

# WYCOMBE HOCKEY CLUB MINIS

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

2023-24 SEASON FOR U5 - U12 AGE GROUPS AT  
WYCOMBE HOCKEY CLUB

**TRAINING:** Minis sessions take place on Saturday mornings at Wycombe High School from 8.30 to 10 a.m. All age groups U5 - U12 are invited to these sessions and parents are encouraged to watch throughout inside the fence and listen to the squad de-brief at the end of the session.

U12 boys and girls (Years 6 & 7) have additional training on Monday nights from 6.15 - 7.45 pm - at RGS.

Please can we ask that parents always check their children have shin pads and a mouth guard. Children will not be allowed to play at all without them. We would also ask that you inform the session leader of any medical issues, injuries, or other important information at the start of EVERY session. If your child uses an inhaler, please ensure they always have it at training and fixtures.

**MATCHES:** The following dates are confirmed for matches:

- ✗ 5<sup>th</sup> of November
- ✗ 12<sup>th</sup> of November
- ✗ 26<sup>th</sup> of November
- ✗ 3<sup>rd</sup> of December
- ✗ 4<sup>th</sup> of February
- ✗ 3<sup>rd</sup> of March

Managers/Coaches will confirm teams and times before every match. If your child is selected for a match please respond promptly to selection emails as it helps the team managers know who is available to play. To make sure that all players have equal opportunities to play and develop their skills, we will rotate players some weeks and they may play for different levels in their age groups. By doing so, we can guarantee that everyone gets the playing time they need and can improve their game while enjoying the sport.

**NB.** If there are dates you know your child cannot play, please inform the Club via Club Buzz by entering **My Player > My Profile** and entering an '**Omission**' for your child. This will help us decide how many teams we can take to each tournament. A Club Buzz app for iPhones and Android lets you enter omissions and see selections for upcoming games.

**WINTER IS COMING!** The Minis are a stoic lot and play in all weather. Please make sure your children are well equipped with gloves, hats, and thermal top and bottom layers throughout the winter months – warm hockey players are happy hockey players!

## CONTACT US:

WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN THE MINI'S  
WHATSAPP GROUP FOR REGULAR INFO AND  
UPDATES – PLEASE USE THIS JOINING LINK:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/le3EVm2AjH1ZJEf3S5bxA>

## WHC MINIS CONTACTS:

- ✗ [karlien00@hotmail.com](mailto:karlien00@hotmail.com) - U10
- ✗ [nancy\\_c\\_b@hotmail.com](mailto:nancy_c_b@hotmail.com) - U12
- ✗ [ollybritnell@hotmail.com](mailto:ollybritnell@hotmail.com) - U12
- ✗ [eashlin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eashlin@hotmail.co.uk) – U10
- ✗ [Andrew.j.walsh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Andrew.j.walsh@hotmail.co.uk) – U8
- ✗ [walshcjess@gmail.com](mailto:walshcjess@gmail.com) – U12

The WhatsApp group is an important tool for communication between parents, volunteers, coaches, and team members. Through this group, you will receive updates important announcements, and other relevant information. You can stay informed and connected with the team by joining the group. Don't hesitate to reach out to the team manager or coach if you have any questions or concerns about joining the WhatsApp group.

## CLUB KIT & CLOTHING LABELLING:

We have a small request that will make everyone's lives a little easier – please label ALL your child's clothing and hockey equipment with their name and surname. Just grab a marker, jot down their name and surname on the clothing tag, and voila – problem solved.

One common challenge we often face is keeping track of children's clothing items, from jerseys to water bottles, etc. This will ensure that each child's belongings are easily identifiable. Thank you for your cooperation and for being such fantastic and supportive parents.

We look forward to more great training sessions with your children, filled with growth, friendship, and memorable moments.



## HOCKEY STICK MEASUREMENT & RECOMMENDATION:

The most popular way of measuring it is from the floor to the hip bone. Junior Hockey Sticks are available in sizes 24" up to full size 36.5". Junior sticks are available in wood or fiberglass. Young players often benefit from a shock absorbent stick which generally means more fiberglass or wood as the primary construction material. This makes trapping the ball easier and developing dribbling skills more achievable when using good junior field hockey sticks. We do however recommend a composite stick for the older players as the wooden sticks break when hitting hard.

## TOILET BREAKS:

For the convenience of the children and to ensure that coaching time is utilized effectively, we kindly request that parents for the little players to U8s remain present during training sessions IF possible in case their child needs to use the restroom. This will help the coaches focus on the training program without disruptions.

Thanks for understanding.

## EQUIPMENT & KIT (for the new members):

When joining the Club, your child needs to bring their own hockey stick, shin pads, and mouth guard. If they don't have a stick yet, no worries! They can borrow one from the Club until they get their own. Any hockey stick that fits their age and size is just fine. Keep in mind that we take safety seriously, so it's important to play with the proper equipment. They will not be allowed on the field without the correct equipment.

Our club kit is a light blue Adidas shirt with navy Adidas shorts/skort, and sky blue/navy blue hooped socks. The kit can be purchased from our nominated kit supplier Hawkinsport in Bourne End. Click on the link to open the Club website for more info on the club kit

- <https://www.wycombehockeyclub.co.uk/club-kit/>.

IT IS NOT compulsory to buy the club kit for U8/U10. We provide shirts or bibs when they are playing a match. Any comfortable sports clothing and trainers are fine to wear to hockey training.

The second-hand kit is often available through the club and is generally advertised on our Facebook member's page

[Wycombe Hockey Club Members](#)

