

HILLHEAD HIGH SCHOOL WAR MEMORIAL TRUST AGM

22nd JULY 2020

REPORTS FROM THE SECTIONS

CRICKET (John Ferguson, Chair)

On field, the 2019 season was a disappointment.

The 1st XI finished in 8th position in Division 2 of the WDCU. The 2nd XI finished bottom of Division 3 and were relegated to Division 4.

In the shorter forms of the game, the senior sides fared slightly better, with the Evening League XI missing out on promotion by 1 point and the Western Cup XI failing to reach the knockout stages on net run rate.

Our junior sides once again continued to thrive. We had 2 stand alone sides at under 11 and under 12 age groups and a joint side at under 14. The under 11s narrowly missed out on winning their league.

The club also once again ran the very successful Allstars programme for 5-8 year olds on Friday nights. We had 31 regularly attending over the 8 week period. The juniors also had regular winter training at Hillhead Secondary.

Our major success was the installation of our long-awaited outdoor practice nets. My thanks to everyone at the cricket and sports club who helped make this project happen.

The club continued with its “Hillhead CC in the Community” programme in partnership with the Sports Hub and Glasgow Life. During May and June 2019 we delivered sessions to 5 local schools giving 452 pupils a chance to participate in some cricket drills and games. This included a 3 week session at Notre Dame Secondary with a view to increasing female participation in cricket.

In January 2020 we started our winter indoor nets at Glasgow Academy. These were very well attended and we managed to recruit around 12 potential new members.

In March Covid-19 struck.

Our league season has been postponed and our plans for the season have been put on hold. The fundraising events, including the Craik Cup annual dinner planned for November have also been cancelled.

Very recently, limited practice has resumed. We await further Scottish Government approval for a restart on 1st August. Should this be allowed, we have plans to have a mini local league lasting approx 6 weeks.

Should cricket not restart, it would be around 20 months since our last game (August 2019) and if we have to wait until 2021, our fear is members drift away to sports they are allowed to play.

RUGBY (Gary Kitchener, President)

Ladies and men's league all abandoned this season due to Covid-19.

PRE COVID-19

Girls youth teams at U18 and U15, undergoing major reconstruction after many problems with festivals and drift away by players due to lack of competitive games.

Good mini numbers and continue to work with local schools for boys youth

Hills u12s represented Glasgow at major tournament in France

Ladies finished 2nd in league with an 80% win rate and quarter finals in cup and continue to have representation in national teams. Special mention to Mairi McDonald on her 1st cap for Scotland

1st XV mens end up mid-table winning 55% of matches, 2ndXV mens just held their own in a much tougher league winning 35% of games and 2As winning around 45% of matches, however a few matches not played due to lack of opposition. Drift away of players once league finished pre-Christmas.

Third year in a row in the black re finances, however Covid-19 will put a huge strain on income over the coming months of inactivity

Several changes in committee structure, requiring new volunteers to fill a couple of roles including communications

Overhaul of website being currently undertaken, including rationalising social media pages.

New coaches have now been appointed and Covid-19 protocols are well under way.

I would like to thank Grahame and Dean for their time and efforts over the last season and wish them good fortune in their next ventures. Also would like to welcome Tonci as our new head coach.

SHINTY (Dougie Luke)

Glasgow Mid Argyll are the only senior Shinty Club in Glasgow. Last season we had two men's teams, one women's team and also started an under 14 development team which provided a pathway into senior shinty from the various junior clubs in the greater Glasgow Area.

Our men's 1st team had a successful 2019 season gaining promotion from the National to the Premier league and were unlucky to lose out to Fort William after extra time in the final of

the Balliemore Cup (shinty's national competition for intermediate teams). Our men's 2nd team retained their league spot in South Division One and reached the final of the Bullough Cup. Our women's team are going through a transition phase at present having lost a number of senior players and are now bringing through a number of young players, building for the future. The National Mod was held in Glasgow in October 2019 and both our men's and women's team won their respective Mod Shinty Cups

The club was looking forward to the commencement of the 2020 season in March and had carried out a full and varied pre season training programme in preparation for a season amongst Shinty's elite. As always we returned to Hughenden for pre-season training under the floodlights in January but due to the wet weather were only able to train there on 3 nights.

In late March, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Camanachd Association took the decision to cancel all competitive shinty and training, with the men not having started their league campaign and the women having played one match.

During lockdown, our players have continued training through virtual Zoom sessions and have established an active Strava club which has kept players active despite these unprecedented circumstances. At the time of writing this report we have yet to get the go ahead to recommence shinty training and the ruling body have taken the decision to suspend all 2020 shinty competition. The shinty season normally runs from March through to October and we remain hopeful that we may be able to fit in some 'local' shinty mini league before the winter shutdown.

Glasgow Mid Argyll remain very keen to maintain our links with Hillhead Sports Club and Hub and hope very much that we will be able to get back to training at Hughenden and use of the club for our committee meetings and social events in the near future.

TENNIS (Stuart Trotter, Secretary)

We have had a good year with a total of 28 teams playing in various league and cup competitions and had 12 teams in first or second position in the leagues and so we have a lot of promotions in a very successful year. Our membership continues to grow steadily and we have had a recent spike in new members as the lockdown was eased.

We are very fortunate among all the sports within the club to have been able to resume tennis and this has been very positively received by all our members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gary Kitchener for all his work and support in reopening the courts. The courts have been exceptionally busy and thankfully the weather has allowed us to play a lot of tennis.

We are currently looking to replace our head coach as our long-standing coach Gordon McGuigan has recently resigned. Gordon was with us for many years and we appreciate his work and input to the club. We look forward to moving on and developing a coaching program with a new person in place as soon as possible.

Sadly this year with COVID-19 outbreak and lockdown we have had no inter-club tennis and this will be the case throughout the year. However, Tennis Scotland have announced an

amended shortened season which will have no promotions or demotions but will allow us to get some competitive matches played.

It has been nice to see some of the rugby and cricket members playing tennis and also many of our own section (generally doubles players) strutting their stuff in singles, so our overall fitness level should be good.