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Newsletter 13 March 2006

Dear All,

After a slow start, the attendance and standard of hockey on Tuesday and Thursday nights has been fantastic, thanks in no small part to the addition of several new members from Canterbury University. We have been playing in selected teams which has helped with positioning and also has created harder games. If you have not been down for a while, come down and enjoy the excellent hockey that is being played at the moment.

I would like to remind everyone that we have the pool from 4 until 6 on Sundays as well. This is a useful time for a more social game, as well as for training for the upcoming South Island Champs on May 27 in Invercargill.

See you on the bottom!

Matt Toohey
President

South Islands – Roadtrip to Invercargill

We want to send our strongest combination to the South Islands in May. Bryn has organised with a bus company next door to his work to provide low-cost transport. We need a commitment from all those who want to play soon, so please email me back if you are interested with your grade. We should have at least 2 A-grade teams plus a C-grade made up of those schools players interested plus any decrepits who want to come down with us. We will be selecting for regionals based on this tournament, so please come if you can. I am particularly interested in getting our Masters players in the pool as I think we can have a really good Masters team this year and Bryn and I will be looking for players

to compete at Masters level at the regionals. Once we know numbers, we will do a budget and apply for funding. Please make your mind up this week if you can so Mark, Bryn and I can organise who is playing with whom and we can make an early start on the funding application. Invercargill is great fun and we will make a very social go of it after the tournament.

Fundraising

We have three tournaments in Christchurch this year and we do most of our fundraising through the assembly of the barriers for the tournaments. We need about ten people in order to get them in the water in about 90 minutes and this usually happens on the Friday night before the tournament. We get \$500 for the barrier hire from UWH NZ, so please help us out. We have used club funds to subsidise tournaments and gear and we need to do this as a group to ensure the further excellent financial health of the club.

If you are involved in the Invercargill trip, you also have the opportunity to do your own team fundraising for the tournament fees and trip costs – please get this approved by the committee first.

Gear

The club also has a stock of gear for sale at cheap prices. Bryn brings it down with him every time and you need to bring cash or a cheque to get him to open the bag. We have gloves, the new plastic sticks, hats, subsidised mens club speedos for \$10 (now we have so many female members, we can probably do a run of female togs – please let us know if you are keen).

Head Shots

We are pretty strict about these – 2 minutes out of the pool for contact with the head and play stops while we check the victim, regardless of whether it was intentional or not. We want to play hard, but fair.

Very Boring Yawn Yawn Paperwork

We have sent out the new membership forms (email this morning from Bryn). This includes the code of conduct from UWH NZ. We protested to UWH NZ about the need for a signed code of conduct as being excess paperwork for you, us and them. However, we agree in principle that we should be nice to each other in and out of the pool and we are going to have to fill it out this year at least. Please fill out the forms and pay the subs in the next couple of weeks. We need to get this sorted out and back to UWHNZ before the South Islands to ensure they will allow us to play.

Joke

A bear, a lion and a chicken meet.

Bear says: "If I roar in the forest, the entire forest is shivering with fear."

Lion says: "If I roar in the desert, the entire desert is afraid of me."

Says the chicken: "Big deal, I only have to cough, and the entire planet s*'s itself."**

Feedback

If anyone wants to submit something for the next newsletter (or indeed write it themselves!), then please email me your contribution. I will publish the next newsletter once we have selected the Invercargill teams.