



Shackleton Scholarship Fund

QUALITY OF LIFE

APPLICATION – BALL

HOCKEY – AUG 2017

Falklands Xtreme Sports

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“Falklands Xtreme’s mission is to provide a fun, alternative and quality extreme sports service for people of all ages and to ensure that members are the focus of all activities”

Introduction

Falklands Xtreme Sports is a Falkland Islands based sports club geared towards providing those extreme sports to the community. It was established in May 2016 with ball hockey the first sport to be launched due to there being a large amount of players playing inline and who were looking for hockey to play in the summer season.

Falklands Xtreme Sports Goals are as follows:

- To provide a fun, alternative and quality extreme sports service for people of all ages and to ensure that members are the focus of all activities.
- To offer coaching and competitive opportunities in extreme sports
- To promote extreme sports
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club
- To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone
- To ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment

Membership

Current player membership stands at 85 players with 37 senior players (36 males and 1 female) aged from 16+ and 48 Junior players aged from 7-12 years.

The 2017-18 senior league has seen a 21% increase in player recruitment and overall a 65% increase in all player membership since inception.

Year	Senior Players	Junior Players
2016-17	29	0
2017-18	37	48

Competition Information

During the launch season of 2016 there were 3 competitions introduced to the senior players.

- The FIC Xtreme Trophy
- Morrison Xtreme League
- Dynasafe BACTEC Xtreme Cup

The FIC Xtreme Trophy is a mini league with teams playing each other twice with the first placed team taking the trophy. The Morrison Xtreme League is the main competition and is a simple league format with teams playing each other 4 times.

Teams final places in the Morrison Xtreme League are then utilized to assist with the makeup of the Dynasafe BACTEC Cup with 1st placed facing off against 3rd place and 2nd place facing off against 4th place. All teams would play each other in a 5 game series before moving to a 1 game final and a 3rd placed play off.

In 2016-17 there were 4 teams vying for top spots;

- Goose Green Cavaliers
- Port Howard Patriots
- Walker Creek Warriors
- Hill Cove Hurricanes

Due to an increase in player membership in 2017-18 season a fifth senior team was created, Spring Point Spartans, to compete with the already established teams from 2016-17 season.

The 2017-18 season also seen the inception of the junior Morrison Xtreme League with 6 teams introduced;

- Goose Green Cavaliers
- Port Howard Patriots
- Walker Creek Warriors
- Hill Cove Hurricanes
- Spring Point Spartans
- Fitzroy Foxes

Current Status

Falklands Xtreme Sports is as can be seen from the statistical information continuing to grow and develop its ball hockey membership. We are a member of the International Street and Ball Hockey Federation (ISBHF) and classified as a growing nation, affiliated with the Infant and Junior School (IJS) which is enabling the sport to be introduced and developed at 'grass root' levels and are a member of the Falkland Islands Overseas Games Association (FIOGA).

There currently is no higher association that oversees ball hockey in the Falkland Islands and one could say that Falklands Xtreme Sports is that association as we are the only club playing the sport in a nation with a population of 3000 people. FIOGA mentioned above is an association that sporting clubs can attain membership with to help raise that clubs profile, tap into government and private funds, obtain support and assistance in pushing sport further in the Falkland Islands and finally assisting with Small Island Games and Commonwealth Games attendance.

FIOGA is a group of sports clubs that are working together to ensure sport has a voice and to raise the profile of the Falkland Islands.

Quality of Life Application

During 21st-31st August 2017 Junior players and senior players were able to benefit from coaching and training from Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) coaches, Gary Slavin and Dave Weloy. Funding for this trip was obtained via the Shackleton Scholarship Fund Quality of Life Application which helped fund for flights and accommodation.

Gary and Dave brought a wealth of ball hockey experience with them and provided a wealth of information to the club to be utilised once they had left. Training schedules, drills and tactical information was provided to assist with Falkland Islands team participation in future International Street and Ball Hockey Federation (ISBHF) World Championships.

Gary has been a part of the ball hockey scene in Canada since 1989 when he played men's ball hockey in British Columbia (BC). He continued to play men's ball hockey as a goaltender at various league levels in BC until 2009. His training background includes his technical certification with Respect In Sport, Hockey Safety HCSP Trainer, NCCP (National Coaching Certification Program) Levels 1 and 2 along with First Aid Level 1 completion.

From 2003 to current/2017, he has been Team BC National Program Director – every year in charge of three BC teams and travels to Nationals along with the player selection and development. He spent 6 of those years as an Assistant and Head Coach of Team BC and brought his U16 team to BC's first national title in 2009. A year prior he got involved with the CBHA Junior Team Canada program as an Assistant Coach being a part of the U20 world gold win in Zvolen, Slovakia.

Since 2006 when Dave was introduced to ball hockey, he has made a huge impact with coaching development at all levels. He was recognized by CBHA and the Junior Team Canada program and was named head coach with the U16 JTC squad who came home from Bratislava with a world silver, then in 2016 as the U18 Junior Team Canada head coach won gold in Sheffield, England with the U18.

His coaching certifications include NCCP CSC & DEVT, Respect in Sport, Hockey Safety HCSP Trainer, NCCP Level 1 Rep and First Aid.

Two training camps were run with Junior Camp sessions setup during 9am – Midday with games then played from 1pm-2pm and then Team Falklands camp set up for adults from 7-8pm. The Junior training sessions involved stick control, passing, shooting, goaltender training and various plays to help the junior players learn spacing. Each day consisted of team bonding with Juniors

being taught to buy into the team philosophy and most importantly ensuring they had fun during practice.

Junior goaltenders received training in post to post, angles, butterfly technique and shot stopping. Goaltenders then had to be seen to be utilising these skills during game time.

Senior training was geared more towards tactical drills and ensuring they understood the defensive and offensive zones, when to break out, how to utilise F1, F2 and F3 positioning as well as Power Plays and Penalty kills. Goaltenders also received individual training as the juniors did. Outfield players were filmed taking shots which would then be taken away and mirrored against pro players in Canada and sent back to each player so they can obtain tips on perfecting their shooting style.

40 junior players and 20 senior players attending the training camp with it going down extremely well with all. Because of this training it resulted in more junior players signing up to the 2017-18 season.

During the visit Gary and Dave were able to meet with Falkland Islands Overseas Games Association (FIOGA) Chairman Mike Summers and Vice-Chairman Andrew Brownlee to discuss the future of ball hockey in the Falkland Islands and the aspirations of Falklands Xtreme Sports. ISBHF World Championships were discussed for both Junior and Senior players as well as a presentation on the Pilsen Challenge Cup, Czech Republic that the Falkland Islands can also be a part of.

The Stanley Leisure Centre Management team also had an opportunity to speak with Gary and Dave and to discuss the needs of ball hockey and what will be required in the future to ensure the continued development of the sport.

Media coverage was high on the agenda with FITV producing a 2 episode programme of how the visit had gone and with FIRS interviewing the coaches and Penguin News providing an article. This media coverage further elevated ball hockey in the community with the general public taking a real interest in what was being provided.

A chance to visit Darwin Settlement and do the "Round Robin" trip was provided for Gary and Dave so they could fully understand life in the Falkland Islands. Wildlife excursions were included, historical sites such as Bodie Creek Bridge, 1982 war memorials, Camp Pembroke Lighthouse were a few things on the agenda.

A farewell party was held at the end of the visit to thank the coaches for coming to the Islands to assist in the development of ball hockey. This party was attended by sponsors, parents, senior and junior players. It was a fantastic opportunity for all involved to have a chat with Gary and Dave and because of this on the night local sponsor FIC Ltd donated further funds to the club.

On their return to Canada Gary and Dave provided further material for ball hockey development to Falklands Xtreme Sports and notified the ISBHF of the visit. The ISBHF now are utilising the visit as the standard bearer for all developing nations as well as the Falkland Islands now assisting to lead the way for all new nations signing up to ball hockey.



Gary Slavin providing goaltender training to junior players and below junior players with coaches





Senior players posing with coaches and drill training below





Coaches acclimatising to the Falkland Islands weather and below Farewell party and showing off the Falkland Islands gifts presented to them



Future Aspirations

The future is bright for ball hockey in the Falkland Islands with player membership growing (as can be shown by statistical information) and a growing sponsorship base of local and overseas companies.

Short Term (6 months):

1. Increase the senior player membership by 20% to enable the introduction of a 7th team
2. Introduce a second tournament for the junior teams to compete in
3. Continue to raise the profile of ball hockey in the Islands to generate more sponsorship

Medium Term (1-2 years):

1. Senior team to attend the 2019 ISBHF World Championships
2. Introduction of a Pee Wee league to cater for those 5-7 year olds
3. Introduction of a U16 league to enable a junior team to attend future ISBHF World Championships and to add the final step to the adult league
4. Increase membership of senior players by 50%
5. Increase membership of junior players by 60%

Long Term (5+ years):

1. To establish regular attendance to the senior ISBHF World Championships
2. U16 Junior team to attend ISBHF Junior World Championships 2020
3. U20 Junior team to attend ISBHF Junior World Championships 2020
4. Introduction of a female league with aspirations of sending a female team away to future ISBHF World Championships
5. To assist with the introduction of a South American Ball Hockey Association to enable South American teams including the Falkland Islands to face off against each other in club or nation style tournaments.

Contact Information



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