

The Pride

The official newsletter of the Suburban Lions Hockey Club

Shenton Turf ripped to shreds

...see page 7



The Pride swells

Welcome to the first edition of "*The New Pride*", the official newsletter of the newly formed Suburban Lions Hockey Club. The colours of this newsletter may look a little bland, but that is because we are still in the process of refining our new club colours, logo and uniform. We plan to wow you with our new image very shortly. We're also on the lookout for a more interesting newsletter name, so if you have any great ideas, email Lynne at manno@bigpond.net.au

At the recent AGMs of Riverside Lions and Suburban Nedlands Hockey Clubs, members voted unanimously to amalgamate the clubs to form the Suburban Lions Hockey Club. The resulting unified club will bring many benefits to our players and families including improved mentoring, coaching and umpiring, efficiency of administration, expanded and ultimately improved community facilities and an increased influence and involvement in community and Hockey WA affairs.

We see the Lions juniors providing an excellent base for our future senior teams, and for all of our players, the opportunity to play in the level best suited to you. Many people have been working tirelessly over the last few months to ready us for season 2012. In particular, coaches and coaching structures are being put into place and the new colours, logo and uniform are being designed...

Dates for your Diary

9-14 Jan	Aust U15 Indoor Champs
9-19 Feb	International – 4 Nations @ PHS/Shenton
7-11 Mar	Korea Women @PHS/Shenton
20-24 Mar	Argentina Women @PHS/Shenton
18-20 Apr	U17 State Champs @ PHS
22 Apr	YMCC Junior Carnival @ Perry Lakes
28 Apr	J5/6 Carnival @ Yokine
2-4 Jun	CBH Group Men's Country Champs @ PHS
2-4 Jun	Bunbury Junior Hockey Carnival
22-24 Jun	CBH Group Women's Country Champs @PHS
1 Jul	Rookey Carnival
9-11 Jul	U13 State Champs @PHS

See also [HockeyWA Calendar 2012](#)

While the rest of us are slogging it out at school or work, Marc Pike is down south 'working'. Read all about his adventures at the Chestnut Grove Winery, working for the Kordic family on [Pikey's Down South Blog](#).



From the top...



It is with great pleasure that I make my first comments as President of Suburban Lions Hockey Club. I think we are going to have a very busy and enjoyable year developing our new club. A lot is already happening. Our senior women have had a training run with Neil Hawgood. Tregonning Field has been renovated this week and will be unavailable for use over the summer while the grass re-establishes itself hopefully into an excellent playing surface. Shenton's new London Blue turf has been laid and will be ready for use by 10 December.

Over the summer both the men's and women's National team will be training at Shenton. When their training schedule is finalised, I will publish the training times on the website.

Shenton is also expecting to host a number of international test matches through February/March 2012 involving the Australian teams and some of the top teams from around the world. Licensing club regulations will restrict adult attendance to five hundred per match and it is anticipated that for each test, our club will get a priority offer of two hundred tickets. Further detail on this will be published later.

Hockey WA has now advised us that (subject to challenge) both our men's and women's teams will have a Willow Bridge team, a Premier 2 team and a Promotion 2 team. This should allow plenty of opportunity for all of our elite players to secure a position in a good grade.

I think the challenges in the season ahead will be to ensure that we work with the Council so that the Tregonning playing surface returns to its status as a top hockey pitch. We will also need to communicate well with the players to ensure that players are not lost through the merger and I believe we need to capture the spirit of both former clubs to ensure that all of our players, both senior and junior, enjoy their hockey at all times.

To keep our junior program progressing well, it will be important that we develop a culture of senior players coaching and mentoring juniors. When recruiting senior players I believe we need to keep this in mind so that seniors coaching juniors becomes part of the culture of our club.

For my part, I believe that provided we provide a good playing and coaching environment where the enjoyment of every session is a priority then the results will in the end take care of themselves. As many top sports coaches have said in the past, we need to enjoy the journey and not focus on the destination.

I wish everyone the compliments of the season. Your committee will not be idle during the break as there is much to be done. I look forward to meeting all members in the New Year and would ask you all to support the Charles Harper Function which is being held on 20 December 2012 (details later in this newsletter).

Regards
Bevan Lawrence
President
Suburban Lions Hockey Club

Your new uniform

A small group of players have been working hard to design a new uniform. It has been a difficult and emotional process but we are determined to arrive at a design that acknowledges our past but reflects the exciting new future of our club.

All senior players will start the new season with a new uniform, commencing a transition period that will see our juniors (J5/6 – J11/12) change to the new uniform for season 2013. Minkey and Cubs players will continue to play in their school uniforms. We will ensure we have a second-hand or swap system in place so that all juniors will be able to access a Riverside Lions uniform for 2012, and provisions will be made for juniors that play occasional games in senior leagues.

Members have been invited to provide feedback on the three colour options before a final decision is made. To have your say, you must complete the survey by Sunday night (11 December). Your votes and comments will be taken into consideration for the final committee decision. The photos shown below are just a sample of the style options.



Website undergoing Renovation

Please bear with us while we update your [website](#) to represent your new club. In the future, we plan to renovate or redevelop, but in the meantime we just need to ensure we are combined into one site and set to go for registration for next season. There are still lots of areas to update and add, but if you have trouble finding anything on the website, contact Rox at rox.dawson@ascend7.com.au



Holiday Clinics

The Woodhouse Sports Academy will be running Elite Hockey Squads again in 2011/2012. Classes run over December 2011 and in January 2012. Each program will be run over a 4-week period and is designed to maintain and improve players' essential skill requirements for their age group and teach them new skills to prepare for the 2012 season. All classes will be run by National and International players/coaches. For more information, check out the Woodhouse Sports Academy [website](#).

Your new committee

With a brand new club comes a brand new committee and lots of exciting plans in mind for 2012 and beyond. We welcome your comments, ideas and suggestions at any time, so feel free to contact us via Katie McDonald at kmac@smartchat.net.au.

President	<i>Bevan Lawrence</i>
Vice President – Men	<i>James Leiper</i>
Vice President – Women	<i>Vicki McAllister</i>
Vice President – Juniors	<i>Garry Fitzpatrick</i>
Vice President – Operations	<i>Andrew Lang</i>
Vice President – Coaching	<i>Andrew Winter</i>
Vice President – Veterans	<i>Vaughan Cockerill</i>
Treasurer	<i>Rick Hopkins</i>
Secretary	<i>Katie McDonald</i>

General Committee Members

Rox Dawson

Sharon Maxwell

Hugh Singe

Rod White

Now, obviously these people can't do everything, so they will be calling for volunteers to fill various sub-committees and also to help out either regularly or as required in various roles.



No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Aesop

We need you

A club such as ours cannot operate without the wonderful help of many volunteers. From coaches, umpires and managers, to helping out on the BBQ, bar or canteen, from submitting an article or some photos or volunteering to help out on the committee, we need people like you. No matter how little time you may be able to offer, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Katie at kmac@smartchat.net.au.

Summer Hockey

With our usual Summer Hockey venue (ie Shenton Turf) out of action in the lead up to Christmas, many of our club members took the opportunity to play social evening 7-a-side hockey at Melvista Oval. Our aim was to provide a social hockey event from J5/6 through to seniors with a particular emphasis on encouraging mixed play at J7/8 age and mixed play at J9/10 and senior level. This encouraged new players, and players returning to the sport to "have a go".

With 235 registered players in 28 teams in 4 age groups, Friday nights proved very popular, with many staying on to enjoy the balmy nights and social atmosphere.

Thanks to Linda and Hugh for spearheading this initiative, and to their army of assistants for making this an outstanding success. We'd like to thank our umpires Harry Wallington, Adrian Baster, Pat Baster, Nicholas Hart, Cameron Dudfield and Annique Cockerill. A special mention goes to Vicki McAllister for organizing the BBQ and her amazingly popular sell-out chicken wraps. Also, a big thanks to Cameron Dudfield and Lochlan Maxwell for their work at the bar, and Paul and Julie Luscombe for providing encouragement and support for the newcomers to bar management and service and to Sharon Maxwell and Cate Mansfield for providing assistance when we were short of a few helping hands.

Thanks also to the many parents and players that fulfilled their rosters on the BBQ.

We have to say it has been an outstanding success.



Hall for Hire

Did you know our hall is for hire? The J.C. Smith Pavilion at Melvista Oval is available for club members and community groups to hire. Full kitchen facilities available. Contact Lynn Matthews on 0417 215 185 or lynnmatthews@bigpond.com for further information



Coaching News

The coaching groups for both the men and women are now taking shape and our junior co-ordinator is on board. Our objective is to have every player enjoying training as much as playing games.

Suburban Lions is committed to creating a powerful and modern coaching environment where the structure and skills being developed in the top men's and women's teams are seamlessly transferred to the other senior and junior coaches. The coaching directorate will work with Marc Pike who will be the junior coaching co-ordinator charged with disseminating coaching information to the junior coaches.

Our Head Coach for men will be Andrew (Teddy) Winter with Peter Freitag and Edny Vanderbroek assisting. We also hope to have Matty Bowen involved with the Premier 2 team. Regular training sessions will be run by current or ex Kookaburra players where particular areas of need are identified.

Our women's coaching team will be headed by Paul Edgar with Neil (Harpo) Hawgood and Matty Bowen. Harpo is the Head Coach of the WAIS Women's Hockey program and has been a professional elite hockey coach for more than a decade.

With our strong membership of excellent junior players, we are well placed to give our juniors playing experience at a senior level appropriate to their development and skills, while still playing for juniors. Experience suggests that the accelerated development of juniors works for both the club and the player.

The merger of Subs and Lions has created great excitement both within the new club and from other sectors of the hockey community. The retention of



*Meet the coaches –
(No photo of Edny
Vanderbroek was
available at time of
publication)*

most of the players in the Men's squad is particularly exciting as history is littered with stories of an exodus of players after a team is relegated.

The merged club of Suburban Lions is committed to improving its player list through commitment to excellence in coaching and the development and promotion of juniors. However, it is inevitable that players will approach us because they like what we are doing or they are unhappy where they are. The Club is committed to extend a warm invitation to these players and they will be given the same opportunities as the rest of our playing group.

If club members are approached by potential players or volunteers they should feel free to give them this note.

However, Please Note: Suburban Lions club policy is that we do not poach players. Our experience is that such practices result in friction within existing playing groups and potential disappointment for incoming players who are given commitments that are not met. The clubs objectives centre around success being derived through player/team enjoyment and development and problems experienced with poaching practices create unnecessary barriers in this regard.

Queries & contacts: Teddy Winter 0449 901 900 or Paul Edgar 0419 949 586

Shenton ripped to Shreds

(from Page 1)



The green turf has been replaced with a state-of-the-art blue "London Olympic" turf. Early inspections proved that the shock pad (kind of like the carpet underlay) was still in good condition and so did not need to be replaced, saving a substantial sum of money.

Despite the trials the wharfie's strike presented us, laying of the new turf began on 24 November and is nearing completion. Wayne Kendle's long days in the sun laying the new turf have obviously addled his brain, with his tongue-in-cheek announcement:

"A unilateral decision has been taken by the installation crew that Hockey is no longer a profitable venture..... We have therefore installed on behalf of the 4 clubs a swimming poolThis new lake is large enough to host dragon boat events and we are able to fit 95 swimmers in their own lanes for a 50 metre swim length".

Why not? We had ice hockey a year ago, why not underwater hockey in 2012? It looks fantastic. Congratulations to Wayne and his crew for a job well done.

Some club days will be scheduled to allow our member to come along and have a hit – so keep an eye out for emails.



Charlotte makes the grade

Charlotte Quaife is one of 9 Western Australian women to be selected to represent Australia in the 8th Women's Floorball Championships in St. Gallen, Switzerland in early December.

The team competed at the last World Champs held in Sweden in 2009 and won their division, giving automatic qualification for this year's World Championships.

Australia has been drawn in Pool B along with Germany, Latvia and the much favoured Finland team.

The team leaves for Switzerland on the 24th November to attend an intensive training camp before competing.

Charlotte played in the Willowbridge and Women's Promotion 2 leagues for Riverside Lions in 2011. We wish Charlotte and her team all the very best in their matches.

The Charles Harper Club

providing support since 1977

Charles Harper was a dynamic, and energetic Subs player and former Club President from the late 1970s/early 1980s – he was also a vital member of the premiership-winning Classic League team of that era.

Charles established the Suburban Ex-Players and Supporters Association (SEPSA) during his reign as a way to help Subs raise funds and provide extra support which could not be met by normal player subscriptions.

Unfortunately Charles died aged a very young 42, and as acknowledgement of his considerable service to Subs and in honour of his death, SEPSA was re-named "The Charles Harper Club".

The aim of the Charles Harper Club is to provide additional funding to the club for:

- Raising player skill levels
- Enhancing Sub's performances on the field
- Attracting new elite players to the club
- Enhancing facilities for all Subs' members

The Charles Harper Club has provided Subs with invaluable financial support since 1977, including a large contribution to the development of the Shenton Turf. And it's not just financial support: the Charles Harper Club also encourages members to watch our teams play and organises many functions around our elite teams' fixtures.

This fine tradition will continue now that we are the Suburban Lions and our first Charles Harper Event will occur on 20 December 2011. We look forward to your support.

Grab this chance to reconnect with old hockey mates.



Charles Harper Club Xmas Drinks at The Village Bar, Subiaco

U 10/531 Hay Street,
Subiaco Village

All Suburban Lions players, ex
players & supporters
welcome

20 December 2011
16:00 – 19:30

Contact Rox Dawson
Phone: 08 9200 4277 or
Email: chc@suburbanlions.org