



Here we are again at the start of another season.

There is, to say the least, an enthusiastic buzz around the Club this year as your new Committee and coaching staff are revving up. President John has brought new life and ideas to challenge us all and is playing a strong role in getting the Club moving faster in a positive direction.

Recruitment for Ladies teams has been a strong focus by John, Ladies Committee and coaches to bolster ranks and gather momentum in our efforts to move into the Ladies first division. A move that is essential if we are to retain the many fine young Junior girls being developed through our Junior programmes. Ladies, by all accounts, are taking up the challenges being thrown at them by the new coaching team and rather than being turned off by what WeeFee calls SAS training they are embracing the challenge with renewed optimism.

The Mens Top team is also in full swing, training hard with a view to another Premiership after last years tremendous performance. My heart might last a little longer if they can improve their winning consistency throughout the year.

Juniors are also well underway with a number of exciting things happening, not the least of which is the news that we now have A grades in all divisions for boys and girls. Chantel Huembs has now taken over from the highly successful Pampling team in running the Minkey programme and hopefully all will get behind Chantel in keeping and extending this very important programme.

In a Club of our size you can never have too many volunteers for the wide range of activities required to be done and just because most of the committees seem to be filled, don't let this stop you volunteering your services—doing the littlest job can be a big help and relief to others. Contact any of the Exec Committee members, coaches or committee members if you have sometime to spare however small.

All the best for another great season and lets achieve the goals ahead of us.

Charles

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**Season Dates to Remember**

**Womens Training— Started**  
**Mens Training starts Started**  
**Contact respective coaches or committees for details.**

**Mens Scratch matches— Fletcher Park 2pm Start 4th April**

**Season Starts Men & Women—17,18&19 April.**

# From the President

Great to see the season is upon us !

Well some hard work has been done by a lot of club members so far and this has resulted in the Club now having, for the first time, the following in both boys and girl grades.

- ? U11 A
- ? U13 A
- ? U15 A
- ? U17 A

Well done to **Julia Reid** as Vice President for Juniors. A great effort that will offer the kids in the club great pathways.

Congratulations to the following boys who have made the final 22 squad for the WA Under 18 Team.

**Jamie Burns**

**Bradley Clarke**

NICHOLAS GABRIEL

**Steve Martin**

**Brodie Sarre**

We all wish you the best of luck at making the final 18.

Both **Phil Hulbert** ( 1B womens coach) and **Craig Wilson** ( 1A mens coach) are full steam ahead in the years program. We all hope that the hard work will pay off in a great year being had by all in 2009. Thanks to **Fiona** and **Ryan** for assisting as Vice Presidents for Womens and men respectively.

A big thanks you to all the people in the club that are assisting in some way or another. We have a great family club with heaps of members taking on some small task to lighten the burden.

I can confirm that we will have use of the **clubhouse** this year and that extensions will not commence before 1 October 2009. !!

We have a great year ahead with **social events** being organised by the Vice President for Social being **Karen Richardson**. Get involved and have a ball !

The Treasurer **Steve Critchison** should be very happy as the club took nearly \$ 50,000 on club registration day. The biggest \$ amount ever. Well done to all that have paid and created the record ! **Julia** and the crew did a great job!

**Mark Riddell** has taken up the challenge to run fundraising at the club this year. We have a V moto scooter that has been donated to raffle ( we should have an alternate prize – 15 Cartons of Howling Wolves Wines in case Greg Corbitt wins!). I am always keen to chat to anyone interested in sponsoring the club or advertising at the club. Contact JB 0419 835 010 or Mark Riddell 0414 941630.

Continued next page:-

**From the President continued:-**

**Stuart Lamont** the Club secretary has been kept extremely busy this year as we have a large influx of members from other clubs? We must be doing something right. Well a big thank you must be said to Stuart who does an incredible amount of work for the club as a volunteer.

The new WEB SITE [www.vpxhc.com.au](http://www.vpxhc.com.au) has proved a great success. It should greatly assist our members obtaining the information re all club questions and activities including training. This tool will hopefully reduce the work load and make information up to date and available at the blink of an eye. So get on the site and register and have a look around. The **Photo Gallery** is great. Thanks Possum for pushing this web site forward.

Good luck for 2009

Go Panthers !

JB

### **Player Insurance**

Part of your fees goes towards the club taking out insurance to provide some protection to both the club and its members. As a club we choose to take advantage of the group insurance program Hockey WA has in place, and this provides cover for Personal Injury to players, officials and volunteers; Public Liability to third parties; Professional Liability of coaches, umpires and officials; Directors and Officers Liability for office bearers personal liability; Dishonesty and Misappropriation of Funds by employees, club and committee members.

The Personal Injury cover provided to players under the standard policy is quite basic. This was a deliberate decision on the part of Hockey WA to minimise the cost to clubs and its members, especially for those who have their own private health insurance. Individual players have the option to increase their policy benefits and pay for any additional costs online from 18 April 2009 via the Electronic Online System available on the Hockey WA web site. Any questions can be directed to Peter Huk or Bert Roosendall at Austnet Group (Worldwide Sports Insurance Group) on 08 9473 8600.

**Season starts for the mens and womens senior divisions on the weekend 17/18/19 April**

## **Saturday 4th April Fletcher Park**

**Pre Season scratch matches for all Senior Mens Teams  
(including Vets)**

**Please be ready for 2pm start.**

# MEN'S REPORT

Just 3 weeks out from the season and things are starting to take shape at the Vic Park Hockey Club. That is, everything except registrations. The number of registrations or should I say lack of registrations is considerable and to be quite honest, a little disappointing. The men's side of the club has been pretty poor this year, so if you haven't registered please log onto the website ([www.vpxhc.com.au](http://www.vpxhc.com.au)) and do so asap.

As far as the hockey goes, the top squad have been underway for some time now and everything seems to be going well. With a handful of players still with state duties, coach Craig 'Willow' Wilson has been putting the rest of the squad through their paces as they eagerly await a full complement of players.

Training for the Premier Alliance down, started a few weeks ago and while numbers have been quite small, they are slowly starting to pick up and with only a few weeks to go, it is probably time you all make it down for a run. Training is at the Club (Fletcher Park) on Thursday nights and starting at 6:00pm and usually runs until around 7:30.

Once again one of the teams to watch will be the Metro one team who this year have picked up a few recruits including Wizard Cup Premiership player Aaron 'Boonga' Ride and there are even rumours about one Ashley Corbitt making a return, so watch this space. The Metro 2 will also be on the prowl again, this year trying to make it 8 straight winning years. Lets also not forget about some of the older bodies on display this year, they may be slower but let's face it they have better skills and some of us. So whether it's the Vets, or the Metros, there is always something to watch at the Club on a Saturday afternoon, so get down and support your fellow players. And Hey, you may as well support the bar while you are at it.

A few dates to remember; Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, there will be intra club scratch matches for all teams from Premier Alliance down. This is not only to gain some match fitness but these games will also act as grading. Games will start at 2:00pm sharp so make sure you are ready to run on. You will need to bring a black shirt and a white shirt.

Thursday Night, April 16<sup>th</sup> will be the player's tea for all senior players. Please make an effort to come down. This is the kick off for the season and will include the announcement of the Wizard Cup Team. Ticket will be available this week and if you want to eat you will need to pre purchase your ticket.

As always, this year promises to be another Big year for the Mighty Panthers, so get involved as much as possible, after all it is YOUR club. Remember that the club is as strong as its members!!

See you on the track, or by the bar.

Ryan

PS:- Minor tremor felt last week in Carlisle area was the result of Corby and Stuart Lamont starting their preseason training.

**All club contacts are listed on the new club web site under contacts.**

### Mens Top Squad :-

After recently completing a 6 week program of pre-season running and fitness, the Men's Top Squad has hit the turf this week with renewed intensity and focus on making the season of 2009 a great success. Greg "Pamps" Pampling and I are impressed with the group and see the competition for positions in each team as the highest for a number of years. With the injection of Phil Hulbert, Ian Burcher, Liam DeYoung, Travis Taylor and Tom Edwards after their AHL commitments have finished, the group will strengthen and all are looking forward to the season opener on April 19.

We will keep building the momentum over the coming weeks and realise the tag - from being the hunters to the hunted - but this challenge is well within the capabilities of this group as our established players pass on their knowledge and experience and our up and commers take the next step in their development.

Keep up the good work fellas !!!

Willow and Pamps :-)



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# Womens Report

Even though the season proper has not begun, the hard slog pre season for us has been happening since mid January. With the combination of the unyielding energy of Bestall and associates in their recruiting drive, Phil , Thor and Damien's infectious enthusiasm, the attendance, despite training having "SAS" similarities, has been outstanding and very encouraging, to say the least. Has even bought out some old vets on bikes!!

Fiona Stuart has taken on the role as the 2nd side coach with Horry, as ever, hovering around imparting his knowledge to anyone who'll listen! With many new faces of youth and experience, our top side is beginning to take the shape of a formidable force to be reckoned with.

We are now the proud owners of a 15A and 17A girls teams, now called J something -or-other, who will be featuring in some of the top side games during the course of the season, with the social juniors being the essence of our 5th senior team led by Lorraine Browning and Jenny Hogg. Our future seems very bright indeed and to see these young enthusiastic faces with stick in hand, it makes me very proud to be part of such a supportive club. Not only have we created a pathway for juniors at all levels , we now cater for social veterans with a new team in Division 3.

Most of the women are also new to the club, some being parents of juniors, some having heard what great things are happening at Vic Park. So to all the new faces of the womens contingent, both young and experienced (old) welcome to you all and I sincerely believe you will have a most enjoyable season with Vic Park. I would ordinarily name you individually but with such a great influx of players, I think Charles would have to edit me!

And to all those who are multiplying, congratulations on thinking of the clubs' future teams and we look forward to having you back when you have handed your screaming bundle to your partners before you run on.

For those who are injured, look after yourselves, and the reality is, it has worked in our favour in that Teagan Johnston and Jill Roberts are now very valued coaches of junior girls, where they are adored and admired.

Thank you to our other adored coaches who have volunteered to coach our wee ones (Lauren Jury Armitage , Flika Holtzman, Tammy Thomas - I think that's everyone!)

Tigger (Karen Richardson) is in charge of the fun factory (Social VP) and Chantel Huemb bosses all the wee wee ones around (Minkey co ordinator)

These girls have volunteered their time and energy to the club and please know how much it is appreciated. A load shared is a load halved.

Thank you very much.

So here's to a great and successful season.

WeeFee

## 2009 Player Fees Schedule

### Seniors

Early bird discount (if paid on or before Registration Day 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2009):

????Seniors	\$350
????Students (full time)	\$250

Standard fees (if paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009):

????Seniors	\$370
????Students (full time)	\$270
????Mid-week Vets <sup>#</sup>	\$185
????First year seniors*	\$190

All senior fees are due to be paid in full by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009. Fees will increase to \$420 if not paid by the due date for all senior members including students.

# This is the fee payable in addition to fees paid for playing in a weekend competition. Full fees are payable if only playing in the mid-week competition.

\* First year seniors are those players for who it is their first season of being ineligible to play juniors.

### Juniors

Standard fees:

????Juniors 11/12 (U17)	\$170
????Juniors 11/12 (U17) Girls	\$150
????Juniors 9/10 (U15)	\$150
????Juniors 7/8 (U13)	\$120
????Juniors 5/6 (U11)	\$110
????Grads	\$65
????Minkey	\$50

Junior fees include a team photo.

A family discount is available where there are three junior players from the one family, with the youngest member entitled to a 50% discount on their fees.

All junior fees must be paid in full by the first playing date of the season.

**Post your cheques to :-VICTORIA PARK XAVIER HOCKEY CLUB (INC)**  
**Clubrooms: Fletcher Park, Weston Street, Carlisle WA 6101**  
**Postal Address: PO Box 787, Victoria Park WA 6979**  
**ABN: 92 084 554 734**

## JUNIOR NEWS

Welcome to season 2009! We have begun with a flying start with record numbers of registrations and teams and wonderful turn up to pre-season training. Best wishes to all players for a fantastic season. If there is anything the Junior committee can do to help you, please let us know by emailing Julia at reidgj@iinet.net.au or phoning 9358 6551.

### Junior Committee

I would like to thank the following people who have volunteered to be on the Junior Committee this season and have already been working extremely hard with registrations and promotions – Sandra Wilson, Annette Davoren (Ballboys), Graham Deck, David Lyons, Lisa Pampling, Michael Fernihough (Umpiring) and Chantel Reiner (Minkey). Michelle Bonner and Carol Di Fillipo are our Bunbury Carnival experts and join other members of the committee to work on that exciting project.

### Age Group Coordinators

Thank you to the following people who will be assisting the committee by working with the team managers within each age group. As a player, your first point of contact with any questions should be your team manager or coach, then the age group coordinator if necessary.

**J5/6** – Lisa Pampling – 9451 3319

**J7/8** – Bryan Fernandes – 92463230 and Chris White - 9361 1181

**J9/10** – Nikki and David Lyons - 9277 1232

**J11/12** – Lesley Benfell - 93544014

### Registrations:

Congratulations to the Juniors for a fantastic response to registration. So far 212 players have registered and 179 have paid which is a wonderful effort. It makes our job so much easier if we know who is planning to play this season. If you have not registered or paid, you can do so at Fletcher Park on Wednesday nights at training. See a member of the Junior committee there. Players who have not paid by the first fixture on May 2<sup>nd</sup> will not be eligible to play.

Numbers are strong in most age groups however we do have room for a few more players in the J5/6 girls and J5/6 boys teams and the J7/8 boys teams. If you have a friend interested, bring them along for a try!

We have elected go for small teams close to 12 or 13 in a team rather than teams of 15 or 16 where we have lots of substitutes waiting on the sideline. At times, this will mean players from younger age groups may be needed to help fill in for the older age groups so if you are keen to do that we hope you can let your age group coordinator know.

### Junior Umpiring

If you are interested in developing your umpiring skills, let Michael Fernihough know and he will tell you about the Green Shirts Junior Umpiring Program. This is particularly suited to players in the J9/10 age group. Michael's contact details are fernio@iinet.net.au or phone 9291 3007

### Ballboying at PHS

Players from J7/8 and J9/10 who are interested in being ball boys for the top division senior teams at PHS should contact Annette Davoren who will be coordinating the roster once fixtures are published by HockeyWA. Annette's phone number is 9472 4990

### YMCC Carnival

The annual YMCC Carnival is being held on **Monday April 27<sup>th</sup>**. Players in Grads, J5/6, J7/8 and J9/10 will be invited to attend. Look out for the flyer distributed through team coaches at training soon.

**Juniors cont:-****Training Times**

Keep an eye on the website for the latest on training times. As soon as turf bookings are confirmed, they will be published on the website. All we can confirm at the present moment, is when teams train at Fletcher:

J5/6 (all teams) train 5 – 6pm on Wed nights at Fletcher

J7/8 (all teams) train 6 – 7pm on Wed nights at Fletcher

J9/10 (“B” teams) train 6 – 7pm on Wed nights at Fletcher

**Holiday Training**

Your coach will advise as to training times during the April School Holidays. Please check with them and let them know if you are going away.

**Coach Contact Details**

To find a full list of teams and coach contact details, go to the website and click on Forms then Junior Coach Contact List.

Best wishes for a great season.

**Julia Reid**

Vice President - Juniors

**A list of all junior coaches is on the web site under Juniors.**

## From the Treasurer

Will 2009 be known as the year of the Panther?

As a club we had a very successful 2008 season both on and off the field, but this year is shaping up as having the potential for being even better. Our men's division is again looking strong – could it be back to back premierships? Our women's division has recruited well with two extra teams being submitted and a real sense of excitement around the club that this could be the year we gain promotion into Wizard League. And in our junior ranks we have achieved the holy grail of “A” teams in each of the age groups for both boys and girls.

Unfortunately not all aspects of club life are quite as exciting, and collecting outstanding fees is one of those tasks that fall into this category. There are a large number of people who have already paid their fees for this season and to these people I would like to extend my thanks.

For those who are yet to pay, please make the job of the club's committee (and especially the Treasurer) easier by paying ASAP. In the case of seniors, all fees are to be paid in full by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009, at which time they will increase. Junior fees must be paid in full by the first playing date.

Important: If fees are not paid by the due date then players may be ineligible to play.

Maybe even more important: Your fees includes a Limited Sports Injury Cover as promoted by Hockey WA and underwritten by Sportscover Australia. If you have not paid your fees then you might not be covered by this insurance.

# Grads News Season 2009

**What a great time to be part of such a fantastic hockey club – your children will love Season 2009! We have some super coaches, fantastic events and some pretty great fun lined up. If you have any questions/queries/comments please do not hesitate to contact myself either by email [g\\_s\\_wilson@iprimus.com.au](mailto:g_s_wilson@iprimus.com.au) or phone 92952734.**

**Registration Day** was a huge success – with some 40+ registrations received for Grads – so we easily make up four teams. I would especially like to thank my daughter Chelsea for her assistance on the day. Should we be inundated with more registrations prior to season commencement, another team will be formed and I even have a coach lined up.

**Teams** selection process is pretty easy – the strategy is to place children who are at the same school in the same team or with friends – helps once games commence and parents may need to co-ordinate rides etc.

**Coaches** have already been selected and attended a “Coaching the Coaches” session. These are a remarkable group of volunteers, namely Mark Ridgwell, John Cearns, Daron Crothers, Damien Knowles and assistant coach, Monique Criddle and Andrew Heald with his assistant coach, Alastair Jones. Thank you to these wonderful people for stepping forward and taking on this role.

**Team Managers** have already put up their hands also. Thanks to Kathleen Ridgwell, Jeannie Collins, Geraldine Paull and Loris Moriconi. Their role will be to liaise between the Grads Co-ordinator and their team ie. distribute handouts, collect forms etc...and assist the coach as required. Please give consideration as to if you would like to take on this role prior to the season commencing as we hope to finalise Team Managers at our first training session.

**Carnival YMCC Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2009** This carnival will take place before our season starts, but is a fantastic way to start off a season. Cost is \$4.00 per child and to date I have 14 children. We would love an extra few to make two teams. Drop me an email if you are interested.

**Canteen Duty** Please also remember to place your name on the canteen roster with Di, she just loves helpers and this makes her job so much easier. It is the warmest place on a cold winter morning.

**First Training Session is Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 5pm** at Fletcher Park with our first Saturday session being on Saturday 2nd May 2009.

Parents, children and siblings we hope you all have a wonderful season with VPXHC in 2009– it is a fantastic club and you can just smell those bacon and egg burgers Di will have sizzling away on Saturday morning... yum!! See you at training!!

Also check out our new Web site [www.vpxhc.com.au](http://www.vpxhc.com.au) where I will be updating all information as it comes to hand.

A special thanks to Alastair Jones for offering to be my assistant co-ordinator.

Happy Easter to all -

**Sandra Wilson,  
Grads Co-ordinator 2009**



## **Welcome to Season 2009 to all Minkey players.**

We had a great response at registration day from past players and there were many new faces. Anyone that has not yet registered, please do so as it makes the task of team allocation so much easier and means that I can get players into teams with their friends or school mates.

Some important dates for Minkey:

Saturday 2nd May - Season starts  
Saturday 6th June - Team Photos  
Friday 26th June - Minkey under lights and DISCO  
Sunday 2nd August - Hook IN2 Hockey Carnival  
Friday 7th August - Minkey under lights and Sausage Sizzle  
Saturday 29th August - Last Minkey for season and wind up party.

Information regarding each of the above will be provided to parents closer to each event.

Any parents/grandparents/friends that would be interested in coaching, please let me know, we are still a few teams short. We are also planning to have a designated "Manager" for each team, hopefully it will be a volunteer parent from each team who will be in charge of distributing event information, forms, regos etc to each of their team players, that way we can hopefully streamline the contact with all players and hopefully make the season easier for the coaches!! Anyone that is interested in being a team manager, please also let me know on one of the numbers below.

Looking forward to a great season.

For further information, please contact me on:  
9472 8509 (after hours)  
0447 226 732 (leave a message during office hours)  
reinerchantel@yahoo.com.au

Thanks  
Chantel Huembs

**Club Website - [www.vpxhc.com.au](http://www.vpxhc.com.au)**

Please take some time out to read the club website, lots of good information to digest and act upon. All Club contacts are on the website if you can't find within Panther Press.

# SPONSORS 2009

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b

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