

LONDON SIX-A-SIDE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

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Dear Sir,

The next London Six a Side Hockey Tournament will be held on the ground of the Polytechnic H.C., Cavendish Road, Chiswick, London, W.4. (the Quintin Hogg Memorial Ground), on 29th March, 1981, commencing at 12.00 hours. Map reference in the A-Z is Page 73, E.2, or 72 A4 in the newer edition.

For this tournament the Committee have taken a decision to revert to an event with 40 teams (instead of 48), for one season. This will involve the next tournament starting at 12.00 hours, with a break for lunch at 13.15, for those in particular who have to come from a long way. Light refreshments will also be available, as well as beer. The event will recommence at 14.00, with the final at 17.50, involving a total of 93 games throughout the day.

With the exception of the Final, all games will be of six minutes each way, with a minute to change ends; so it is essential that there is punctuality at the pitches, to ensure the smooth running of the tournament and loss of playing time for the players.

The draw took place recently and resulted in the 40 teams being placed in groups as follows:-

<u>Group 1.</u>	<u>Group 2.</u>	<u>Group 3.</u>	<u>Group 4.</u>
Broxbourne	Richmond	Amersham	Blackheath
Chesterfield	Southgate Adel.	Mid Surrey	Harrow
Coventry & N.W.	Uxbridge	Staines	Hayes
Dulwich	Walton	Surbiton	Hendon
Firebrands	Wimbledon	Trojans	Raynes Park
<u>Group 5.</u>	<u>Group 6.</u>	<u>Group 7.</u>	<u>Group 8.</u>
Bournemouth	Met. Police	Oxford Hawks	Havant
Eastcote	Polytechnic	Reigate	Hounslow
Enfield	Slough	Southgate	Indian Gymkhana
Epsom	Spencer	Sunbury	Loughborough St.
Hampstead	Westcliff	Woking	West Herts

The reserve for the tournament is Eagles, who (unless called upon to fill a vacancy beforehand) should be at the ground ready to take over from any team which may not have turned up, at the last moment, or to play as individuals for any team who may be short of players, due to injuries, etc. All clubs should report to the officials on their arrival.

Mainly for the benefit of any newcomers to the event I give some of the more important rules of the tournament.

1. A team may consist of any six from eight players, a kicking back or goalkeeper being optional, although the kicking back must wear a shirt distinctive from any other player on the field of play.
2. Each team is permitted two substitutes, at any time, during the course of a game.
3. For offside "there shall be one opponent nearer to his own goal-line".
4. At a penalty corner, when the hit, or push out, is taken no more than four defenders shall be behind their own goal-line. The other two shall be beyond the halfway line.
5. Any player dismissed from the pitch, by red card, shall be disbarred from taking any further part in the event, but the team shall not be penalised in any other way.

The programmes, for a total of six players, will be sent free of charge, to each competing club, in the New Year. If a club brings up to the permitted complement of eight players it is hoped, most sincerely, they will purchase the others, for the team, as this will materially assist our charitable aims.

A copy of the poster advertising the event will be sent you with the programmes, for display in your clubhouse, or elsewhere. However any additional publicity which you can arrange will be welcomed and most gratefully appreciated.

The Committee would appreciate any efforts, which can be made, to sell programmes before the tournament and these will be available, from me, price 20p (post free) against remittance. Cheques/postal orders should be made payable to "London Six a Side Hockey Tournament" and NOT TO ME.

To ensure the success of the event and to maintain the very high standard of hockey in this event, the oldest and premier six a side hockey tournament in the country (inaugurated in 1935) it is requested that the strongest possible six (from eight) available at the time of the event be fielded. Owing to many demands of county and international matches it is appreciated that not all clubs will be able to ensure that the strongest team is their first team strength.

When the programmes are received particular attention should be paid to the Rules, which differ from some other tournaments but are more closely allied to the guide-lines issued by the H.A. The Official Notice are important too. Especial attention is drawn to the fact that ALL games will start and finish at the times stated in the programme. The matches are controlled by a bell from the control point, which is essential for the efficient running of the tournament.

May I take this opportunity to wish success to every team which will be participating in the event and hope, most sincerely, that you all enjoy the day's sport.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Haworth