



**Norwich Dragons
Hockey Club**

**Norwich Dragons Hockey Club
Youth Section Awards
2016/2017 season**

U10 Girls

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

Nominees:

Rosie Pank

Sophie Reynolds

Ivy Hodds

Isobel Waller

Pepper Fothergill

KeiraHardiman

Millie Lake

Josie Kell

The winner is Ivy Hodds

She is a Year 4 who at the start of the year was noticed for her strength and powers in skills. She struggled in early tournament to cope with pressure and lack of space and this prevented her showing her ability. Halfway through the season, she was pushed up to do extra sessions with the under 12 girls to help her learn from the coaches and the decision making skills of the older girls. The improvement as a result has been seen in her tournament play as she now uses roll outs and v-drags to create space for herself and is threading long passes to team mates in space and is starting to be a dominant midfield player.

Player of the Season - Voted for by the Players

18 girls received votes. The girls with several votes who narrowly missed out: Claudia Pymm, Jamie Sisterson and Amalie Finch.

The winner is Isobel Waller.

David Pentin, Manager, thinks the girls made a good choice. Some of the Isobel's qualities are:

- Her enthusiasm for her hockey she is always keen to get to sessions and works hard on the different skills and exercises.
- She is a vital member of the team she plays in making valuable contributions.
- She is a great role model to the other girls in the group.

U10 Boys

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

NOMINATIONS:

Archie Legg
Austin Kennard
Barney Berridge
Deeran Jayapragash
Ed Marlee
Oscar Holt
Sam Kassulke

JOINT 3RD PLACE

Austin Kennard - shown a huge improvement in his character since last year. This year has really let his hockey do the talking and his skill levels have vastly improved. His tackling is now much more controlled and his striking of the ball is strong. This is all great to see and the coaches look forward to seeing this continue when he progresses to the u12s.

Oscar Holt - His individual stick work along with Sam K is probably the strongest and most varied in terms of beating a defender & protecting the ball, and his ability to read the game and his passing is very strong. But more recently coaches have also noted, his determination to show how strong a character he can be, becoming more vocal at training sessions and asking questions about how to play in certain positions when he is not sure. This is very commendable and should continue! – well done.

RUNNER-UP (2nd place):

Sam Kassulke - He has a great training attitude and is always keen to learn new skills. The players all know he gets no special favours from Paul!! Sam has gone from a quiet member of the A team squad, to a key member of both his school team and Dragons. His standout quality is he is the only U10 boy who can play in any position and knows what he needs to do in terms of positioning and spacial awareness. He has fundamentally grasped the ability to know when to run with the ball and when to pass. He has also learned to drag push on short corners very accurately. He has done much of the improvement on his own by practice and most importantly listening to all the coaches. He is a great player to have in a team as he is very versatile and needs very little prompting. He should be very proud of his achievements this year.

WINNER: Barney Berridge

Firstly all the coaches and Paul in particular would like to acknowledge that both goalkeepers have done a great job this season. But we have been incredibly impressed with Barney's improvement, given that he only stepped in to the position voluntarily last year and his only exposure to hockey is through Dragons each week. Barney is fearless, passionate and dedicated in training and is committed to all sessions. He is always being mentioned as an unexpected but pleasant surprise in terms of his ability. Those coaching him over the season, haven't expected a young boy to have such a huge determination and to literally throw himself at everything to keep the ball out his goal. (Who

knew such short legs could stretch so far?!? - although Paul wanted to remind Barney that he owes Paul £5 for every goal scored through his legs!). Barney has also made many match winning saves and his attitude stays excellent whatever the outcome, always remaining positive. He never lets his head go down and doesn't give up. He has very much taken on a new role & gone from not really playing GK to being a dedicated and determined one! He is a really deserving winner of the most improved award- Really well done!

Player of season – Voted for by the Players

NOMINATIONS

18 boys received votes including:

Austin, Ayrton, Charlie Squires, Deeren, Finn, Harry, Jamie, Monty, Oscar, Sam R, Stanley, Theo, Tommy,

With the top 5 nominations being for:

Barney

George

Lawrie

Rahul

Sam K

4 of the top 5 tied on the same number of votes

WINNER: Sam Kassulke - by just one vote.





U12 Girls

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

Nominees:

Hannah Marjoram

Rowan Hewitt

Mia Somers

Rosie "Smithy" Smith

Mima Watson

The winner is - Rosie "Smithy" Smith

All of the other candidates can feel proud for their achievements this year. But Rosie stood out to us. I had an email from Rosie's mum back in September saying "Rosie – Just knocks the ball around the garden with her big sister" Then chatting to her Dad I remember him saying then that she hadn't really played much hockey.

She has developed from a player who ran and ran and ran and tried to take on everyone herself into an accomplished striker who moved from the D team, up to the A team. She has scored goals at against every level of opposition, culminating in a goal that helped the A team win the Alex Hill Tournament in Dereham.

A wonderful character, friends with everyone, and we are really excited to have her with the Norwich Dragons.

Player of the Season - Voted for by the Players

Nominees:

Freya Dolding

Nellie Ong
Poppy Hewitt
Piper Hemsall
Mima Watson
Rosie "Smithy" Smith

The winner is - Mima Watson

10 girls in total were nominated, but it came down to 1 vote, Mima beat Smithy, 9-8. Very well deserved. Mima has been a leader, role model and tremendous club player - even earning a vote for the Dev Player of the Season!



U12 Boys

Player of season – Voted for by the Players

Nominations:

Harvey Nkrumah

James Cross

Tom Jackson

Winner: James Cross.

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

Nominations:

Alex Majoram

Hector Mc Neil

Winner: Hector McNeil

Over the course of the season coaches felt Hector has shown a big improvement in commitment and attitude to training , at the start of the season Hector was very new to hockey, he has now settled in very well to being a solid performer within the U12 squads...





Dev Girls

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

NOMINATIONS:

Becca James
Bethan Greaves
Flori Smith
Georgia Glenn
Lane Yates

WINNER: Bethan Greaves

Her tenacity in sticking to an opponent along with her shadowing & tackling have improved considerably, while her awareness and positional play have also improved. All the coaches have been pleased to see both Bethan's confidence and skills grow over the season and believe she is a worthy winner - well done Bethan, keep it up next season!

Player of season – Voted for by the Players

NOMINATIONS

15 people were nominated including:

Anna Hill, Bethan Greaves, Charlotte Carr, Charlotte Knight, Emily Grint, Fern Daly, Issy Gale, Issy Hipper, Maddie Gibbs, Maddy Reynolds, Mima Watson (u12), Niamh Somers, Nicky Dawson, Sophie Barrow, Stella Windsor Waite.

RUNNER-UP: Sophie Barrow

WINNER: By just one vote! - Maddy Reynolds

Ahe has played a number of different positions when asked, (even those she wasn't always particularly keen on!), and fulfilled the roles well. She took on-board advice & guidance from coaches & tried hard to act upon it and implement it in her game play.

Club Member of the Season – voted for by players

NOMINATIONS

18 people nominated including:

Anna Hill, Annabelle Hodgson, Ava Carrara (u12), Amy Beadman (u12), Charlotte Knight, Emily Grint, Erin Aldous, Fern Daly, Issy Gale, Maddie Gibbs, Mima Watson (u12), Niamh Burke, Niamh Somers, Maddy Reynolds, Sophie Barrow, Stella Windsor Waite, Tanzin Sisterson, Tilly Connors Beckett.

RUNNER UP:

Maddie Gibbs (3 votes)

WINNER:

Niamh Somers – run-away winner with 10 votes



Dev Boys

Most Improved Player - Voted for by the Coaches

Nominations:

Arjuna Puvanachandra

Tommy Chambers

William Bowman

Will Mares

Alex Wolfe

Adam Jones

The winner is: Arjuna Puvanachandra

Player of season – Voted for by the Players

Nominations:

Arjuna, Joe Beadman, Toby Drake, Blue Hemsall, Alex Wolfe, Josh Wiggins, Harry Brown, Johnny Taylor, James Cross, Bobby Sheppard, Isaac Diver Hall.

The runner up is: Johnny Taylor

The winner is: James Cross

Club Member of the Season – voted for by players

Nominations below... but a tie of 3 votes between the following...

James, Daniel Murphy, Angus RE, Will Mares, Billy Hall.

Nominations:

Arj, Toby, Will B, Noah, Harry B, Bobby, Will P, Alex B, Alex W, Isaac, Paul, Casper.

Because there was a tie, the management team and usual coaches discussed and decided a winner.

The winner was chosen to be captain for the B team after Christmas due to his great attitude, effort and attendance as well as being open and friendly and those are the things that have made him dev boys' club member of the season.

The winner is: Will Mares



Young Helper of the Season – Derek Dack award

The Derek Dack Trophy is awarded to the young volunteer (U18) who has contributed the most to the club during the season. It is what they contribute together with how they do this that matters:

- Covers coaching non-playing activities
- Leadership
- Proactiveness
- Engagement with what they are doing and those they are helping (coaches and players)
- Reliability (doing what they said they would, when they say they will)
- Going the extra mile to support those who need extra help and responding to these needs.

We rely a lot on these young helpers at all training sessions and they do a great job.

This award was handed out by Tom Vaughan, the Men's Club Captain.

The long list of helpers is here:

U8s

Augustus Sanders
Tommy Chapman
Jessica Tye-Leech

U12 girls

The Creasy twins
Tommy Chapman
Esme Potter

U10 girls

Eleanor Widdows
Charlotte Knight
Freddie Royall

U12 boys and dev boys

Raunaq Rai
George Bowman
Henry Laming
Lara Taylor
Ben Nkrumah
Issy Wolfe

U10 boys

Cameron Woodcock
Ella Kassulke
Sophia Haehnelt

Dev girls

Aoife Lowe-Davies
Willow Major

The coaches made this short list:

Esme Potter: Esme has assisted at under 12 girls all season. She has grown in the role and has become noticeably more confident in what she does. Esme is comfortable to lead a group or practice and it is pleasing to see her stopping the group and asking questions for understanding, helping the girls develop. One of her ex-county coaches recently saw her and was impressed with the level of maturity she was showing.

George Bowman is an excellent role model and relates very well to the boys. He has played alongside the dev boys B team on many occasions this season, with maturity and great spirit especially when this team has lost by many in most of their games.

Ben Nkrumah is there every week – always keen and eager – proactive if he hasn't been asked to do something & always does whatever he is asked. Has led sessions for around 5 keepers most Thursdays (u12 boys and dev boys). Umpires on Saturdays when he can around school matches. Plays for whoever he can without complaint. Is one of the Young Dragons representatives on the Youth Committee and attends these meetings to put the young perspective across.

Jessica Tye-Leech. She is reliable, attends on time every week, is technically adept at everything she does. You can respect Jess's opinion and judgement on players and drills. She takes charge of the 'dull stuff' like the register and taking the money. I appreciate that she is always there to get the equipment out - and she helps to put it away too, whereas most other helpers of all ages tend to disappear! She leads her groups, which is something that is difficult for young helpers to do. Young helpers are mostly developing their skills as leaders, whereas Jess needs the minimum of supervision. Jess has built up such skill and experience with the under 8s that I encourage her to test their abilities. This is a real contribution to moving them along. Year 2s doing brilliant 3-man weaves, picking up passes and shooting on the move are just two memorable achievements. Jess is more than a helper. She is a leader and an inspiration to the little Dragons who love her. Jess is now a very competent and respected umpire who can take charge of challenging games.

Freddie Royall. Whilst he has only been helping since Christmas, he is an u12 boy helping out with great confidence with the u10 girls. He led the warm up recently and is often heard giving encouragement and tips. He is very confident, fun and friendly and these are great assets for such a young lad.

The runner up is Jess Tye Leech

The winner is Ben Nkrumah

