

CHANGES TO REGIONAL HOCKEY IN THE SOUTH BULLETIN 2

Introduction:

This is the second bulletin produced by the South Development Working Group to help explain how Regional hockey is changing in the South. If you need a copy of Bulletin 1, please contact the South Regional Office on south@englandhockey.org or 01628 890462. Please feel free to circulate these as widely as possible, recognising that many details remain to be filled in, as they become available.

Background:

This summer the Single System principles will operate for the first time to cover the Regional hockey season for the South, and all regions in England. If you are not familiar with the principles of the Single System, it is recommended you download the basic Single System documents from the England Hockey (EH) web site www.englandhockey.co.uk and see under : "A Single System" on the EH home page. This bulletin deals largely with the regional level of hockey in 2008, especially the Junior Regional Performance Centres (JRPCs). 2008 is a transitional year, so arrangements should be simpler in future years. The county programme for 2008/9 is still under discussion, and details will be included in a future bulletin.

The whole calendar is different from that of recent seasons. Anyone of junior Regional hockey standard should aim to attend their nearest JRPC. Distance from home is the key, not county or regional boundaries. The South will for 2008 (subject to review in subsequent years) be responsible for three JRPCs. These will be located at, or near, **OXFORD, WINCHESTER** and in the **KENT/SURREY BORDERS** area. The exact venues are currently being finalised. The dates will be the same at all 3 South-managed centres. There is another centre near the South border - St. Albans. Players wishing to attend there should contact the EH South Regional office as above for the centre timetable and details there. Players living outside the South Region i.e. Dorset, Wiltshire, Northants etc., if they live near enough are eligible to go to a South-managed centres if this is their nearest centre in travel terms.

What is involved?

There are, broadly speaking, three phases:

1 Preliminary assessment

2 Squad development and assessment (JRPC)

3 Inter-JRPC competition (Tier 1 and Tier 2 – see below)

From 2009, it is likely that girls and boys will have the same pattern of sessions, but, as explained in the next paragraph there are some differences for boys and girls.

Which players will be involved?

It is planned that each South-managed JRPC will involve both boys and girls born in 1994, 1993, 1992 and 1991. The South is adopting this way of describing those involved rather than Under 15, Under 17 etc as this has previously caused confusion. It is possible a few players may be assessed as being ready to be moved to the age group, above their birth. This is particularly relevant for those born in 1992. The programme in 2008 for those born in 1992 is quite short and only those seen as good enough to play with 1991 players will be invited to move to the squad development and assessment phase.. Next summer the equivalent year will have a full development programme as for everyone else.

Preliminary assessment:

Girls:

South girls this season already have a timetable to help develop and assess girls, before August. Any girls recommended by their County Coach, Club Coach or school teacher as being a candidate for Regional standard hockey should register with Sandra Marlow via e-mail sandra.marlow57@btinternet.com or discuss with the EH South Regional office.

Boys:

South boys will start assessment at the beginning of July. Any parents, teachers, coaches or boys recommended by their County Coach, Club Coach or school teacher as being a candidate for regional standard hockey for the year of births as shown, should contact the South Network Office in the first instance. The dates are 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th July and 3rd and 10th August. Boys involved should attend as many of these sessions as possible. There will be a minimum number of sessions to attend but allowances will be made, given the number of sessions involved and that family holidays take place in this period.

Squad development and assessment:

The dates for squad development and assessment for both boys and girls are scheduled to be 17th August and 31st August, 7th and 14th September. All those invited to attend should be available for all of these, except in exceptional circumstances.

Tier 1 and Tier 2 competition:

Players from the JRPC squads will play inter-centre matches (Tier 1) at venues to be decided. These will be on 21st September and 28th September, probably for all the age groups born in 1994, 1993 and 1991, though this is to be finalised.

The best 16 players from each Tier 1 inter-centre cluster will be invited to join one of four Tier 2 training squads for training leading to high level competition (for the best 64 players in the country) at each age group (for both boys and girls) during the October half term. The England U-16 (2009) and U-18 (2009) training squads will be selected from those attending the Tier 2 competition.

Costs:

Players will be expected to pay training fees for sessions prior to Tier 1 and 2. It is likely that EH will sponsor Tier 1 and 2 events. The costs at South managed centres are anticipated to be at a similar rate to previous years, but the detail has not yet been finalised.

Who will be the coaches and managers?

Each JRPC will be under the direction of Centrally Contracted Coaches (CCC), including a CCC for goalkeepers, and possibly assisted by other CCCs. These will be appointed by England Hockey to oversee the coaching input and provide a consistency of high quality coaching. There will then be a coach and a manager for each gender for each of the following age groups – 1994, 1993 and 1991. The coach posts have been advertised and will be appointed in May. The manager posts will be advertised in early May and appointed in June. For job descriptions of these posts, please contact the South Regional Office as above.

We hope that the information here, though still incomplete, will help to show the emerging picture, with more details to follow in future bulletins.

South Development Working Group
April 2008

2008 Timetable for South managed Junior Regional Performance Centres							
This covers both girls and boys							
NB Timings are provisional at this stage							
Week		SS		born in 1994	born in 1993	born in 1992	born in 1991
Week 44	Sat						
(boys only)	Sun		06 Jul 08	10:00-14:00	10:00-14:00	14:00-18:00	14:00-18:00
Week 45	Sat						
boys/girls	Sun		13 Jul 08	10:00-14:00	10:00-14:00	14:00-18:00	14:00-18:00
Week 46	Sat						
(boys only)	Sun		20 Jul 08	10:00-14:00	10:00-14:00	14:00-18:00	14:00-18:00
Week 47	Sat						
(boys only)	Sun		27 Jul 08	09:30-12:30	12:30-15:30		15:30-18:30
Week 48	Sat	P1					
(boys only)	Sun		03 Aug 08	09:30-12:30	12:30-15:30		15:30-18:30
Week 49	Sat	P2					
(boys only)	Sun		10 Aug 08	09:30-12:30	12:30-15:30		15:30-18:30
Week 50	Sat	P3					
	Sun		17 Aug 08	09:30-12:30	12:30-15:30		15:30-18:30
Week 51	Sat	P4					
	Sun		24 Aug	Bank Hol	Bank Hol		Bank Hol

	n		08				
Week 52	Sat	P5					
	Sun		31 Aug 08	09:30-12:30	12:30-15:30		15:30-18:30
Week 1	Sat	P6					
	Sun		07 Sep 08	10:00-14:00	14:00-18:00		14:00-18:00
Week 2	Sat	P7					
	Sun		14 Sep 08	10:00-14:00	14:00-18:00		14:00-18:00
Week 3	Sat	P8					
	Sun		21 Sep 08	<i>Tier 1 comp?</i>	Tier 1 comp		Tier 1 comp
Week 4	Sat	P9					
	Sun		28 Sep 08	Tier 1 comp	Tier 1 comp		Tier 1 comp
Week 5	Sat	C1					
	Sun		05 Oct 08				
Week 6	Sat	C2					
	Sun		12 Oct 08		Tier 2 prep		Tier 2 prep
Week 7	Sat	C3					
	Sun		19 Oct 08		Tier 2 prep		Tier 2 prep
Week 8	Sat	C4		Tier 2 (3 days)			
	Sun		26 Oct 08		Tier 2 prep		Tier 2 prep
Week 9	Sat	C5	01 Nov		Tier 2 comp		Tier 2 comp

			08				
	Su n		02 Nov 08		Tier 2 comp		Tier 2 comp