

11th May 2017

Dear Colleague,

I hope the summer term is going well for you. For some teachers, information about Berkshire Schools' Hockey Tournaments 2017-18 may seem very premature, but some schools have already requested information regarding the tournaments so that dates and venues can be included in their annual calendar. I am particularly grateful to the schools that have so kindly agreed to host competitions for Berkshire i.e. Bradfield College, St Mary's Ascot, Wellington College, Kendrick, Licensed Victuallers and Leighton Park. Due to the increased number of teams wishing to participate in the Under 11 Boys and Girls In2Hockey Tournaments, (32 teams last year) these competitions will be staged at Reading and Sonning Hockey Clubs, where we will be able to have 6 In2Hockey pitches and can continue to hold both boys and girls competitions at the same time. However, the cost of hiring the pitches will necessitate an increase in the entry fee per team to £15 per team. I am indebted to Bradfield College for their hospitality for several years and, who last year, coped admirably with the increased number of teams, minibuses and parents' cars.

It is with great pleasure that I tell you that a Berkshire School became E.H. National Champions 2017-18. Wellington College Under 16 Girls team won the Investec National Finals at The Olympic Park in March - Congratulations to all concerned.

Full results of the Berkshire Schools' Hockey Tournaments 2016-17 can be found on the Berkshire Hockey Association website. www.berkshirehockey.org

In the Autumn Term, the programme of tournaments for Berkshire Schools needs to accommodate:-

Indoor Hockey for 2 age groups (Under 16 and Under 18 Girls)

- Outdoor competitions for 3 age groups (Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18- National Schools Girls' Competitions)
- Berkshire Schools Half Term Holidays - spanning 3 weeks (Monday 16th October - Sunday 5th November 2017)
- Preparation time for schools qualifying for Regional Competitions

While trying to respect the amount and frequency of time for which teachers will need cover in their schools With all of this in mind, the Under 18 Girls Tournament is scheduled for Wednesday 20th September 2017, which is a week earlier than in previous years. I do hope that will not cause any major difficulties for schools wishing to participate.

Please find details and entry form for Berkshire Schools' Hockey Tournaments and dates for South Hockey Tournaments 2017-18 on separate document attached to this emailed letter.

The Berkshire Outdoor Hockey Tournaments at Under 13 (boys and girls), Under 14 (boys and girls), Under 16 (boys and girls) and Under 18 (girls) represent the first round of **The National Schools' Competitions**. Under 11 and Under 12 In2Hockey competitions terminate at the South Finals in March. It is anticipated that two schools in each age group will proceed to the regional level. The Under 15 Girls Tournament is a 'Berkshire only' friendly competition and does not lead to a regional round.

Unlike other counties in the South, Berkshire will continue to run Indoor Hockey Competitions for Girls with two teams in each age group progressing to the South Heats in November with the possibility of making South Finals on Sunday 3rd December 2017

Due to the increasing numbers of schools wishing to take part in the Berkshire Under 14 Girls' tournament the preliminary rounds will be played at two separate venues - Bradfield College and Wellington College, with winners and runners up from each venue (cup and plate) competing in the County Finals at St Mary's Ascot on Thursday 12th October 2016 starting at 4 p.m.

At Under 14, 16 and 18 level players may **ONLY** compete in one age group and in one gender competition and for one school in a season i.e. girls may not play in boy's teams and vice versa.



An Under 13 player may play in an Under 14 team **and** in an Under 13 In2Hockey competition as these competitions are considered by England Hockey to be different formats.

Players may only play in one age group at Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 In2Hockey

Two Under 11 girls may play in a Boys' Under 11 In2Hockey team.

Under 12 **and** Under 13 In2Hockey competitions are single sex competitions.

Players may participate in different age groups in Indoor and Outdoor competitions e.g. an Under 16 player may represent her school at Under 16 outdoor competition and Under 18 Indoor competition.

U11 (born after 31st August 2006)	U14 (born after 31st August 2003)
U12 (born after 31st August 2005)	U16 (born after 31st August 2001)
U13 (born after 31st August 2004)	U18 (born after 31st August 1999)

The entry fee to a Berkshire tournament is:- **£15** per team. (£10 for Under 15 Girls Competition in March)

Payment by Bank Transfer is requested, but if this is not possible cheques should be made payable to 'Berkshire Hockey Association' and sent to Mrs E. MacBean, 24 Fidlers Walk, Wargrave, Reading RG10 8BA

Berkshire Hockey Association

Bank: HSBC, Sort Code: 40-47-09,

Account No: 01658697

Please include school name in reference

Entry forms should be submitted by email to schools@berkshirehockey.org

Entry form attached, also available on Berkshire Hockey website www.berkshirehockey.org

The closing dates for entries are as follows :-

Girls Under 14, Under 16, Under 18 - **Friday 8th September 2017**

Girls Under 15 - **Friday 2nd March 2018**

Girls Indoor Hockey Under 16 and Under 18 - **Friday 8th September 2017**

Boys Under 14, Under 16, - **Friday 15th December 2017**

Boys and Girls

Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 **In2Hockey** - **Friday 12th January 2018**

Early entry will be very much appreciated.

Best wishes

Eilish MacBean

Berkshire Schools' Hockey Liaison



For information:-

National Schools' Indoor Dates

Under 16 Finals Friday 12th and Saturday 13th January 2018

Under 18 Finals Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th January 2018

National Schools' Girls Outdoor dates

Tuesday 28th February 2018- **National U14 finals**

Wednesday 28th February and Thursday 1st March 2018 - **National U16 & U18 Finals**

National Schools' Boys Outdoor Dates

Tuesday 24th April 2018 - **National U14 finals**

Wednesday 25th & Thursday 26th April 2018 - **National U16 & U18 Finals**

In2Hockey U/13 National Finals Friday 11th May 2018