RIVERSIDE LIONS HOCKEY CLUB
WWW.RIVERSIDELIONSHC.ORG.AU

The Pride

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 Feb 10	Club Family Beach/ Fitness/BBQ Day
20 Feb 10	Club Welcome Day
25 Feb 10	Senior Fitness Training starts
16 Mar 10	Senior Turf Training Commences
18 Mar 10	J5/6 Training starts
25-26 Mar	Cubs & Minkey training
2-19 Apr	School Holidays
17 Apr 10	Senior Games commence
1 May 10	Junior Games commence
1 May 10	J5/6 grading carnival
8 May 10	J5/6 Games commence
26 Jun 10	Quiz Night plus kids' creche

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

Over the coming issues, this section will introduce members of our committee, so that you can put a face to a name. This month, I have listed our hardworking committee members in the body of the newsletter. Feel free to contact us with any questions. Contact details can be found on our website.

Check out our website

Don't forget to check out our website. It has lots of useful information and links.

Drop us a line

We welcome articles for our website and newsletter. Please forward them to manno@bigpond.net.au. The deadline for the next newsletter is Thursday 14th January 2010.

As many of you may be aware, the Junior and Senior Riverside Lions Clubs have been operating as two separate clubs for many years. Following a unanimous decision at our recent respective AGMs, we are pleased to announce that the two clubs have now amalgamated.

Some of the advantages that this brings to the club include minimising duplication of roles, enabling a smoother transition from junior to senior grades and the ability to share the skills of senior players across the club as coaches and mentors.

The committee has representatives from all grades & competitions in which we participate. A new management structure has been created, including a Junior sub-committee to manage all aspects of the junior grades.

It is important to note that parents of registered junior players are deemed to be a parent member of the club, and at any general meeting, one parent shall be entitled to vote.

Your new club committee

President:	Bevan Lawrence
VP (Juniors):	Garry Fitzpatrick
VP (Men):	Hugh Singe
VP (Women):	Jacqui Chellew
Secretary:	Katie McDonald
Treasurer:	Rowan Matthews
Asst Treasurer:	Brian Matthews
Asst Treasurer:	Greg Hawkins
Other members:	Tracy Antill
	Peta Berry
	Melanie Booth
	Tom Dempster
	Paul Edgar
	Lila Gibbs
	Simon Joyner
	Felicity Kermode
	Georgia Lawrence
	Lynne Mannolini
	Cate Mansfield
	Lynn Matthews
	Sharon Maxwell
	Scott McGrath
	Karen Oakley
	Josh Saville
	Sandra Wallington
	Frank Watson

Sub-Committees

A number of sub committees have been formed to manage the various aspects of the club, including:

Clubroom Lease
Clubroom Management
Uniform Redesign
Umpire Training
Senior Pre-Season training/events
Fitness Training
Recruitment & Promotion (senior)
Sponsorship
Coach the Coaches
Junior Management (including)
- Property Management
- YMCC Alliance
- Umpiring Co-ordination
- Coaching Co-ordination
- Social/Fundraising
- Age Group Co-ordinators
- Cubs Co-ordinator
- Minkey Co-ordinator.

Our Vision

Our aim is to build and maintain a sustainable hockey club which provides appropriate pathways for all our players, whether they prefer to play at an elite or social level.

Player Retention

One of our challenges is to maximise the number of players that remain with our club at all levels. To achieve this, we must ensure we have a large enough player base to be able to field teams in the grades that our members wish to play.

Over past years, we have needed to run joint teams with other clubs to ensure our players could continue to play in the most appropriate grade for them. Our aim is to build up our base of players from the junior levels to eliminate the need for such joint teams.

Building our Junior Player numbers

Following the introduction of our very successful Cubs program (J3/4) in 2009 which attracted over 120 children, we will be expanding our programs to include a Minkey program next year (see article later in this issue). We will also expand the J3/4 program and consolidate our

relationship with local schools. With an anticipated 250 players in these competitions, we are hopeful that our member base will increase throughout the club in the coming years.

We are also hoping to increase the number of J5/6 teams in both boys and girls competitions this year.

Alliance with YMCC

It is hoped that over time our increased junior player base will alleviate the need for joint teams, however, we recognise that in the short term, joint teams are an option to provide players with the opportunity to play at their desired level.

We are currently looking at formalising a short term alliance with the YMCC Hockey Club to provide these opportunities and other benefits to the players.

Coach and Umpire Training

Our experienced players are encouraged to share their expertise with other club members by becoming involved in coaching, umpiring or mentoring others.

We are currently developing a "**Coach the Coaches" program** which can be used by players and parents alike to provide quality, consistent and proven skill development. Players from Year 8 onwards will be encouraged to take on coaching roles with our younger teams. If you would like to be involved, contact Paul Edgar.

Similarly, we will be encouraging our players of all ages to umpire games and are arranging Umpire Training and Mentor programs to support our budding umpires. Contact Peta Berry with any questions you may have about this program.

Anyone interested in being a junior umpire in 2010, please contact Lila Gibbs.

Fundraising and Sponsorship

Fundraising and sponsorship is vital to our club and we have a number of volunteers working on this for next year. Our sponsorship guidelines are being reviewed but we would love to hear from you if you are able to assist us in any way.

An Important note about Grants

We now have a committee member dedicated to applying for grants for our club. It is important that all grants are applied for correctly and completely and for that reason all suggestions and queries should be directed to Linda Hart, who will manage grants for us.

The Social Side of Hockey

We have a number of committee members who are passionate about enhancing the social heart and culture of the club. We want to provide more social opportunities for all our players and families so keep an eye out for the social events that they are planning. With more juniors playing and training at Melvista and the possibility of us taking on the lease of the J. C. Smith Pavilion, we hope to create a true home for the club.

Lease

And on the J. C. Smith Pavilion Lease, following the unanimous support at the AGMs for pursuing the lease, we have a team working on that issue right now. There are many aspects to consider to ensure we get the outcome which is right for us. They remain positive and excited that it will provide an excellent opportunity for the club.

Introducing Minkey

As mentioned, we will be introducing a Lions minkey competition in 2010. Minkey is a modified game of hockey which teaches children in Years 1 and 2 the fundamental skills of hockey in a fun environment. The game will be played on 1/4 sized fields at Melvista on Saturday mornings with training on Thursday afternoons. Contact Garry Fitzpatrick for further information, or if you can help out as a co-ordinator or team manager.

POSITIONS VACANT

NEWS REPORTER

No experience necessary, just an ear to the ground and a willingness to contribute articles to the newsletter. Contact Lynne Mannolini.

COACHES

No experience necessary. Whether you are a parent or a player in Year 8 or above, take advantage of our new 'coach the coaches' manual and program and give something back to the club. Contact Paul Edgar for more information.

UMPIRES

We will be offering umpire training and a support and mentor program for any players or parents interested in learning to umpire. Contact Lila Gibbs with your name, age, contact number and email address.

TRAINEE EQUIPMENT MGR

No experience necessary, just a willingness to help our highly organised and experienced Property Manager. Contact Tracy Antill for more information.

CUB & MINKEY CO-ORDINATORS

We need some parents to liaise with local schools to recruit potential hockey players. Contact Garry Fitzpatrick for more information.

TEAM MANAGERS

Organised parents required to act as liaison between the club and team members. Check out our website for more info. Contact Katie McDonald if you can help as a team manager.

COOKS & SHOP ASSISTANTS

We are in need of helpers for our weekly sausage sizzles and cafe at the junior games, or if you'd rather help out in the bar for parents and seniors, please contact Lynn Matthews for more information.

UMPIRE CO-ORDINATOR #2

A team player (ie you aren't working alone) is required to assist with the placement of umpires for junior grade games. Armed with a list of available umpires, you just need to be able to ensure all games have an ump each week. Contact Lila Gibbs.

For information on becoming a sponsor of our club, visit us at www.riversidelionshc.org.au/sponsors.

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Here's a sneak preview of the new uniform design. The design will be incorporated into a number of options including T-shirt, singlet and vest styles. All teams (excluding combined Lions/YMCC teams) from J5/6 to adult will wear the new designs from 2010. Check out our website to see the complete range of items available. Further information will be forwarded shortly.

More vets teams
At the other end of the spectrum, we have a number of Vets teams playing in various competitions. We are always after new players, so contact us if you are interested, particularly to play on grass.

A Consistent Image
We currently sport 4 different uniform designs across our club and we are currently working on providing a uniform uniform! While we know we can't please everyone, we hope you will appreciate the importance of a consistent look. Cate and Sandra have been liaising with representatives from junior, men and women's teams and investigating potential suppliers. Check out the proposed design above, and the full range of items on our website.

Can you help?
We have been pleased to welcome many new faces to our committee, but remember they are just the core of the effort of keeping an amateur club going.

We need an army of volunteers to help with various tasks around the club from time to time. Whether you have a little or a lot of time to offer, we are sure to have a task you can help with. Check out the *positions vacant* column on the previous page and let us know if you can help with any of the jobs described.

Senior Pre-Season
A number of activities have been proposed for the pre-season fitness campaign for the seniors. We have planned to start our official training with a family beach run, swim and BBQ on Sunday 14 February. Keep an eye out on the website for dates and other events, including intra and inter club scratch matches. Senior turf training commences 16th March with first games on 17th April.

Club Welcome Day
We are already thinking ahead about our social events for 2010. We are planning to start the season with a club welcome day to coincide with our Registration Day on Saturday 20th February. We know it clashes with the Rotto Swim, but it is set by Hockey WA and we figured we'd make the best of it.

Picture jumpy castles, sausage sizzles, some demonstration (perhaps hilarious) hockey games. Stay tuned.

Registration
While we are not quite ready to accept registrations yet, we are keen to hear whether you are planning to return to Lions and if you have any friends to join you.

If you are a junior and haven't already let us know, please email Helen Quaife to indicate whether you are:
a) definitely playing in 2010
b) definitely NOT playing in 2010
c) unsure

Don't forget to include your name and school year level for 2010.

Merry Christmas
And finally, we would like to thank you all for your support over the season and wish you all a safe, relaxing and merry Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you all again for the 2010 hockey season.