



# **NASC WOMBATS HOCKEY CLUB**

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## **NEWSLETTER**

**April 2008**

The 2008 hockey season is underway with 4 weeks already passed. We have survived the dreaded middle week of the holidays so hopefully all teams should now be able to settle into some routine.

The Div 1 Men are holding firm on top of the ladder and look forward to a good season in a strongly contested competition.

We finally have a Div 1 Womens team and we welcome all the new players to the club. The team includes players who travel from Wagga each week to play and as such this team wears red Wagga socks with the Wombats uniform and is known as the Wagga Wombats. Their coach, Bruce also travels down and assists Jon in the coaching box. The girls won their first match and have been competitive in all other matches proving that they are a great addition to the Womens Div 1 competition.

Both Div 2 and Div 3 women include many juniors experiencing senior hockey for the first time and they and their team mates are improving every week. It is great to see them using their skills against more experienced players.

The U16 boys have had a disjointed start as the fixtures have not been kind to them. They have only played one game and have no game again this weekend. This team is still looking for extra players so if you know any 15 or 16 year old boys interested in playing, please talk to someone on the committee. The U14 boys are finding their feet in the step up from U12's and are proving to be very competitive against in a lot of cases much taller opposition. The U12 Boys started the season against a very strong opposition but since then they have had a win and a draw.

The U16 girls are equal first on the ladder and should be strong contenders this year. The U14 girls are also doing very well with two wins and third place on the ladder. The U12 girls have many young players who are having their first season of hockey. Some games have been very difficult but the girls are learning to play and have won their first game. Whilst we have the girls, some more 10 or 11 year old girls would assist them to develop, so if you know someone that might be interested, please get them to come to training.

### **Selections**

All senior teams are uploaded to our website after training on Thursday night and should be able to be viewed on Friday. Please check to see where you are playing. To assist in the selection process could all junior and senior women advise their coach or manager if you are unavailable to play for a particular week and senior men please advise Julie Versteegen or Andrew Leah.

Remember that games do change so please regularly check the Hockey Albury Wodonga website at <http://www.hockeyalburywodonga.com.au> in the information/fixtures section. We now have noticeboards at training so please check these for important information and game times.

### **Uniforms**

New shorts have arrived and we expect the new shirts to be here this week. Please see Ann Bartram, Cayte Campbell or Leanne Johnston if you require any uniform.

### **Fees**

Thanks to all those players, especially the juniors, who have paid their fees. Seniors – please get your act into gear and hand monies to Cayte, Leanne or Joy at training or managers at games. There is also the option to negotiate a payment arrangement with Joy so please do so ASAP. The new fee structure will take effect after the first 6 weeks of competition so please ensure you have spoken to someone before then to take advantage of the cheaper fees.

### **NASC Membership**

If you have not renewed your membership at the North Albury Sports Club please do ASAP. Please remember that we are affiliated with the club so don't forget to drop in sometimes for a drink or meal.

### **Training Times**

Junior - Thursday 5.30pm til 6.30pm. Senior - Thursday 6.30pm til 7.30pm

Training is extremely important. If you are unable to attend training please let your coach know before hand to help assist in team selection.

We encourage any juniors who play seniors to stay for senior training as well as their junior training.

### **Club day**

HAW is scheduling all clubs with "Club days" where all teams will play in Albury on a Saturday. Our club day is this Saturday, 26 April. Our club day starts at 8.15am with the first juniors match and goes till 6.30pm with the last seniors match being played. Please hang around, watch some other teams playing and support our club. Unfortunately for us it is a long weekend and some people will be away however we intend to do our best to encourage those of you that can make it to come and join us in supporting our Div 1 Womens and Mens teams when they play at 2pm and 3.30pm respectively. Both of these games are against Wodonga and will showcase some skilled hockey and talented players from both teams, so grab a sausage and a drink from the BBQ, a warm rug from the car and join us in the stands to support our players. We will have another club day scheduled in mid August where we hope to focus on supporting our junior teams and have a family club day.

### **Rep Sides**

HAW has announced most of their representative teams. Once again Wombats are well represented in all age groups. Congratulations to the following players on their selection:

U13 Boys – Jamin Barrett, Ben Hooppell, Ryen Versteegen, Zac Kraich, Ethan Savige

U15 Boys – Lauchlan Carey, James Ellis, John Waters

U13 Girls - Sammy Delmenico, Cassie Lee, Catherine Pratt, Tegan Rennie, Amy Rooke

U15 Girls - Marlee Barber, Mallory Campbell, Jess Hooppell, Sanne Norden, Rebecca Rixon

U17 Girls – Brydie Campbell

### **NASC Raffle**

By now you will have received a NASC raffle book to sell. NASC provide the prizes for this raffle and the only requirement for us is to sell the tickets with most of the profit of these sales coming directly to the club. For Wombats it is a good source of income to assist in the purchase of equipment. We try to ensure that every family only gets one book of tickets to sell and while the timeframe is short we would like to see as many tickets sold as possible. Please remember to return your ticket stubs to Joy, Leanne or Cayte or your team manager by 8 May. If you did not receive raffle tickets and can sell some, please contact Joy.

### **Junior Pizza & Trivia Night**

The Junior trivia night is on 15 May. Cost for the night will be \$6 per head. This includes pizza, a drink and an icecream. Money must be to your manager by the 8th (with your raffle tickets). Further details will be sent by email closer to the date.

### **Movie Night**

The club is organising a movie night for later in the year. We have elected to have a family movie night and will be going to see Kung Fu Panda which has some good reviews. More information on cost of tickets and the date will be sent later by email.

### **Mini Hockey & U10's**

This is a fun way of commencing hockey and is played on the synthetic surfaces. The season commences on Mon 28 April from 4.45 to 6.00pm. Sticks and balls are provided but you can use your own. If you would like to play just go to the Albury ground about 4.30 on the 28th.

### **Discipline**

The club is taking steps to ensure that all teams play within the spirit of hockey and that we are fulfilling our duty of care to our players. To assist in this it has been decided that where a player has received a yellow card they must return to the dugout and check in with the coach or senior team member before taking the field again. This will enable the coach to assess the on field situation and the disposition of the player. Coaches and managers also have the committee's endorsement to remove a player from the game if they are "becoming heated or acting in an inappropriate manner". This proactive intervention may then prevent a yellow card being issued. Please support the club in this matter.

### **Condolences**

The members of Wombats express their deepest sympathy to Tom, Simon, Damien Swaby and family and extend their condolences on the passing of their mother Trish. Trish was well known in Hockey circles and would often be seen on the sideline supporting her family at Wombats, SS&A and North's games. Our Div 1 men played in black armbands last Sunday as a sign of respect for Tom.

We were also saddened with the news of the passing of Dotty Bates last month. Dotty (70) played for many years with Wombats and in Albury Veterans teams and last played in our Div 3 women's team three seasons ago. A true lady in every sense of the word. Sympathy to Marle and her family.

Our sympathy and condolences are also extended to Kerry Brown and her family on the passing of her Grandfather on the 17th of April. Kerry is currently in Queensland with her family at this sad time.

***Juniors - Just reminder that mouth guards and shin pads are required for training and all matches.***

***Seniors – We STRONGLY recommend that all players where a mouth guard and shin pads at training and during all match.***

**NASC Wombats Committee 2008**

