

GHA Player Pathway Report

February 2020 - November 2020

James Doughty

2019 - 2020 Season

The final tournaments were held for the U14 and U15 squads but not for the U16/17 squads
Nominations to PC were made but as yet those trials have yet to be completed

2020 - 2021 Season

- DCs that were to be run by GoCrea8 were cancelled
- When hockey did restart in August, nomination requests went out to schools and clubs on 12th August - players that were unlikely to meet AC standard were not generally nominated - this had led to an improvement in the ability of players on pitch at the sessions. Very few players are completely out of their depth on pitch.
- 71 boys and 149 girls have signed up (income of £4,400) - we have kept the nomination process open throughout
- All squads have had at least 2 sessions and we are in a position to select all the boys squads and the U15 girls squad.
- Due to the numbers and the COVID-19 situation, we have decided to select a DC and an AC squad for the U14 and U16/17 girls. We will announce the squads in early December.
- Schools - the first GHA sessions provided to schools have started (Ribston Hall)

Operational Changes

The originally agreed proposals were to

- a) Focus on the elite players that have the potential to play at AC and beyond - **Complete**
- b) Move to a single venue - Oxstalls - **Largely Complete**
- c) Limit squad size to maximum 20 players - including keepers - **Complete**
- d) Have selection broadly complete by the beginning of September - **Incomplete (COVID!)**
- e) Send GHA selectors to the three U12 junior festivals in 2020 to recruit under 13s - **Complete**
- f) Increase the number of AC sessions from 6 to 9 from September 2020 to March 2021 - **Incomplete (COVID!)**

Coaches

All GHA coaches are now registered on the PPS and all the vast majority of their documentation is up to date.
We now have 19 active coaches registered on the PPS, 16 of which are actively involved.

New guidance for coaches has now been published and a process implemented to enable better visibility of which coach is on which pitch at which time. Payments now happen automatically (by Shaun)

Next Steps

- James Doughty is now a single point of failure for most of Player Pathway activities - this needs to be resolved - Committee is asked to consider how more support could be provided.
- Coaching delivery on pitch continues to vary, despite their being a coaching framework. - Committee is asked to consider how the coaching offering could be improved. Options are
 - Revisit outsourcing some/all of the coaching
 - Provide more coaching support to all coaches
- AC hockey from January will be affected by COVID - other counties may not have squads in place until March and the final tournaments have already been cancelled in principle.
 - The November lockdown will save just over £900 in coaching and pitch costs
 - It is proposed that the cost of delivering AC activity from January to March is covered from GHA reserves
 - 10 Oxstall Sessions (@£1,400) and 5 Sunday Matches (@£2,100) is the likely exposure, less the £900 not spent. Net exposure is unlikely to be more than £3,000.