

GHA Masters Challenge

The GHA has received a proposal from Malcolm Green the Mens Masters Manager and would like to put this to the GHA AGM for guidance from member Clubs, it could equally apply to the women as the men.

Malcolm Green believes that it would be beneficial to all member clubs to introduce a "Masters Challenge" for the 2019/20 season. The plan is for clubs to be grouped in pairs, typically a large one with a smaller one, to produce a team of 11 players aged at least 50 years old to play against other Masters teams in the County on a Sunday once per month.

Why?

Primarily to provide players aged 50+ with the opportunity to play the occasional game of semi-competitive hockey against others of the same sort of age. This should help retain more older players in club membership providing a player/umpire/committee member/revenue resource that might otherwise be lost.

How?

Initial thoughts on club (men) groupings based loosely on geography.

- a. Cheltenham – Bourton & Sherborne
- b. Lansdown – Winchcombe
- c. Gloucester – Cleevillians
- d. Bristol & West – Yate
- e. Westbury & UB – Wootton – under- Edge
- f. Cirencester – Stroud
- g. Newent – Ross-on-Wye

It is appreciated that Ross is not in Gloucestershire but they seem a logical pairing with Newent and it would not be surprising if Hereford and Leominster also showed interest in joining in. The teams would need to come up with a suitable name e.g. Vagrants, Layabouts, Soaring Eagles, Old Buzzards etc!

The 50+ age minimum to apply strictly apart from GK but GK's under 50 should only be selected if no one aged over 50 is available and please no superstar 1st team GK's!

Teams could be mixed (male/female) particularly if there was limited interest amongst the women for their own competition.

Match organization

GHA would produce a fixture plan e.g. October team a will play team g.

Home team would be responsible for arranging the match venue & umpires and liaising with away team to ensure that the proposed arrangements were acceptable.

Team colours – home team in same colour shirts (not white), away team in white shirts.

Results to be sent to Malcolm Green at GHA who would (try) and put them up on the GHA noticeboard.

Games would be of a normal length (35 mins each way)

If a team failed to honour a fixture that they have agreed the points (3) would go to the team that has been let down and a 5:0 win recorded.

Any disputes to be resolved/adjudicated by a GHA sub-committee of Malcolm Green and Ian Harvey.