

# Southern Counties Hockey Association



December 2010

Dear player or club contact

## South Masters Hockey 2011

Southern Counties Hockey Association has asked me to act as co-ordinator of the South over 40, 45, 50 and 55 Men's Masters teams. These teams will play in divisional tournaments in 2011 as shown below.

I am hoping that you may be interested in attending the trials and/or that you can pass this letter on to players within your clubs or counties. To be eligible, a player has to be the age before 31 December 2011 eg for the over 40's a player needs to be 40 on or before 31 December 2011. If you wish to attend the trials please contact the appropriate organiser shown below; not me. The selectors intend to pick the best possible teams so without wishing to discourage anyone from attending the trials and acknowledging that some of the best vets have been late developers you will need to be a strong player to stand a realistic chance of being selected. You also need to be fit. Each team has an independent non-playing selector so if you have any complaints about the selection process, please contact them.

After the divisional tournament and further trials, teams will be chosen to represent England later in the year and the dates for the internationals are also shown below.

England Hockey is trying to put veteran's hockey onto a more professional basis and has re-branded it as Masters Hockey. The Masters Development Committee and the Masters Teams Committee are working hard to introduce proper procedures for selectors, managers, coaches and players. Please see EH Website, Take Part, Masters Hockey, News, New Masters Hockey Selection Policies or follow the link: -

<http://www.englishockey.co.uk/news.asp?itemid=8803&itemTitle=New+Masters+Hockey+Selection+Policies&section=787&sectionTitle=News&month=&year=>

Masters hockey around the world has recently gained a much higher profile and is now properly recognised by the FIH. In 2011 England will be sending teams to a tournament in Germany to run concurrently with the European Cup in Monchengladbach and to a tournament in Singapore. Both tournaments are being run by the International Masters Hockey Association (IMHA). There will also be a tournament in the UK in 2012 during or just after the Olympic Games.

It is EH policy to strongly encourage players to play in their own age groups and the SCHA intends to reflect this policy. The following guidelines may be helpful: -

*In principle everyone should play in their own age group, regionally and at national level. However, should it be felt someone "over age" was good enough to play in a younger age group, then that would be permitted. But in that case they would not be eligible to play in the older age group as well.*

- 1) A player is only allowed to play for one age group in each year.*
- 2) Nobody should aim to play regionally at one age group and nationally at a different one. i.e. the age group chosen for regional level is the chosen age group throughout the year for all levels above.*

*3) No one should represent more than one region at any age level in the same year. Qualification should be by birth, residence or club affiliation, but if someone moves they can stay with their previous region until they decide to change allegiance.*

If you have any questions or need further information please do let me know.

Thank you

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