabilities will only prove to drive our hunger next year as I have no doubt the quality of this team has what it takes to be the dominant force in the competition for years to come.

Matt Webb

Women's Pennant E

The WPE team came together in a season which was supported by four coaches (at various times), and 36 different players to end the season with a strong sense of comradery and passion! The core team pulled together with some fantastic wins, some nail-biting draws and grit throughout every round and worked to include all players in the action regardless of line up.

The biggest win for the WPE was the great friendships formed, and the determination from our younger players to balance VCE.

With only one loss prior to finals, the team held their own against the competition, ending with an unfortunate third place resulting from shootouts in the Preliminary Final!

Georgia Schreenan

Women's Metro



Metro once again saw a fresh side, with many faces new to the club, or hockey all together. The team slowly grew to 21 players, mostly regular, which was a wonderful selections problem to have!

With a first-time coach and only roughly a third of the team having played together last season, the team's key focus was community, and growth, and spoiler alert: we excelled at both.

Training and games at the start of the season were mostly focused on teaching players the basic rules and skills of hockey, with strategy only being a factor in the last few weeks. Yet, in a competition where most clubs have teams that have played together for years, our fresh side still finished sixth on the ladder, with our final game of the season being a true 5th/6th play-off.

This growth wouldn't've been possible if it weren't for the kindness, love, compassion and spirit each of the individual players brought with them each and every week, creating not only a brilliant learning environment, but also an excellent hive of community. It reminds us all why we love team sport. With the hope of retaining a similar Metro side for the 2025 season, if we continue on the trajectory we had over this season, our team will be fierce competition!

Imogen McGillivray



Masters 35s

Well, it was a very different year to 2023. With a number of unfortunate injuries early in the season and reducing our Masters 35s team to one we were hopeful we could still continue the spark. While the competition had its ups and downs, and some feedback required, all players took it in its stride. It is a testament to the team and players that everyone was still able to enjoy their hockey and connect with friends despite the difficult and sometimes challenging conditions.

Special mention to Ceci who was by far our Best & Fairest – unphased by the competition or sometimes pummelling, Ceci kept our team alive and our spirits up.

Thank-you to Jane Perriman for leading the charge with this team and Tanya Day for team managing.

Sara Conyers

Masters 45s

A season with a lot of travel for players - and that doesn't include trips to Footscray, Greensborough or Elwood. Every week we would get the mandatory 'sorry .... I'm away' - in mostly some very exotic locations. Despite this dilemma we were able to field a team for each game and give the opposition a run for their money.

We lost some stalwarts to injury across the season, but we were also able to get some back and running very well - the ups and downs of hockey. Unfortunately however, we were unable to score enough goals to threaten for a finals spot. An unfamiliar season's outcome for our team.

Across the winter we had a number of 'Camberwell Royalty' join us for a run and our thanks goes to them - too many to mention individually.

We are recruiting for next season and welcome those who are keen to raise the tangerine to the winner's dais once again. Go Wellers!

Janie Davey



MEN'S SECTION

The Men's Section had a very successful year overall, with all of our teams being very competitive to break into for each player. Six of our seven Seniors teams made finals and three out of these six made the Grand Final.

The success of this season would not be achievable with all of the volunteers that make this Club so great. Two big groups that exemplified this volunteering spirit was the Men's Masters Subcommittee with Jim Forsyth, Paul Simmenauer, Paul Gibney, Kevin Hickey, Declan Keating, and the Men's Section Committee with Nick Swanton, Sarah Church, Max Hendry, Ian Launder, Tim Oldham, Charlie Faulks, Hamish Prior, Richard Harris, Franciscus Scheelings, Jack Burke, Sam Balson, Jim Forsyth and Paul Simmenauer.

Another two very important volunteers are Angus Oldham for his coordination of the umpires and Peter Taylor who took responsibility the tech bench for Premier League games. Thank-you both.

This year, Ian Launder was awarded with the Tom Askell Award for the Men's Section Club Person of the Year. This recognises Ian's contribution to the Section over a number of years, including:

- Team Manager of MPA since 2016, in that time winning four premierships with the side
- 'Stats man' of MPA
- Hockey Victorian / Premier League Entry Criteria liaison for the Men's Section
- Game count coordinator of all Men's players to ensure all are eligible for finals
- At the start of the season runs the Team Managers briefing for the Seniors and Masters sides
- Completes application for finals permits
- Assistant to the roll out of the Veo Camera across the Club.

Thank-you Ian for your input to the Men's Section and our Club more broadly.

The Jesse Foster Memorial Award for the Most Improved Boy Playing Seniors recognises the development of a player within the Men's Section while remembering the spirit of Jesse Foster. This year it was awarded to Henry Laussen. Henry showed significant improvement this year, from time spent in both MPL and MPLR teams. Henry has also been selected as part of the Australian Men's Futures Squad following his performance with the gold-medal winning Victorian team at the U18 National Championships.

James Dean was prolific in the forward line this season and was the highest goal scorer for the Men's Section in 2024 with 23 goals.

Huge thank-you and well done to everyone involved in the 2024 season. I hope everyone enjoys the off season and I look forward to seeing everyone around the club in the near future.

Men's Premier League

MPL started the season with excitement following a big preseason with a lot of faces coming back into the fold after a year off. The team had a very competitive season with a purple catch towards the end of the



Men's Section Continued...



season winning eight of nine games in a row. The team finished 3rd in a table of 12 teams, but sadly lost in the first round of finals which saw the end of the 2024 season. Some individuals also had fantastic seasons with Liam Henderson and Jim Unkles (as an umpire) selected in the Hockey Victoria Men's Premier League All Star Team for 2024. Congratulations to Eden Davis, Liam Henderson and Ollie Will for making the Hockey Club Melbourne Squad. This year, the MPL Best & Fairest was awarded to Tim Everist and Coaches Award to Lachie Paice.

For the team to be successful, especially over an ongoing period, it requires the contribution of a lot of people beyond those on the pitch playing. Thank-you to everyone who assisted this season including Lachlan Anderson (Coach), Cam Ridland (Assistant Coach), James Webster (Captain), Derek van den Driesen (Team Manager), Ash Mitchell (Physio), Nathan Ebenezer and Alexandra Amvazas (Fitness) and Dr Roy Carey (Doctor). Congratulations must also go to Jim Unkles, Matt Bellin, Kipp Thrupp, Stephen Buntain and Miller Smith for making their first debuts with MPL this year.

Men's Premier League Reserve

MPLR continued like they had left off the past season in their winning ways. With new coaches at the helm, the team did not miss a step with strong results. With a few 'old heads' returning to the side and some exciting younger players coming into the team it was a competitive mix of players with a strong effort to keep their place in the team. The team finished 1st on the ladder and had a strong finals campaign, sadly going down in the Grand Final to be runners up. Well done to MPLR Best & Fairest Matt Appleby and to the Coaches Award recipient Henry Laussen. Thank you to Bill Webb and Ruby Webb (Coaches) for taking over the team so smoothly this year and also serving as Team Managers.

Men's Pennant A

MPA had another strong season, however, started slower than they would have liked. They formed nicely as a team to create a formidable side that would go on to challenge all teams in their grade. The team had a great amount of success going undefeated for eight games in a row; a great run which managed to put them as second on the ladder. The team continued this form through finals, making it to the Grand Final. Despite an incredible fight the team was unable to win on the day, coming in as runners up.

Congratulations to the MPA Best & Fairest winner Alex Ross and to the two Coaches Award winners Ollie Harris and John Waters. Thank-you to Sally Wansbrough for her contributions to the team as Game Day Coach and to John Waters, Lachlan Hunter and Ollie Harris for player coaching and assisting with selections. Thank-you to Ian Launder, the Stats man and Team Manager for MPA for another year. Not many MPA teams in Victoria, or any team really, has the information available to them that Ian collects.

Men's Pennant B

MPB started like it has for the last three years with two consecutive losses. However, like those past years this did not determine the season as the team quickly found their feet to come home with two separate runs of eight weeks undefeated. With such a competitive league, it was not enough to secure a second chance in finals and the team finished in 3rd place on the ladder. They made it to the second week of finals and narrowly lost 1-0 to have the season end there. Congratulations to Jac O'Shea for receiving the MPB Best & Fairest and to Lachlan Tadgell for winning the Coaches Award. Three player coaches oversaw MPB this season – Tim Burkhalter, Lachlan Karp and Nick Ryan. They were supposed by Lachlan Avil as Team Manager. Thank-you to the team leadership.

Men's Pennant C

MPC had a very exciting start to the season with the team sitting in the top three. Sadly, this was not to stay that way with a significant number of unavailable players causing havoc for selections and depth of the team. The side went five consecutive games with six or more players out in a row and unfortunately this began to take a toll on the results. The team fought hard but eventually fell out of finals contention and were unable to get back into the top four; finishing the season at 6th. It must be noted that when MPC had a full-strength side they were very hard to beat and challenged all teams. It will be very exciting to see what they can produce next season with a little bit more of a consistent lineup. Well done to MPC Best & Fairest Ed Pike and to the Coaches Award Amery Pywell.

Thank-you to those involved in running this side; Lachlan Dreher (Player Coach), Bill Vietch (Player Coach & Team Manager), Tim Kollmorgan (Assistant Team Manager) and Fran Scheelings (Selector).



Men's Pennant E

MPE had a dominant year taking first place spot in Round 3 and not letting it go for the remainder of the season. The players dominated in both offense and defense and that was evident with the side having the strongest goal difference with +50. The team finished the season in 1st place. A loss in the first week of finals did not affect them, as they went on to win the next two games to come away as Premiers!

We all know that premierships are never easy to win and MPE have come close a number of times. This is a great result for that effort. Well done to MPE Best & Fairest Angus Murray and to the Coaches Award Lachlan Simmenauer on fantastic seasons. Thank you to Murray Robbinson for coaching this side and Fran Scheelings for team managing and selecting.

Men's Metro 2 East

MM2 had a very competitive season all year with 6 teams all looking for a top 4 spot. The season came all the way down to the final week where MM2 beat 3rd place to bring themselves into 4th place and lock in a finals berth. From here the team wasted no time having a comprehensive win on their first week and booked the semi. Sadly this game was more competitive and the team bowed out of finals. Well done to MM2 Best & Fairest Jensen Key and to the Coaches Award Ollie Kim. A massive congratulations must go to the team for improving so dramatically from the 2023 season. Massive thank you to Jack Burke (Player Coach), Neil Pratt (Player Coach) and Pat Goss (Team manager) for without this successful season would not have been possible.



Midweek Open B

This is the second season we've entered a team in the Midweek Open B competition. This team provides the change for people to keep playing hockey when they can't make weekend games. The team had 27 players throughout the season and performed well. Well done to Pat Goss for being awarded Most Valuable Player. Massive thank you to Matt Porrit for being both Player Coach and Team Manager.

Men's Masters

The Men's Masters continue to thrive at Camberwell Hockey Club. This winter we competed with eleven teams across Monday and Wednesday night competitions. With a total of 150 players across the sides, they showed that this section just keeps on building. This number of teams meant we were able to give our members their 'hockey fix', whether it be on a Monday, Wednesday or both nights. The Masters made life a little difficult for themselves this season during the National Championships as 32 players were selected to represent Victoria from our Men's Section. Well done to everyone on a great season, especially the Men's Masters Subcommittee who have worked tirelessly all year to provide strong teams across all of the grades.

Congratulations to the Men's 45+ B SE White team, coached by David Wansbrough and managed by Stuart Will, who were awarded the 2024 Ron Yeates Shield by the Men's Masters Subcommittee for the winter season. The team were defeated in only one match during the season, finishing as Minor Premiers and then winning the Grand Final. David Wansbrough recruited a number of players of varying abilities from his Summer Masters team and from his wider CHC network; many of whom had not played winter hockey for a long time or at all. The team managed injuries and unavailability throughout the season, with a total of 28 individuals players taking to the field.

Well done to the players below on their respective Most Valuable Player awards:

- Men's 45+ SE – Tim Oldham
- Men's 45+ B-SE Tangerine – Tom Peachey
- Men's 45+ B-SE White – Andy Lee
- Men's 45+ B-SE Blue – Michael Scandrett
- Men's 45+ C-East Tangerine – Chris Walsh
- Men's 45+ C-East Blue – Rob Hancock
- Men's 50+ B @ HMHC – Rob Daniel
- Men's 50+ A – Bill Webb
- Men's 60+ A – Tony Coombes
- Men's 60+ B – Declan Keating

HEARTBREAK



If you have ever won a premiership, you know the joy. If you have ever lost one, you know "that feeling". The reason you celebrate the win, is because they are so damn hard to win. The one that gets away, really hurts.

Some teams smashed it out of the park. These teams were typically the ones who won flags.

In 2024, the five flag winners were WPLR, WPB, MPE, M45B SE and M50A. These teams lost eight games between them from the 97 they played, and each had a fantastic season. Winning their Grand Finals....THEY SMASHED IT! Congratulations!

There were 10 other teams that fell agonisingly short. They too had fantastic seasons, but could not quite get there. Other than winning the flag, by any other measure, they had a great season. These are six of the heartbreak stories...

Our Men's Premier League team lost five of their first 10 games and found themselves in unfamiliar territory. They pulled it together and won 10 of the next 12 to be in serious contention. Some amazing hockey was played as the team really hit their straps in the back half. One bad day out, in the Semi Final, saw their season end abruptly. They are hurting, but the late season rally, was a sight to behold. Finishing 3rd is no mean feat at this level.

Our Women's Premier League team similarly had a slow start as reigning 2023 Premiers. Winning only three of their first seven games. They then went on a 15-game streak of 14 wins and a draw, to claim 2nd spot. A very exciting ride for all involved and those following along. Expectations within the team were high. A cruel day robbed them of a chance to win another flag. We all share the despair. I am sure the disappointment will be something that drives them in 2025.



Our Men's Premier League Reserve team has been "special" for the past 10 seasons. They have played in every Grand Final and have won six. They have been back-to-back three times. This year another crack at a three-peat beckoned. After a loss in late April, they were unbeaten until late September, in the Grand Final. They used 34 players across the season to demonstrate that this group really know how to play, no matter the team listed. An amazing culture and determination. An incredible Grand Final, that had us on the edge of our seats until the end. What a team!

Our Women's Pennant A team had a brutal end to an otherwise amazing season. 18 straight wins saw them more than four wins clear in top spot come finals. This stuff is hard to write, let alone read, but we hurt right along with them. Beaten by a better team on the day, in the Semi Final. They regrouped to win the Prelim, only to go down a second time in the Grand Final. Having won the flag last year, this group know how to win and I am sure they will return to push it again next year.

Our Men's Masters 60s team had a wonderful season only losing one game during home and away rounds. This grade has been getting hotter in recent years and is starting to reflect the hard edge of the 50s. Our men, using 28 players for the season, hung tough and finished on top. Both archrivals, CHC and Southern, won through to the Grand Final and only one goal decided it. A late penalty stroke was not awarded, that could have been another twist in the tale of a gripping final.

Our U16B Pennant team lost a couple of good players early in their Shield season and after three early losses, were relegated to Pennant. From there the season improved dramatically. They only lost three more games for the entire season, all to the same team, including the Grand Final. The Grand Final was a seesawing affair and had we taken our chances, the result might have gone our way. A return to the Shield competition next year is the aim.

While celebrating the winners is the tradition, we do so with gusto... sometimes just one too many gusto's! In this case we also acknowledge those who played wonderfully, but could not reach their own lofty goal. We know they are not enjoying the experience, but we acknowledge them in any case.

Simon Winter



MATLOCK





OUR HOME, OUR FORTRESS

Matlock Reserve is our home and has been for over 80 years. Thousands of Wellers regard this place as our "Field of Dreams". We love going there, we love playing there, some of our best memories happened there.

There is certainly a "feeling" that we play better at Matlock than anywhere else!

To prove this one way or another, I looked at every team's games in 2024. I compared every game played by CHC at all venues against games played at Matlock.

For those who do not like statistics, the short answer is...

Yes, we play better at Matlock.

If you "kind of like a good statistic, but will not be in it for the total deep dive":

In 2024 the club played 660 games in total and won 340, a win percentage of 51%. At Matlock, we played 225 games and won 139 a win percentage of 62%. That is a big advantage.

If you have read this far and are starting to get interested, then, you will love the next bit!

Some sections of the club win an incredibly high percentage of games at Matlock. Feast your eyes on this:

SECTION	TOTAL GAMES PLAYED	GAMES WON	WIN %	MATLOCK GAMES PLAYED	GAMES WON	WIN %	NO. OF TEAMS
MEN'S	143	95	66%	60	45	75%	7 TEAMS
WOMEN'S	163	110	67%	70	59	84%	8 TEAMS
TOTAL CLUB	660	340	51%	225	139	62%	37 TEAMS

There is little doubt that for our Senior teams, Matlock holds a distinct advantage. There were six teams that did not lose a game at Matlock: WPB, WPE, MM2 and three Masters teams that played six between them.

Lastly, our Women's Section must hold the key as they not only win more, but they score more goals per game (+10%) and keep their opponents to less goals than average (-10%). In fact, our Women's teams conceded less than one goal per game and our Men's teams less than two per game, for the entire year at Matlock.

Who doesn't like a good stat!

Simon Winter



2024 NATIONAL & STATE REPRESENTATIVES

AUSTRALIAN

KOOKABURRAS
Anthony Potter (Assistant Coach)

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SQUAD
Liam Henderson

AUSTRALIAN U23 TEAM
Charlotte Hodgson

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR (U21) SQUADS
Women: Charlotte Hodgson
Men: Sam Lowndes, Ollie Will

AUSTRALIAN U21 BURRAS TEAM
(SULTAN OF JOHOR CUP 2024)
Liam Henderson, Sam Lowndes, Ollie Will

HOCKEY AUSTRALIA FUTURES TALENT SQUAD
Women: Cande Wortley
Men: Henry Laussen

AUSTRALIAN U21 COUNTRY TEAM
Women: Regan Smith

AUSTRALIAN INDOOR

AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SQUAD
Men: Angus Hendry & Lachlan Paice - Reserve

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR SQUAD
Women: Bailey Wallace - Reserve

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS INDOOR WORLD CUP TEAMS
Women 045s: Narelle Richardson
Women 055s: Trish Young - Manager & Chef de Mission
Men 045s: Martin Cashmere
Men 055s: Scott Cashmere & Lachlan Dreher

MASTERS 2024 WORLD CUP

AUSTRALIAN TEAM
Women 050s: Jules Ashmore
Women 055s: Trish Young (Manager)
Women 060s: Cheryl Malcolm
Women 065s: Karen Russ & Sue Barling
Men 060s: Simon Winter
Men 065s: Norman Same

AUSTRALIAN A TEAM
Women 050s: Narelle Richardson & Jo Cooper (Shadow)
Women 055s: Heidi Wenk
Women 060s: Jo Hale, Lue Hanson & Sal Wansbrough (Shadow)
Men 050s: Marcus Edwards
Men 060s : Ivo Mol

NEW ZEALAND TEAM
Men 055s: Bill Webb

UMPIRES

INTERNATIONAL UMPIRE
Jim Unkles
Cath Mok - Masters World Cup

NATIONAL UMPIRES
Hockey One League - Jim Unkles, Ollie Chauhan
U18 - Lachie Avil
U16 - Vanessa Ponza
Women's Masters - Cath Mok & Sherie Patterson

VICTORIAN

HC MELBOURNE
Women: Laura Barden, Krissy Bates, Charlotte Hodgson, Rachel Lynch, Sophie Taylor
Men: Eden Davis, Liam Henderson, Ollie Will

HC MELBOURNE FUTURES SQUAD
Boys: Will Watson
Girls: Cande Wortley, Bailey Wallace and Chloe Dunlop

VICTORIAN U21
Women: Charlotte Hodgson, Sierra Lee, Meg Mortensen
Men: Liam Henderson, Angus Hendry, Sam Lowndes, Ollie Will

VICTORIAN U18 STATE
Women: Jade Henderson, Meg Mortensen, Bailey Wallace, Cande Wortley
Men: Henry Laussen, Terry Ryan (Manager)

VICTORIAN U18 DEVELOPMENT
Women: Chloe Dunlop, Claudia Trollope
Men: Will Watson

VICTORIAN U16 STATE
Girls: Chloe Dunlop

VICTORIAN U16 DEVELOPMENT
Girls: Brooke Kafer

VICTORIAN U14 STATE
Boys: Kai Fernando

VICTORIAN U14 DEVELOPMENT
Girls: Lucy Negri, Emily Watson - train-on
Boys: Thomas Tsui

SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA (SSV)
Alex Wong (Head Coach)

VICTORIAN INDOOR

U21
Men: Angus Hendry, Lachlan Paice, Kipp Thrupp

U18
Women: Bailey Wallace
Men: Henry Laussen, William Watson

U15
Girls: Brooke Kafer, Alex Wong (Coach)

U13
Girls: Charlotte Chong
Boys: Kai Fernando

VICTORIAN MASTERS

VICTORIAN MASTERS WOMEN
050s - Jules Ashmore, Jo Cooper, Kath Forsyth, Marieke De Ruijter
055s - Jenny Morley, Narelle Richardson, Heidi Wenk
060s - Jo Hale, Lue Hanson, Cheryl Malcolm
065s - Sue Barling, Janie Davey, Karen Russ, Trish Young

VICTORIAN MASTERS MEN
040s Div 1 - Lachlan Karp
050s Div 1 - Kyp Bosci, Jeremy De Zylva, Marcus Edwards, Andrew Phillips, Mark Watton
050s Div 2 - Jordy Schellebeck
055s Div 1 - Lachlan Dreher, Robert McDonald
055s Div 2 - Dermot Browne, Craig Avil, Paul Simmenaur, Darren Cutts
060s Div 1 - Owen Rogers, Simon Winter, Jim O'Shea, Rick Barry, Ivo Mol, Rob Jones
060s Div 2 - Michael Butler, Kester Crelin, Savas Mirikis, Andre Neideck
065s - Rob Hancock, Andrew Minter, Geoff Perriman, Norman Same, Clive Harrison, Warren Key
070s - Peter Ridland, Doug Watson
075s - John Longmuir

HOCKEY VICTORIA AWARDS

Don & Pam Vincent Award - Women's Premier League Best & Fairest
Krissy Bates - (back to back)

Viper of the Year
Krissy Bates

WPL All Star Team
Krissy Bates - Midfielder
Charlotte Hodgson - Midfielder

MPL All Star Team
Liam Henderson - Midfielder
Jim Unkles - Umpire

David Saleeba Award for Male Umpire of the Year
Jim Unkles - (four time winner)

Hockey Victoria Award of Merit
Karen Russ

2024 LADDER POSITION

Team	Ladder	After Finals
SENIORS		
MPL	3rd	5th
WPL	2nd	3rd
MPLR	Minor Premiers	2nd
WPLR	Minor Premiers	Premiers
MPA	2nd	2nd
WPA	Minor Premiers	2nd
MPB	3rd	3rd
WPB	Minor Premiers	Premiers
MPC	6th	6th
WPC	2nd	2nd
WPD	2nd	3rd
MPESE	Minor Premiers	Premiers
WPESE	2nd	3rd
WMetro1	6th	6th
MMetro2	4th	3rd
MASTERS		
WM35A	4th	4th
WM45A	6th	6th
Mixed Open B	9th	9th
MM45SE	4th	4th
MM45BSE White	Minor Premiers	Premiers
MM45BSE Blue	8th	8th
MM45BSE Tangerine	5th	5th
MM45CSE Blue	9th	9th
MM45CSE Tangerine	6th	6th
MM50 HMHC	2nd	3rd
MM50A	Minor Premiers	Premiers
MM60A	Minor Premiers	2nd
MM60B	2nd	2nd
JUNIORS		
U18 Mixed District	7th	7th
U16 G Shield A	9th	9th
U16 B Pennant	2nd	2nd
U16 M District	2nd	2nd
U14 B Shield	7th	7th
U14 G Shield	6th	6th
U14 B Pennant	9th	9th
U12 M Shield	10th	10th
U12 G Shield	5th	5th
U12 M Pennant	5th	5th
U12 G Pennant	5th	5th

COMMUNICATIONS

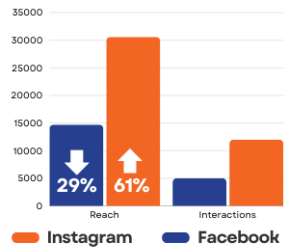
Overview

Our communications team is continually raising the bar for the quality and excellence of our content. We are dedicated to creating engaging, promotional, and educational materials for our members and the community, exploring innovative and exciting approaches. A special thank you to Britt Simmons, Hamish Prior, Steve Prior, Harry Greenhough, Brodie Pledge, and Narelle Richardson for their invaluable contributions!

Social Media Engagement

Facebook
1800 - 2.8% increase

Instagram
2200 - 9.2% increase

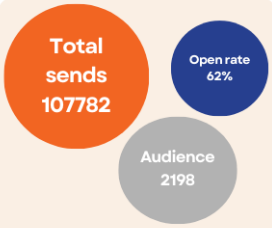


Website

Traffic to the The Camberwell Hockey Club website has been largely similar to last year, recording a roughly 4% drop in overall traffic across the board

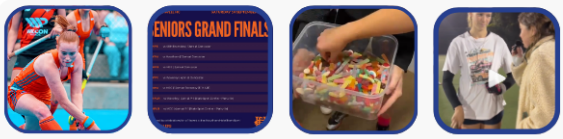
- 13000 unique visitors
- 30000 Page visits
- 20% increase in overall contact form
- 17% traffic originating from overseas

Newsletter



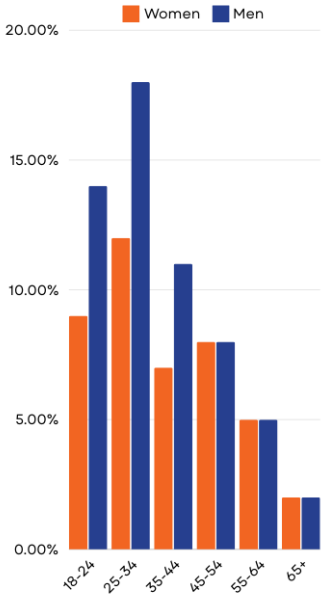
Newsletter continues to be a great sources of communication that all our sections utilise. An increase in open rate and subscribes. Creativity with messaging continues to evolve and engage.

Most popular posts



3.5K	3.5K	3.1K	2.9K
Finals time	A big saturday	Lollies are necessary	Camberwell Cam!
150	68	128	169

Gender and Age



Percentage of visitors from all our channels and the breakdown in gender and age.

Sara Conyers

TREASURER'S REPORT - 2024

Total Income was $477,503 an increase of $33,466 or 7.5% on 2023. The two most significant increases were Membership Fees and Ground Hire in 2024. The Club continues to be well supported by a diverse group of Sponsors, contributing $68,537 of Income in 2024. Once again other revenue streams resulting from playing hockey such as uniform sales, canteen sales and fundraising activities continue to enable the Club to deliver a broad range of programs to its members. We also earned Interest Income of $22,906 from the money we hold on Term Deposit.

The vast majority of our Cash Operating Expenditure is linked to our core purpose of playing hockey. In 2024 our Cash Operating Expenditure was $403,251, an increase of $39,610 or 10.9% on 2023 and this is almost entirely attributable to increases in coaching fees and umpire fees.

We also recorded non-cash expenditure in the form of Depreciation in our accounts and this was $90,123 in 2024, an amount consistent with 2023.

With regard to the Balance Sheet, the Club has maintained a sound level of Cash Reserves which currently sit at $574,977. This is a reduction year on year of $17,012. The Club recorded an operating cash flow deficit of $23,777 in 2024. The Board are currently developing a strategy and budget for 2025 which will see the club return to a positive Operating Cash Flow Position.

The Board considers it prudent to maintain a strong level of cash reserves so as to ensure operating flexibility into the future as we continue to see upwards pressure on operating costs.

Stuart Will

ALL ABILITIES HOCKEY

In early 2024, Camberwell Hockey Club proudly launched its first All Abilities Program, designed for children with mental or physical impairments that may hinder their ability to compete with peers. This initiative aimed to provide these young athletes with greater exposure to hockey, ensuring they had a fantastic time while developing essential skills – both interpersonal and fine motor skills.

Over the course of six weeks, participants enjoyed a fun and supportive environment, fostering a love for the sport. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the coaches who dedicated their time and effort to make this program a success.

We are looking to run another program in November / December 2024, if anyone is interested in being involved please reach out to Nick Ryan.

Nick Ryan

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING

The Social Committee for this season was eager to build on the great work of 2023 and continue to facilitate connections across the Club: a key element which we hear from feedback each year and directly aligned to our Strategic Plan.

This year we welcomed the Australian Venue Company on board as a Whole of Club sponsor. To mark the new partnership, we hosted a Season Launch drinks on a beautiful April Sunday afternoon at the Auburn Hotel. The sun on this day was then cancelled out by the chill at our mid-year function in July. Teams and Sections both made the most of the Auburn Hotel as our new go to location with plenty of team dinners hosted throughout the season. A portion of all sales made at Australian Venue Company locations using the CAMBERWELLHC promo code in the Pass app is donated back to our Club. Plus, it's 10% off all purchases at the Auburn Hotel. Not just within the hockey season! (Couldn't help but give a plug!). We encourage all Wellers to make the most of this sponsorship opportunity for the Club and to even share with family and friends.

A goal for the Social Committee was to continue to make use of our amazing clubrooms! With the success from 2023, we scheduled in a number of Club Nights to do just that throughout the season. This included one of our most anticipated events of the season: iPod Shuffle Night. Our DJ Max Hendry took us through an eclectic collection of songs which people had bought to raise funds for the Club.

Another successful season on pitch certainly translated into well attended finals celebrations. Each team in Grand Finals had an impressive showing of support throughout the day, with one changeroom at Doncaster HC blocked out for our four Camberwell HC teams all day. Power move. Celebrations of wonderful seasons and on-field performances continued at the Hawthorn Hotel afterwards with 150 Wellers in attendance to mark the end of the winter season for 2024, and then at Silly Sunday with a great turnout from teams across the Men's and Women's Sections.

The biggest night of the year, Presentation Night, concluded our celebrations of the 2024 season. Hosted Marvel Stadium, over 200 Wellers were in the safe hands of our masters of ceremonies; mother-son duo Sally Wansbrough and Ollie Harris. We celebrated both team and individual successes on the evening. Congratulations to the recipients of the Club perpetual trophies, (Sam Balson, Ruby Rignon, Pien van der Togt, Ian Launder, Henry Laussen and James Dean) and team Best & Fairest and Coaches Awards. Ollie Harris introduced a round of special mentions to the evening. Think You Shall Not Pass Award for the best flat stick tackle (Cal Taylor), Club Utility for the most teams played in (Louis Janssen) and Most Pure Forward (Milly Bell). It was a wonderful evening to share with fellow Club members.

Special thank-you to Lucy Gallagher, Nick Swanton, Max Hendry, Emmy Nottle, Nick Ryan and Lauren Hendry for your fantastic efforts this season.

Thank-you to Lauren Hendry, Stewart Fitz and all the helpers who contribute to the Well! It really makes the home game days at Matlock (post-match drink tokens for Seniors!) and our Club Nights.

On a personal note, it's been a wonderful year and I've had so much fun working with you all. The Club is so lucky to have such a proactive Committee! We also really appreciate the support of Narelle Richardson and Stuart Will among many others. We'd also like to recognise the work of the Inclusion & Wellbeing Committee and what both they and the Sections do to facilitate a welcoming environment which goes hand in hand with attendance at our social events. This community is at the centre of what we all do for the Club and is something we hope everyone feels a part of.

Britt Simmons









FACILITIES

We know that playing at Matlock gives our Wellers that extra advantage over opposition teams. Our home, our fortress. You can see the statistics for yourself on page 25.

We also know the important role that Matlock and our facilities play in fostering the community that is Camberwell Hockey Club. While the ground and the clubrooms may change overtime, they remain a place that welcomes people of all ages, genders and abilities to hockey.

To commence 2024, we hosted a Working Bee in March to get Matlock winter-season ready. Thank-you to everyone who attended and picked up a paint brush, trimmed a tree, polished a trophy or sorted through club records.

This year we installed new spectator benches along the eastern fence line of Matlock in honour of Graeme Cliff. Donated by his family and dedicated at a ceremony during the Summer Masters, each bench is festooned with a plaque baring a well-chosen phrase reflecting Graeme's love of hockey. They are: "A lifelong passion for hockey", "No weather is too bad for a game of hockey", "Full Back, Umpire, Hockey Loving Dad" and every defender's favourite "Who says Full Backs can't score goals".

We also marked the special life of Joan O'Shea and her dedication to watching loved ones play from the bench behind the goals. We are proud to have labelled one of these benches in her honour.

This year we purchased new goals for use by our Juniors and Hook in2 Hockey programs, although we see them being well used by Seniors at trainings too! These goals will help us to run more activities across the pitch; utilising the width for games.

You may have noticed a green orb sitting above the dugouts during home games. This is our new VEO camera which uses AI technology to film all the action on-pitch for our coaches to then analyse. Now no-one needs to brave the elements to film our games!

At a strategic level, we continue to invest time and money into our facilities with Infrastructure a key portfolio at the Board level. We're investigating opportunities to make improvements to the dugouts along the Anniversary Trail to accommodate a technical bench for Premier League games, a more efficient and proximal storage arrangement for our pitch maintenance and gardening equipment, and expanding our equipment storage for our growing Juniors program. Tagging into the end of the winter season we also took delivery of our new rooftop solar system, the feed-in of which adds a welcome sustainable gain to Matlock!

Central to our work in this space are the ongoing relationships with Boroondara Council, both Councillors and Officers, and our neighbours.

Donations from Wellers via the Australian Sports Fund continues to be an important source of funding for us to undertake works at Matlock Reserve and ensure that our facilities remain some of the best in Victorian hockey. So too are grant opportunities through organisations such as Council.

Thank-you to the ever-dedicated Infrastructure Working Group with John Unkles and Michael Barden.

Jack Burke

Camberwell Hockey Club Inc. Board Members 2023-2024



KRISSY BATES

Krissy is an Elected Board Member and has responsibility for Club Governance matters. She is a lawyer working in corporate mergers and acquisitions at global commercial law firm, Norton Rose Fulbright. Krissy has been the captain of the Premier League team for four years and was part of the premiership winning team in 2023. She was awarded Best & Fairest of the Women's Premier League in 2023 and 2024. Krissy has been a player and member at the Club since 2014. She has contributed to the Club through sitting on the Women's Committee in 2023 and 2024 as well as coaching the Junior Centre of Excellence.



MILLY BELL

Milly joined the Board at the end of 2023 as an Elected Board Member, she is responsible for the Inclusion and Wellbeing portfolio. Milly has been a player at Camberwell since 2013 where she decided to try out the forward line, having always been a full back growing up playing for the Shepparton Strikers until she was 14, then several years away from hockey. Prior to joining the Board, Milly has previously been a member of the Women's Committee and a Junior Coach. Milly trained as a physiotherapist and completed her PhD in 2023. She is currently leading hockey injury related research through La Trobe University as she wishes to understand what contributes to injuries (or absence of injuries) in hockey players of all ages.



JACK BURKE

Jack joined the Board as an Observer at the end of 2023 where he holds the portfolio of Facilities & Infrastructure. Additionally, he is the Men's Metro Coach as well as a member of the Men's Committee. He plays across Men's Metro 2, Open B and B Indoor teams. Jack is employed as a Coordinator in Facilities & Operations at Camberwell Grammar School.



PIP CHAMBERS (NEE MANN)

Pip is an Appointed Board Member and is responsible for Club Governance matters. In 2024 she joined the Women's Premier League coaching staff as Assistant Coach. She is an experienced Legal & Governance Counsel and has a passion for hockey, encouraging everyone to get involved at the Club in whatever capacity they can. Pip has been a player and member at the Club since 2002. She has contributed to the Club through sitting on the Women's Committee since 2014, as well as coaching junior and senior teams.



SARA CONYERS

Sara is Section Board Member in her sixth year leading the Women's Section, additionally she leads the Communications Portfolio. Sara first came to Camberwell in 2002 as a player and has contributed to the club through the Women's Committee, Women & Girls Subcommittee, coaching, inclusion and diversity, Hin2H, and coordinating the social and fundraising events. With a background in marketing and communications for non-profit organisations, Sara currently holds the position of Senior Development Manager at The University of Melbourne within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Sciences, where she works in the field of philanthropy.



MARCUS EDWARDS

Marcus is a Section Board Member (Junior) in his third year leading the Junior's Section, he first came to Camberwell in 2018 following his daughter who began in 2016. Marcus currently contributes to the club as the Junior Chair and as a Team Manager for the Masters 50A Team. Marcus is currently the Chief Product Officer & Founding Director for, a company providing SaaS to critical infrastructure industries globally.



NICK RYAN

Nick is an Elected Board Member, in his third year on the Board. He has been Chair of the Men's Section for the last three years and a member of the Men's Committee since 2015. Nick plays hockey for the Club in Men's Pennant B. Playing for the Club is a family affair with his father Paul playing Masters, his brother Lachie also playing Men's and his sister Kate in the Women's Section. Nick is a firefighter for Fire Rescue Victoria and prior to that worked as a project coordinator in the construction industry. He has a Bachelor in Project Management (Honours) from RMIT.



BRITT SIMMONS – CLUB SECRETARY

Britt is an Appointed Board Member and is in her first year as Club Secretary. Britt oversees the Social & Fundraising Committee and she is also an active member of the Communications Group. Britt has been a member of Camberwell Hockey Club for 20 years after joining as part of Minkey and still plays today in Women's Pennant A. Britt has also been appointed as a Gender Equity Ambassador for Hockey Victoria. Britt is a Senior Transport Planner and Project Manager with AECOM and works on strategic transport planning and transport infrastructure projects.



NICK SWANTON

Nick joined the Board at the end of 2023 as an Elected Board Member. He has been the Men's Section Treasurer for the last two seasons and Secretary for the 2024 season. Nick took up hockey in 2004 and has been at Camberwell Hockey Club playing and coaching ever since. Currently Nick is the First XI Head Coach at Carey Baptist Grammer School and in 2024 was a part of the Premier League Reserves and Pennant A teams. Off the field he is an Event Director / Business Development Manager at an events company responsible for the delivery of the Gallipoli Dawn Service in Turkey.



STUART WILL - *TREASURER*

Stuart is an Appointed Board Member and has been Club Treasurer since 2013 and involved with the club since 2011. Stuart oversees the financial stability of the club and is responsible for budgeting and capital expenditure prioritisation. Stuart is a Senior Finance Executive by profession and is also a Board Member of Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club as well as being a proud supporter of The Mirabel Foundation.



SIMON WINTER - *PRESIDENT*

Appointed Board Member, Simon has served as President since 2018. Simon is responsible for relationships with Hockey Victoria, Boroondara Council, Koonung Secondary College and State and Federal politicians. Simon has been a member of the Camberwell Hockey Club since 1999 as a player, coach, team manager, umpire and member of the Men's Masters Subcommittee. Simon is retired and has previously served on committees of several other local community sporting clubs.

CAMBERWELL HOCKEY CLUB
STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 ▶ 2030

VISION: *A Community Club for all ages, genders and abilities* ***VALUES:*** *Supportive, Selfless, Respectful, Inclusive, Relentless*

▶ STRATEGIC PILLARS

PLAYER ENGAGEMENT	HOCKEY EDUCATION	COMMUNITY & HOCKEY ENGAGEMENT	CLUB CULTURE & MEMBER PARTICIPATION	FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

▶ OUR GOALS

PLAYER ENGAGEMENT	HOCKEY EDUCATION	COMMUNITY & HOCKEY ENGAGEMENT	CLUB CULTURE & MEMBER PARTICIPATION	FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE
Enhance Player Retention, Recruitment & Re-engagement	*Develop Hockey Players & Officials at all levels*	*Maintain Strong Relationship with the Community, Council & Hockey Victoria*	*Enhance Club Culture and Member Participation*	*Provide the best possible Training, Playing and Social Facilities*	*Continued Financial Strength, Good Governance and Sustainability*

▶ DESIRED OUTCOMES

PLAYER ENGAGEMENT	HOCKEY EDUCATION	COMMUNITY & HOCKEY ENGAGEMENT	CLUB CULTURE & MEMBER PARTICIPATION	FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE
▪ Increase player participation across all levels at a sustainable rate ▪ Increase player retention, recruitment and re-engagement ▪ Reduce barriers to playing hockey	▪ Increase participation and capability of coaches, umpires and officials ▪ Provide development opportunities for players of all abilities ▪ Provide elite player development pathways	▪ Lead, promote and grow hockey in Victoria. ▪ Continue to meet LEC requirements ▪ Maintain strong relationship with Council and community ▪ Increase Club diversity	▪ Strengthen whole of Club culture ▪ Increase Club social opportunities ▪ Increase Club volunteer engagement ▪ Provide inclusive environment for all	▪ Continue to provide first class facilities at Matlock ▪ Improve 2nd home ground and facilities ▪ Maximise use of facilities ▪ Provide equal access to facilities ▪ Maintain safe facilities	▪ Maintain financial strength ▪ Uphold good governance ▪ Manage efficient Club operations ▪ Build Club resilience, succession planning and sustainability

▶ FOCUS AREAS

PLAYER ENGAGEMENT	HOCKEY EDUCATION	COMMUNITY & HOCKEY ENGAGEMENT	CLUB CULTURE & MEMBER PARTICIPATION	FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE
▪ Review retention initiatives to minimise player turn over ▪ Undertake program to re-engage past players ▪ Consider recruitment programs to increase participation ▪ Expand summer, indoor and midweek hockey programs ▪ Review barriers to playing hockey and enable flexibility	▪ Create and grow Club coach, umpire and officials development programs ▪ Expand school roadshow programs ▪ Provide hockey basics programs for all ages ▪ Provide elite player development pathways ▪ Promote hockey excellence	▪ Support Hockey Victoria on-field and off –field initiatives ▪ Review LEC requirements and implement action plan ▪ Review diversity of the Club and community, and create action plan to increase diverse engagement ▪ Enhance Council and neighbourhood engagement	▪ Create more whole of Club social opportunities ▪ Create volunteer role descriptions and plan to increase Club volunteers ▪ Promote inclusion initiatives ▪ Promote wellbeing initiatives ▪ Complete Gender Equity Audit and Action Plan	▪ Review 2nd ground and facilities options ▪ Implement infrastructure and capital works program ▪ Promote community & social use of facilities ▪ Review game fixture usage ▪ Review equal access and best use of facilities ▪ Consider technology developments to improve player and member experience	▪ Increase sponsorship ▪ Maximise grant opportunities ▪ Review volunteer versus paid roles and succession planning for key roles ▪ Streamline club operations where possible ▪ Increase use of technology to improve Club administration ▪ Implement National Integrity and Safe Hockey Frameworks

PLATINUM SPONSOR AND PREMIER LEAGUE SHIRT SPONSOR

PLATINUM SPONSORS

SPORTING EQUIPMENT SPONSOR

GROUND MAINTENANCE SPONSORS

Sweepers Australia

SUMMER MASTERS CLOTHING SPONSOR

Fashion Clubwear

TEAM SPONSORS SUMMER MASTERS COMPETITION

Sweepers Australia
EQ8 Accountants
Total Facility Maintenance
Sinclair Dermatology
Acorn Window Cleaning
Red Rooster
Watson Young Architects
Camberwell Road Medical Centre
TS & B Retail Systems
Grand Cru Wine Fridges
Anytime Fitness Kew
Evans and Partners Stockbrokers

The Club is indebted to Neil Pratt for the design and production of the Annual Report

Acknowledgement of Country

Camberwell Hockey Club acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands of our home Matlock Reserve and of where we play our sport; the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung People of the Kulin Nation.

We honour and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to lands and waters across the Australian continent, with histories of continuous connection dating back more than 60,000 years. We also acknowledge their enduring cultural practices of caring for Country.

Camberwell Hockey Club
15 Carinda Road Canterbury Vic 3126
board@camberwellhockeyclub.com.au