

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Men's Masters Hockey report 2023

The Men's Masters Hockey report for Gloucestershire is a fairly simple and brief affair. This is mainly because Nigel Sherwood and I only deal with the Over 60 age group and have no collaboration with any other age groups. We took over the role from Malcolm Green a few years back and we are now stepping down from the organising aspect.

Historically, the team exist through an amalgamation of players from Gloucestershire and Herefordshire who come together and play as Glos and Herefordshire Masters H.C. We only enter the HA Cup competition and that is the extent of our match playing. Occasionally, Wales will ask us to play a friendly match against them for their preparation for the Regionals. Other than that, Masters hockey is virtually non-existent.

Over the years we have managed to run 2 teams. This last year, the 'B' team won their first match in the Cup but then suffered a heavy defeat in the 2nd round. The 'A' were unfortunate to lose their first round match in the Cup. They went into the Consolation draw where they won their first match but then lost their second.

There are trials for the players to play for the West, which are usually well attended by our members. Some are successful, while others just attend to get more hockey.

Traditionally, men's hockey for the older age group has been catered for by the LX organisation which has been in existence for a long time and runs exceedingly well. Many of the players are members of this organisation and as a result get to play as much or as little hockey as they want this way. The chances of promoting inter club hockey for the Over 60 age group is highly unlikely to occur as the LX system already fulfils this role. As to the other age groups, I have no idea what happens. Masters hockey overall is a fairly scattergun affair.

Good luck with the future of masters hockey.