



## **NEWSLETTER APRIL 2009**

Welcome all to our first newsletter for 2009! Trials have been completed, teams have been selected and training sessions are well under way. Mt Eden is in good shape for what looks like a very promising season. There's lots of news to share already and we start this newsletter by wishing everybody a healthy, happy and sensational season of hockey!

### **THE COMMITTEE**

We have some new Committee members on board this season! Check out the club website where you'll find out more about all of our Committee members... Raj Mavji, Neil Middleton, Vandana Patel, Peter Clifford, Clayton Barnett, David Tearne, Merrin Laurenson, Nici Stirrup and Luke Seeney. Check this site each week also for the team lists, photos, draw results, club news and for the up-to-date results for every team  
[www.mtedenhockey.org.nz](http://www.mtedenhockey.org.nz)

**Photos** - Peter Clifford will also be uploading photos during the year onto the following site:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/sertec.nz/INDIANSERIES?feat=directlink#>

Please feel free to send in your own photos to be uploaded. You can send them to either Peter or Merrin at [office@mtedenhockey.org.nz](mailto:office@mtedenhockey.org.nz)

### **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

Welcome to the start of the 2009 season. I'm especially grateful for the return of our past members and extend a special welcome to all our new members. The executive and I have been very busy these past few weeks organising the trials and preparing for the start of the season. So behind the scenes there has been a lot of hard work done by volunteers, to make your season and club membership different and more enjoyable than what other clubs may have to offer. As always we welcome support from our members in any way, so if you have an idea, want to help or just give us some feedback, please e-mail our club secretary, Merrin Laurenson at [office@mtedenhockey.org.nz](mailto:office@mtedenhockey.org.nz).

It is important that everyone becomes familiar with your club captains: Peter Clifford for the Men and Vandana Patel for the Women. These two provide the link between the members, the executive and the coaches. I urge you all to make sure you meet them at some stage as they're both really likable people who both have it in their hearts to make sure you enjoy your time with Mt Eden Hockey. If you have children or relatives young enough to play Junior hockey, be sure to click on the Juniors link on our website at [www.mtedenhockey.org.nz](http://www.mtedenhockey.org.nz) and find out about how you can get them started. Alison Davison runs this side of the club for us and we're too scared to think what life could be like without her!

By now you will know which teams you have been selected for and who your coaches are. My challenge to the coaches was to select the strongest squads for each team prioritising from the top teams down. Our policy is to field the strongest team each weekend, especially in the Premier grades. This has made our coaches' job very difficult especially when they can only realistically select a squad of about 13 players. I'm very conscious of the fact that some players may feel disappointed about their selection, but I urge those that didn't make their preferred team to push players for a spot on that team. Our coaches are very aware that season is long and a player's form can change. As a result squads will get re-jigged as the season progresses to ensure the best team takes the field. The coaches will also accommodate players that want to train in higher teams to help improve their game, so don't be shy is asking to go along to other teams trainings.

Other executive committee members you will become familiar with are our social co-ordinators, Clayton Barnett and Dave Tearne who plan and organise the club's social activities and events. Of course if you have an idea for a club event, let Clayton and Dave know so they can look at how it can be added to the "event calendar". Our first event is a Lawn Bowls challenge! For more details read further on or check out our website. Speaking of the website, have you seen it recently? Kirsten Henderson volunteers a lot of her personal time to keep it looking snappy and up to date. If you want your team or game photo uploaded, e-mail it to our secretary who will pass it on. We have created a Mt Eden Hockey Club Facebook Group. A link to this group will be added to our club website shortly or you can find the club group on Facebook directly, so keep your eye out for this!

I'll be around to some of the trainings and games this year, so if you see me, be sure to say hello. I'll apologise in advance - I'm really not that good with names, so if you see me smiling politely, I'm just really sorry that I forgot your name!

All the best for the season and like Hannah Montana says: "Life's what you make it, so lets make it rock!"

Raj

**SEASON START UP**

Dates to remember...

Inter Provincial Challenge	28/29 March & 4 April
Festival of Hockey Tournament P2	5 April & 19 April
Festival of Hockey Tournament P3 & Champ	18/19 April
Competition start date P1 Men & Women	18 April
Competition start date P2 Men & Women	26 April
Competition start date P3 & Championship	25/26 April
Competition end date P1 Men & P1 Women	15 August
Competition end date P2, P3 & Championship	5/6 September
No Play Weekends	11/12 April (Easter), 29/30 May (Queens Birthday)

**BIG UPS**

A big congratulations to Veronica Sowerby from the 2008 P2W. Veronica and Anthony welcomed a little girl, Annabelle Jane at 8pm on Thursday 5th of March 2009. Well done V. Hope to see you back playing hockey soon too!!!

A huge thank you to Louise Major and Georgina Miller for organising gear for all Senior and Junior teams!!!

Well done to P2W team for winning their warm up game 3-0 last week against Howick Pac. Great starts ladies!!!

Another huge thank you goes out to Kirsten Henderson for doing such a great job with the club website!

Congratulations to Taylor Abanathy and Jacob Smith for having made the Auckland U18 Development team!  
Well done guys and good luck!

**IN MEMORIAL**

The club would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to Charlotte Brown, whose mother passed away recently.



### **UMPIRING AND COACHING**

Level One **Coaching** Course - "Hockey Specific"

WHEN: Friday 3rd – Saturday 4th April 2009  
TIME: 6.00pm-8.45pm (3rd April)  
9.00am-3.30pm (4th April)  
WHERE: Lloyd Elsmore Hockey Stadium, Pakuranga  
COST: \$60.00 per person

This course is designed for coaches of 11 aside hockey & includes: HNZ Playing Policy, Game Analysis, Dribbling, Passing & Receiving, Goal Scoring, Tackling, Goalkeeping, Set Plays, Injury Prevention & Rules/Umpiring.

If anyone is interested please contact Vandana Patel 0211249639 or email [vandanapat@gmail.com](mailto:vandanapat@gmail.com)  
AHUA - Club **Umpires** Forum

The Auckland Hockey Umpires Association will be hosting a session for Club Umpires covering all Rules, Interpretations and Game Management.

This coaching evening will be held...

WHEN: Monday 30th March  
TIME: 7.00pm – 8.30pm  
WHERE: Auckland Grammar School Hockey Pavilion, Normanby Rd, Mt Eden

If anyone is interested please contact Vandana Patel 0211249639 or email [vandanapat@gmail.com](mailto:vandanapat@gmail.com)

### **\*UMPIRING ROSTER**

Each week the Auckland Umpires Association provides umpires for the Premier grades (and sometimes Champ grades). We have to provide Club umpires for our own Championship Grade games and for our U15 and U18 games. Each senior team is responsible for providing the required umpire and this will be organised by the umpiring coordinator for each team. Everybody will be required to umpire at least two games throughout the season.

AHA run umpiring courses early in the season and it is recommended that you take advantage of these to up-skill and gain confidence for your umpiring duty. Check-out [www.akhockey.org.nz](http://www.akhockey.org.nz) for details of next course.

In closing from your exec, we wish you all a great start to the season. We look forward to seeing you on the turf playing some stylish, good spirited hockey as a proud Mt Eden Club member.

### **2009 FEES**

Here's a friendly reminder that fee payments are due very soon.

Premier - \$445 **due by 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009** to receive your \$50 early bird discount!

Championship - \$390 **due by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009** to receive your \$50 early bird discount!

For further information on **fee discounts** and **payment methods** then please visit our club website at [www.mtedenhockey.org.nz](http://www.mtedenhockey.org.nz)

There will be a '**no pay, no play**' policy enforced in 2009 to prevent the non-payment of fees.



### **THE JUNIOR CLUB**

We are doubling our Youth teams from two to four teams this season. We are also increasing our numbers at the younger age groups, to form a record 18 teams - all needing coaching, umpires and a lot of organisation! Are there any senior players out there who can help out with coaching a team or two? Furthermore, during one of last year's practices our 11th grade enjoyed a visitation from one of the Premier women, and it would be great to repeat that on a regular basis.

Teams need to be prepared to share the umpiring on Friday nights, or Sunday afternoons for the Youth teams, so get your umpiring credentials up to date! Otherwise, senior players should just come along during our Junior practices, have a look and admire the future of Mt Eden Hockey!

For all Junior Club enquiries and if anyone knows of any other budding hockey players at year 1&2 (mini), year 3&4 (6th grade) or year 5&6 (8th grade) then please email Alison Davies at [juniors@mtedenhockey.org.nz](mailto:juniors@mtedenhockey.org.nz) to enquire about registration chances.

### **HOCKEY HISTORY**

Did you know that traces of the game of hockey have been found throughout history and the world? Historical records show that game was played in various antique civilizations, although it is not possible to know exactly when and where the game began. 4000-year-old drawings found in tombs in the Nile Valley, Egypt depicted men playing the sport. Other traces show that the Persians, the Romans, the Ethiopians, as well as the Aztecs were playing their own variation of the game. The word 'hockey' may derive from the Anglo-Saxon word for 'hook', hok; alternatively, it may come from the French word for a shepherd's crook, hocquet.

**Mt Eden Club History** - Prior to 1991 our club was known as the Mt Eden Women's Hockey Club. Up until 1988 (when the first turf went in at LEP), a lot of the Women's Clubs were Women only, and Mt Eden was one of the most staunch! However, if you go back further in Mt Eden's history, (we are one of the very early Club's founded in approx. 1913) we did have men's teams, although in the late 1940's the men for some reason peeled off to form the Roskill Eden Club.

In approximately 1992, the club commenced its plan to develop a men's club again by partnering with the Teachers men's team (a club of just one team). Shortly afterwards the 'women's' part was dropped from the club name, and Mt Eden Hockey Club was born in its current form, with its own men's team. Most of the original Teachers players retired shortly after the merger. However, that probably had more to do with the faster games following the introduction of artificial turf, then any stigma of joining a women's club! One player from that original Teachers men's team is still playing today for Mt Eden.

### **QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions about anything please feel free to e-mail us at [office@mtedenhockey.org.nz](mailto:office@mtedenhockey.org.nz), shoulder tap your committee members or go to [www.mtedenhockey.org.nz](http://www.mtedenhockey.org.nz).

And so concludes the first official newsletter of 2009. There will be a further newsletter issued later on this year, so in the meantime, play hard and fair but above all – ENJOY!!