



Bangor LHC Juniors 2021-2022

Welcome Letter

“Having FUN Developing TALENT in the Bangor COMMUNITY”

Welcome Prologue

We are delighted you are considering Bangor Hockey Club for your young player. The youth teams are growing and we hope to cater this season for all children from P3 to Year 11. After a strange season last year with reduced training and opportunities for the youth to play, we are looking forward to a more settled year.

The following letter provides you an update on what to expect for the coming season.

Club Calendar

A rough overview of the year (approx 30 week season) as follows:

- **Start back and Train:** September through to April
 - All ages to commence training w/c 6th September
- **U11 and U13 Blitz:** September, October, November, February, March
 - U.H. Bangor HC Blitz 19th September
- **U15 League and Cup matches:** September to May. Dates TBC
- **U.H. Indoor Hockey Tournaments (U15 and TBC):** December and January

Registration & Fees

The club have aligned junior fees across all ages and all sections for the ladies and mens youth. They are as follows: :

- First child £85
- All subsequent siblings at £45

One really important point is that BHC is a fully inclusive club so if any member does need financial support in order to join please do not hesitate to let us know.

As stated we aim to take all girls who want to join the club. However if we are unable to do this and we are over subscribed then preference will be given to existing members first and then in order of registration i.e. if we have to limit an age group to 60 then the first 60 existing members to register will get priority.

Training Schedule

- U9 - Friday 6pm to 7pm
- U11 - Friday 7pm to 8pm
- U13 - Thursday 6pm to 8pm (Year 8 6pm start; Year 9 7pm start)
- U15 - Monday 6pm to 8pm (Year 11 Girls will also be able to train with the senior Club on Wednesday evening's)

Kit Update

Player Kit Manager Mrs Debbie Ferguson. Orders for Playing and Leisure Kit will open up approx 2 weeks after the start of the season. Debbie will be in touch.

We expect Leisure Kit to stay the same as last year.

Volunteers

BHC Youth is run by volunteers and we have a brilliant group of volunteers who make BHC a success. There is always room for more volunteers - no hockey experience is necessary. We need support throughout the year - coaches; parent's committee; giving out kit; supporting fundraising days (organising and attending!) - there are loads of ways to help the club, so please do get involved.

Child Protection

There are 2 Designated Safeguarding Children's Officers in the club - Caralyn Scales and Peter Hopkins. They are there to support the welfare of our young members and ensure the strict safeguarding principles are adhered to at all times.

Training and Matches

BHC supports the Ulster hockey [Code of Conduct](#) and we encourage our members to adhere to this when in attendance at training, matches, blitzes or any event associated with the club. Your support of this approach is greatly appreciated.

Under 9's Youth Leader - Gail Hanna

The emphasis will be on fun, coordinated movement and developing the basic hockey skills.

We understand that joining a club with lots of children can often be daunting for some of them and Gail's program aims to make entry into a team sports environment a fun and enjoyable experience. However, if your daughter is struggling then please let us know so that we can help manage that.

Under 11's Youth Leader - Stephen Short

At BHC we feel very strongly that each youth should have the opportunity to develop their talent to their chosen level. This may mean that at certain stages through the season we may stream girls so that they are able to develop at a level they are comfortable with. We will continually assess the girls and if applicable will facilitate movement between streams.

For some of our P7's this can be an important point in their educational development with AQE and GL exams. None of the youths should feel uncomfortable or worried when they need to prioritise their studies, the club fully supports them through this stage and our training program and matches will reflect this.

Under 13's Youth Leader TBC

The u13 group is very much a split group, with many new to the game, but also some very experienced players. With the less experienced members, the emphasis will be on fun, skill development and the basic game development. With the more experienced, it will be enjoyment, advanced skills development and a much greater focus on game awareness. If your daughter is just starting to do not be concerned that there are others with more experience. At this stage they catch up very quickly and we have a number of members who are now some of our strongest players who only started hockey in Y8.

Under 15's Youth Leader Darren Stewart

Many of our u15s not only play hockey, but support the club by volunteering during junior coaching sessions (u9, u11, u13) and the social events/blitzes etc. We could not run the Junior sessions without these volunteers. This attitude is great for the club's future and we hope it continues.

We lead both Development and Performance squads. We want every player to define their own goals within hockey i.e. progressing their hockey skills or enjoying hockey as social sport. With that in mind the opportunity to move between squads is always open and we will assess their development regularly.

Once your daughter is 15 years of age she is also eligible to play for our senior squads. We will contact you before this happens and help facilitate that move. Our Y11 u15 are also allowed to train with the senior squad on Wednesdays.

GDPR

We have reviewed the Club's use of Personal Data and have prepared a Data Privacy Policy. We encourage you to read this carefully. This will be reviewed and updated periodically. You can also find this on our website: www.bangorladieshockeyclub.org. For more details, please address any questions, comments and requests regarding our data processing practices to Bangorladieshockeyclub@gmail.com or contact our Data Protection Controller, Lyndsay Turner.

Epilogue

We really do want all players to enjoy hockey, however from time to time issues arise. If something does happen to your child that affects them negatively, please come and see us. These things can normally always be addressed and lead to a positive outcome. Either approach the session coach, the youth leader for your child's age group (named above) or the Safeguarding Officer (Caralyn Scales)

As per last year we will use facebook to publicly broadcast information about the Club and WhatsApp to communicate private information. If you are not on either of these communication channels then we will contact you via email.

We hope the above helps give you a flavour of what's to come this season and how the club is run.

Best Wishes for the coming season

Adam Reading
Ladies Youth Club Coordinator