

Leeds Adel AGM 28th April 2025

Present

Sam Jackson (SJ), Tom Webb (TW), Louis Bowden (LB), Ross Nichols (RN), MJ Auckland-Child (MJ), Ross Nichols (RN), Andy Grindrod (AG), Rich Poll (RP), Ian Phillips (IP), Meg Burns-Stow (MB), Holly Sheen (HS), Alice Bowler (AB), Becky Louth (BL), Matt Aldred (MA), Mikey McWilliams (MM), Will Powley, Alex Percival (AP), Charlotte Winn (CW), Harriet Parker (HP), Zoe Mather (ZM), Roger Cherry (RC), Chloe Cherry (CC), Jane Goode (JG), Sarina Wildblood (SW), Louise Binning (LB), Bryony Wellman (BW), Alannah Fawbert (AF), Mike Gillingham (MG), Ronnie Carr (RC), Jack Bethwaite (JB), Natalie Innes (NI), Bridget Petty (BP), Dave Margerison (DM), Kathy, Sammy Borley (SB), Lottie Butler, Lucy Metcalfe (LM), Stefan Palenski (SP)

Apologies

Sue Renton, Nic Crocker, Sophie Hinds, Mark Powley, Ellie Pritchard, Mary Stewart, Richard Foster

Chairmans Report & Development Overview

Proposal for last year's minutes AG, seconded RP

3 past members have passed away in the last year, Rosie Prior, Andy Milner, David Hinks

SJ thanks to everyone in the membership as so many people have contributed their time to the club in some capacity. Particular thank you to those who are stepping down from the committee this year, JG, MJ, EP, TW, NI, AB, MA.

We have an extremely motivated team to push this club in the right direction and we've made a huge amount of progress as a club over these last few years.

Key things we have developed. Short, medium, and long term finances are extremely healthy with various funding sources for changing room money

Changing room project is well underway with surveys being completed and planning applications submitted.

Juniors has undergone a massive change over the last few years with so many more members joining.

We've got even more pitch space now so we can afford to offer regular quality slots for training and matches across the board.

BW has brought the membership onto a modern system making payments and finances so much easier. Well over 400 paid up members this year with additional sessions like u8s, and back to hockey sessions.

As we move into next season we'll need a huge push into fundraising for the changing rooms. Around £40k has been used so far in submitting the planning application.

Changing room has 4 rooms, disabled changing and access, club room, storage. It will be owned, run, and maintained by AWMA but we will have autonomy over it.

Various design iterations have been drawn up over the last few months.

Planning was submitted several weeks ago, with only 2 objections but the rest were all in support. Last 3 or 4 weeks have been responding to technical questions from the planners such as drainage, utilities etc.

Concerns were raised around the full proposal we submitted so a third design was submitted more in line with the initial proposal and we're currently waiting on their respond. Providing their response is positive the architects can then move forward with the plans.

Biodiversity net gain will need to be done around the site since the project is being built on a green site.

No figure to report at the moment for overall cost, although we have made some progress in things like electricity, drainage etc as they will be a large part of the cost.

Timescale depends on planning and financial conversation but we'd like to see working starting in Spring 2026.

SP have asked if other sections of the club will be contributing money towards it. AWMA have been very supportive but so far financially it's just on us. We will be working with sections like juniors, lacrosse etc, to see what can be agreed.

A lot of the building will be done offset so ideally the shell of the building will go up quite quickly.

Club muck in morning, the morning of the end of season dinner. 25 people signed up so far to help out from 8am to 1pm. Replacing the kickboard around the fence, painting the dugout benches, litter, nets, etc

Treasurer's Report

20k has been put into the lighting, both upgrades and repairs. Leeds Beckett has been a great source of income.

We've invested heavily into the senior and junior sections in terms of coaches, course, equipment and so on.

Pitch fund needs to be around £300k by 2030 when we replace the pitch surface.

23/24 was a good year, higher revenue, increased costs slightly. Section donation and pitch donation made each year which are two large payments. Surplus of around £9k.

Operating costs for the club start going out around July/August but we don't get income until around September as this is when membership starts coming in.

Summer league has been another great source of income for the club at over £12k for 23/24. Donations have come in from sponsored events through the last year.

SJ will get Vision back on board for sponsorship

EH cost went up last year due to insurance increases. Teas, fuel remain broadly the same. Clothing and equipment costs increased a lot but we've also sold a lot more kit than usual.

Current year forecast which is based on some estimates as our financial year runs till September. Looks to be slightly down on income and costs increasing and this is based around the changing room project.

We will be running negative this year but this has been accounted for in the budgets and what we're spending on the changing room.

End of year bank balance should be around £5k but this doesn't include the first run of membership payments which are significant.

As long as we don't drop below the £5k we have plenty in the bank for whatever we need to fund around the club.

Changing room costs, so far we'll be spending just short of £50k. Still about £15k to pay and the end of year balance includes this cost. Grant income and donations are offset against this.

BP asks about the repayment for 20k grant. There is none as it's a grant, we had a bridging loan in case but the grant came through so the loan was sent straight back at no cost.

Section Reports

Juniors

Thank you to all the coaches and helpers that give their time to either help out or run an entire age group for training and matches.

Over 220 members signed up this year and a large waiting list

We started our own U8s, called Adel Pups, which has been very successful with lots of enquiries coming in about it

41 playing senior hockey which is a big increase from last year. Christmas party run at Hollywood Bowl, no one got lost.

90 signed up for the junior end of season.

We will be hosting another U8s tournament following the success from the last one AB ran. Other clubs are showing a lot of interest in this format and age group as well.

U13 teams have been developing well with development teams being introduced next year to help bridge the gap for them into senior hockey.

Only had 5 juniors leave this year with a number being selected for regional teams.

Next year plans are to get regular U8 tournaments in place. Make the pathways for juniors moving into senior teams clearer for those members.

Women's

Thanks to the captains, coaches, umpires, etc. that enable us to play

Around 120 members total, 23 new members, 23 youth players.

Results have been challenging, 3 relegations but 1 cup quarter final

Despite the results there were lots of positives. We were able to get a full team out for the masters cup which last season wasn't possible.

L1 were promoted last season so it was always going to be challenging. L2s moved up a league as well without promotion so relegation just puts them back into the league they were in.

L4s were in a more difficult league due to the restructure with lots of teams they were playing with before moving up to L3s

L4s will be in either Dale or Moor, but it's not yet been decided. Stabilisation and growth will be key for the next year so teams can move up together.

All fixtures were fulfilled and lots of consistency across the year. Back to Hockey Saturdays have been successful with some new players and others that have played before.

A lot of movement up and down teams this season especially early on but the attitude from members and captains has been excellent despite these challenges.

18 juniors playing senior hockey.

79 enquiries from new players this season but only 8 have been from players that can play at L1-3s level

We wanted to restructure training and accommodate members preferences for training. Goalkeeper training has been successful with too many GKs in the ladies section which is a challenge but a good position to be in.

Aims for next season are develop the training schedule with the increased in pitch slots and time. We can give the juniors extra pitch time to develop our 'in house' talent.

Development teams will be submitted so we can play 13/14 yr olds and give them exposure to 11-a-side and a more senior level of hockey.

We were keen to keep Fletch and he has bought into the project. He will be more involved with coach development with a second session run for L1s and a rotating session for anyone who wants more training.

Thank you to MJ and EP as they go well above and beyond in giving her time to not only her role as CC but in other areas supporting Sam, running back to hockey etc.

Men's

Thanks to all the coaches and captains. LB wants to highlight the amount of time they put in to running the teams.

Thank you to fixtures and umpire coordinators for the huge amount of work they've done with all the tricky cup games especially.

124 active members vs 117 last year. 17 new senior members

U18s represented across all squads with 12 new juniors moving into senior hockey and 2 active first team players

Introduced O35s and O55s masters squads

3 teams improved league position, 3 maintained their league position

LB expects the waiting list to grow over the next few months as it usually does each year with new members enquiring over the summer

Overall improvement in every metric compared to last year even for those teams that maintained their league position.

M2s despite getting promoted managed to finish 4th when last time they were in this league they went straight back down.

Hans is a role model

No changes to league next season unless a last minute restructure comes in

Good to see a full suite of masters teams out. Stability in leagues has been maintained after multiple promotions a few years ago

Good influx of players at the higher level and all captains staying on for another year.

Lots of challenges with rearranged games to facilitate cup games. Next season we will only be entering masters and mixed.

AG mentions that there are several juniors in 6s that should be moved up so we need to make an early decision as to whether they move up 1 team or even more. This has its own risks but we also run the risk of not promoting these players early enough and before we know if they're either moving clubs or leaving for Uni

We've opened up comms with Leeds Beckett so we should see an influx of players from that area.

Tom Leigh wants to continue with GK training next season.

Juniors need to be prioritised over new players early on the season so we can integrate them into teams at the right time.

We didn't need an extra team this season as squads were balanced but going into next season, LB and Jack B think a development team will be the best course of action to allow more pitch time for players and bringing juniors up.

Proposals

Membership for the year, 480 total members, including U8s and hockey Saturdays. We are proposing an increase in membership fees due to EH increase and costs of the membership platform.

SJ explains that EH membership currently gives the members insurance. Going into next season it also means that coaching and umpire courses up to the old level 2 will be free of charge through them.

They also starting a fund which we may look to utilise. EH are also promoting the sport more through channel 4 so some of the increase goes towards that.

The new membership system brought in by Bryony means we can invest heavily back into the club

Proposal for next year as to change the membership to £350 from £330 (plus £20 for a shirt for new members).

Nothing to be changed on the juniors as they were changed last year.

HP has asked if you weren't a member last year will you get a shirt this year. You won't by default but we have a surplus of shirts that we can distribute and you'll pay £20 for it

BP asks about coach & life member being lower than expected. SJ clarifies that as a coach you pay the AWMA element is £41 for the coming season. As a club we can swallow any shortfall.

Unanimous in favour of proposed membership changes

Constitutional amendments have been made which we decided a few weeks ago and then recently following feedback from BP and MP.

First change is about voting rights and having the possibility of younger members coming to AGMs and getting involved if they want to.

Unanimous in favour

Second change is voting mechanism for team captains. Previously every member of the club could vote for their captains. We changed this to each section voting for their respective sections. We think moving away from captains being voted in at the AGM and giving it just to the respective teams to make the vote in time to be reported at the AGM.

WP asks how do we decide who gets a vote. SJ says that on previous years when making these kinds of changes making it more specific makes it more difficult to define exactly. It's general wording that CCs and captains can make that decision as to who would qualify for a vote being in that given team.

Unanimous approval

Third change

Unanimous approval

Fourth change is around the selection criteria.

The original proposal was to strip out any order or priority but we have now changed this to being primary criteria to be a paid-up membership, and secondary criteria is in no given order.

Unanimous approval

Elections

Exec committee

RP proposed, HP seconded

Wider committee

1st slide: Proposed BP, second BL

2nd slide: Proposed RP, second IP

Captains

Proposed CW, second RC

Proposed ZM, Second MM

Any other Business

MB to be put forward for junior coord. Seconded CW